

Frequently Asked Questions Drew Charter School Hybrid Model

Note: This is an initial list of Frequently Asked Questions with responses related to a proposed initial shift to the Hybrid Model at Charles R. Drew Charter School. As Drew continues planning for the Hybrid Model, additional questions and answers will be shared. More information and details are also forthcoming on Drew's website.

Instruction/Student Movement

- **Are families bound by their answers on the survey?**
 - Families will have until Friday, October 9, 2020 at noon to make a final decision for the October 26, 2020 start date. The choice made will be binding through Quarter 2 (December 2020). Families will have an opportunity to make another selection later this Fall to select a new model for Quarter 3 that starts in January 2021.
- **Is the intention for all students to be on the same model? Or will parents be able to opt-out of hybrid and remain fully virtual?**
 - Students will be able to attend school via either a hybrid or virtual model.
- **Which grades will return to in-person learning under Drew's Hybrid Model that is planned to start October 26?**
 - Drew Charter School is planning to transition to a Hybrid Learning model for Pre-K, Kindergarten, and first grade students starting Monday, October 26, 2020. The current plan is for the remaining grades to phase in to a Hybrid Model in January 2021. *(Please note that Drew's plan requires approval by Atlanta Public Schools prior to implementation. If approved, we will proceed with the plan understanding that changes in public health data or other factors could require potential updates.)*
- **What will the schedule look like for Pre-K through first grade students participating in the Hybrid Model?**
 - Under Drew's Hybrid Model for Pre-K through first grade, the weekly schedule for students in these grades will consist of two days of in-person learning on campus and three days of virtual learning. Participating Hybrid students will be divided into two groups, also known as cohorts. Cohort A students will come on campus for in-person learning on Mondays and Tuesdays. Cohort B students will come on campus for in-person learning on Thursdays and Fridays. All students will be virtual on Wednesdays for a deep-cleaning of the school building. Information about the weekly and daily schedules, school hours, drop off/pick up plan and other details will be directly shared with participating families soon.
- **Any flexibility to choose a cohort to facilitate finding childcare for the 3 virtual days?**
 - That is not possible due to the size of the school population and other factors.

- **Under the Pre-K through First Grade Hybrid Model, will teachers be streaming virtual at the same time as teaching in-class? If so, how will they ensure both groups get necessary attention?**
 - Students who choose to remain all virtual will maintain a very similar experience to our current model. Students participating in the hybrid model would engage in face-to-face live instruction.
- **Will students still receive live (via Zoom) instruction on days they are not present in-person?**
 - Yes, In the hybrid model, the students will still receive live instruction on the days they are not present in-person.
- **Will students keep their same teachers if we choose in-person or virtual?**
 - We will try to minimize teacher/student transitions, however, some class changes will be necessary based on the number of students that select each model and the number of staff members that are able to return to the building at this time.
- **How will bathroom breaks be staggered to minimize crowding?**
 - Classroom bathroom breaks will be scheduled to minimize crowding and allow for intermittent cleaning between use.
- **Is my selection of the hybrid or virtual model locked in until the end of the school year or will there be an option to switch between virtual & hybrid?**
 - Parents can make adjustments to the model each quarter. You will be expected to adhere to the guidelines and processes of your selected return model (virtual or hybrid) until the end of Quarter 2, which ends on December 18th. Prior to the end of Quarter 2, you will have an opportunity to update your preference, if desired, for the start of Quarter 3.
- **Will social time (recess, lunch) be possible albeit in a safe way?**
 - We anticipate students will have recess daily in a safe environment. All meals will be eaten in the classroom.
- **How will social distancing be enforced?**
 - Precautionary measures will be taken in the arrangement of classrooms and in movement throughout the building. Students in Pre-K will sit at group tables with plastic dividers. All other grades will sit at individual student desks with 36 sq ft of space. Floor stickers and distancing signage will be posted throughout the building, and staff will monitor student movement between classes. Traffic patterns in hallways have one-way loops, and stairwells have been designated as one-way up or down. Common spaces are decluttered.

Facilities/Operations

- **Will students be required to wear masks when on campus for in-person learning under the Hybrid Model?**
 - Everyone is required to wear a mask at all times, except while eating. This requirement applies to students and staff.

- **Will teachers wear masks at all times or only face shields?**
 - Everyone is required to wear a mask at all times, except while eating. This requirement applies to students and staff.
- **What happens to young children who won't keep their masks on?**
 - We anticipate using a variety of strategies to support students in adhering to our mask requirement as well as additional protocols if students struggle to wear their masks consistently. Videos will be shared to help families practice mask wearing and acclimate children before returning to school.
- **Have any improvements been made to the building's air filtration?**
 - Yes, we have installed higher rated air filters throughout our buildings that increase fresh air circulation. We are following CDC, EPA and ASHRAE (American Society of Heating, Refrigeration & Air Conditioning Engineers) recommendations with regard to air filtration and fresh air circulation. Specifically, we have increased our air filters from a level 8 to level 13, which is basically the hospital grade level of air filtration. We have also added pre-filters to units that can accommodate this modification. The HVAC system at the Elementary Academy has new roof top units, which were replaced this past summer. At the JA/SA campus, CO2 sensors, that help control fresh air flow, are being calibrated and replaced, if defective. All of our HVAC systems will run on occupied mode 24 hours a day so that fresh air is circulated constantly throughout the buildings. We are also considering the possibility of UV light and/or electromagnetic air purification system retrofits.
- **Will classrooms with shared half-moon tables be converted to individual desks?**
 - Yes, furniture will be removed or replaced in order to best facilitate social distancing. In kindergarten and first grade, each student will have an individual desk. Pre-K students will use group tables with dividers.
- **Will before & aftercare be available for the days that students are in-person?**
 - At the moment, we are primarily focused on re-entering school safely under the hybrid model. Before and aftercare will be phased in when and if possible.
- **Please provide information about pickup and drop off practices.**
 - New arrival & dismissal processes are being finalized and will be communicated before the start of the hybrid model implementation. All students will be subject to a touchless temperature scan and mask check daily before entering the school.

Exposure Response Protocols, Contact Tracing, and Communications

- **Will students and staff returning for in-person learning under the Hybrid Model be required to be tested for COVID before returning on October 26th?**
 - Drew Charter School will provide opportunities for free, onsite testing for staff and students who are opting-in to in-person learning via the Hybrid Model. Testing results will remain confidential. Staff will be required and students will be highly

encouraged to be tested prior to entering the building for in-person learning on October 26th.

- **What happens if a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19?**

- If a staff member or student tests positive for COVID-19, the Support Team will guide the family/staff member in determining the Drew community members with whom they have been in contact and the campus locations that were visited. The affected community member's identity will be protected.
- The Support Team will notify Drew community members* who have had contact with the affected Drew community member and the appropriate response protocols will be implemented.
- A household member who tested positive should remain home isolated as recommended by the CDC for 14 days since the symptoms first appeared and at least 24 hours have passed since last fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath) have improved.
- Household members of the affected person should monitor for symptoms and are quarantined from campus activities for 14-days after the last exposure to the positive household member.

**All parents/guardians in the affected classroom/group/etc. will be notified within 24 hours of the school receiving notice of a positive COVID-19 notification.*

- **How will Drew mitigate risks and handle potential COVID cases?**

- Drew has formed a COVID Support Team to mitigate risks and address potential cases. Click [here](#) for more information about the COVID Support Team, prevention measures, contact tracing, and exposure processes and protocols.