



Plan to Reunite

August 18, 2020



Sandhills School

Updated 8/3/2020

Reunite August 2020

We cannot wait to welcome our students back on August 18th! The 2020-2021 school year will **prioritize health and safety** while **providing the intervention and individualized instruction our students need**. It is our goal to mitigate risk as much as possible, but we recognize that we cannot eliminate it.

Steps we have been taking since March 2020 to plan for student re-entry:

1. Participating in daily briefings and calls from our accrediting bodies, health officials, and school heads around the Southeast and Columbia.
2. Ongoing meetings, including an onsite facilities audit by a Blue Cross expert outlining best practices tailored for our campus & our students for every part of the school day.
3. Consulting with facilities sanitizing & disinfecting experts on optimal cleaning procedures with the most effective CDC approved products.

Facilities Updates:

- Automatic hand sanitizing stations outside each classroom
- Outdoor, touchless handwashing stations around campus
- Conversion of drinking fountains to touchless water bottle filling stations
- Touchless faucet handles and soap dispensers
- Classes relocated to larger spaces for social distancing
- Shaded outdoor classroom space
- Partitions & plexiglass added where needed
- New sick room (separated from well room) with updated health monitoring system & protocols



Plan to Reunite

The Process

Sandhills School is able to have students on campus while abiding by increased health & safety protocols.

As a family, you have determined that you are comfortable with your child(ren) returning to the physical campus.

NO

Please inform Sandhills by August 5th if you plan to start the year off campus for distance learning.

DISTANCE LEARNING

Your child(ren) will continue with Sandhills School's blend of live instruction and assignments with individualization to ensure that students are receiving a well-balanced and academically fulfilling experience.

YES

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FULL TIME ON CAMPUS LEARNING

Your child(ren) will begin the 20-21 academic year on campus with the expectation that specific health & safety procedures will be required. In the event that local authorities initiate a stay-at-home order, students will transition to distance learning.

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POSITIVE CASE OR CLOSE CONTACT WITH POSITIVE CASE

DHEC quarantine guidelines could result in students or small groups of students distance learning for 14 days. (see pg. 6 for guidelines per SC DHEC website as of 7/31/2020)

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Safety Precautions

Specific decisions and plans will be updated as new public health guidelines are issued. Safety precautions have been developed in the following areas including but not limited to:

Social Distancing



Due to our small school community and small class sizes, we have the ability to have **ALL students on campus for full school days, 5 days a week**. This can be accomplished while following social distancing guidelines by using all of our space, including the cafeteria, library, conference rooms, and outdoor areas as classrooms.

PPE



Per public health guidance and a local mandate, we will be requiring students and teachers to wear face coverings inside the building and during arrival and dismissal.

- Sandhills will provide a mask and have backup masks for students who forget. Students are encouraged to find masks that are desirable to them in regards to fit & comfort, and to practice wearing them at home.
- All teachers and students will be provided wrap version Z-shields. Masks (with or without a Z-shield) will be required. Z-shields may only be worn without masks when 6 feet apart AND within classroom cohort.



Increased temperature monitoring & symptom checking

We will partner with parents, asking you to symptom check & temperature monitor every morning before leaving home, keeping students home at first signs of illness or after close contact with a positive case.



Increased sanitizing and cleaning processes

Spic & Span disinfecting spray will be used between classes on desks, door handles and other high touch surfaces. Comet disinfecting cleaner with bleach will be used to clean & disinfect the bathrooms. Enhanced night time cleaning procedures have also been implemented.



Minimize visitors

Currently, parents & visitors **will not be allowed on campus**. If a parent needs to pick up a student, they will need to ring the doorbell and remain outside.

On Campus Learning



The daily schedule & class changing times have been carefully planned to encourage social distancing.

Daily Schedule

8:00 – 8:15 Arrival– Students must wear a mask before exiting cars. Before entering the building students will utilize outdoor touchless handwashing stations to wash hands with soap and water for at least 30 seconds before using spaced out entrances and heading directly to homeroom/first hour class.

8:15 – 9:55 Classtime

9:55 – 10:15 Snack & Break– Students will eat and play outside as weather permits or in the homeroom classroom

10:15 – 11:55 Classtime

11:55 – 12:30 Lunch & Recess– Students will eat & play outside as weather permits or in the homeroom classroom

12:30 – 2:55 Classtime

2:55 – 3:05 Dismissal– Students will be socially distanced, wearing masks in front of the building awaiting pick-up. If you have to arrive after 3:05, please pre-register for Aftercare.



Student Cohorts to minimize exposure:

- Elementary homerooms will stay together in the same classroom with the same teacher as much as possible.
- Middle School homerooms will stay in the same classroom throughout the day & teachers will rotate to each class.
- High School students will rotate classrooms while staying in cohorts as much as possible.
- When students need to move to a different classroom desks will be cleaned between classes. Students will sit at the same desk every day.
- Small group Orton-Gillingham LT classes have moved into classroom and office spaces larger than previous tutorial rooms to accommodate social distancing.



On Campus Learning



Decisions on sports & extracurriculars will be made **season by season and sport by sport**. Any sports, extracurriculars, & special events will be modified in compliance with limits on crowd sizes and social distancing measures. Athletics offerings will be determined by SCISA requirements in conjunction with our own decisions, parent feedback, and the advisement of our accrediting bodies.



Homework club & aftercare will be offered, but pre-registration is **required** to prepare for social distancing. If an unexpected situation arises, please let us know by 2:00pm that your child will be attending Aftercare. Aftercare students will be picked up at the library door. Sign out procedure will be modified.

Preparing for Interruptions

Sandhills School is prepared for possible waves of interruption to on-campus learning. In the event of a disruption to on-campus operations, we are prepared for a shift to Distance Learning.

Distance Learning may also occur for sick or quarantined students or small groups of students.

Technology Upgrades

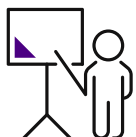


Sandhills School will offer on-campus technology support for students and teachers to troubleshoot and minimize frustration. Please contact helpdesk@sandhillsschool.org for assistance.



New Equipment

- Google 2 in 1 Chromebooks (laptop and tablet capability) for students to use in class and in cases of Distance Learning due to illness and quarantine
- Instructor laptops with high quality cameras, video capabilities and upgraded speeds

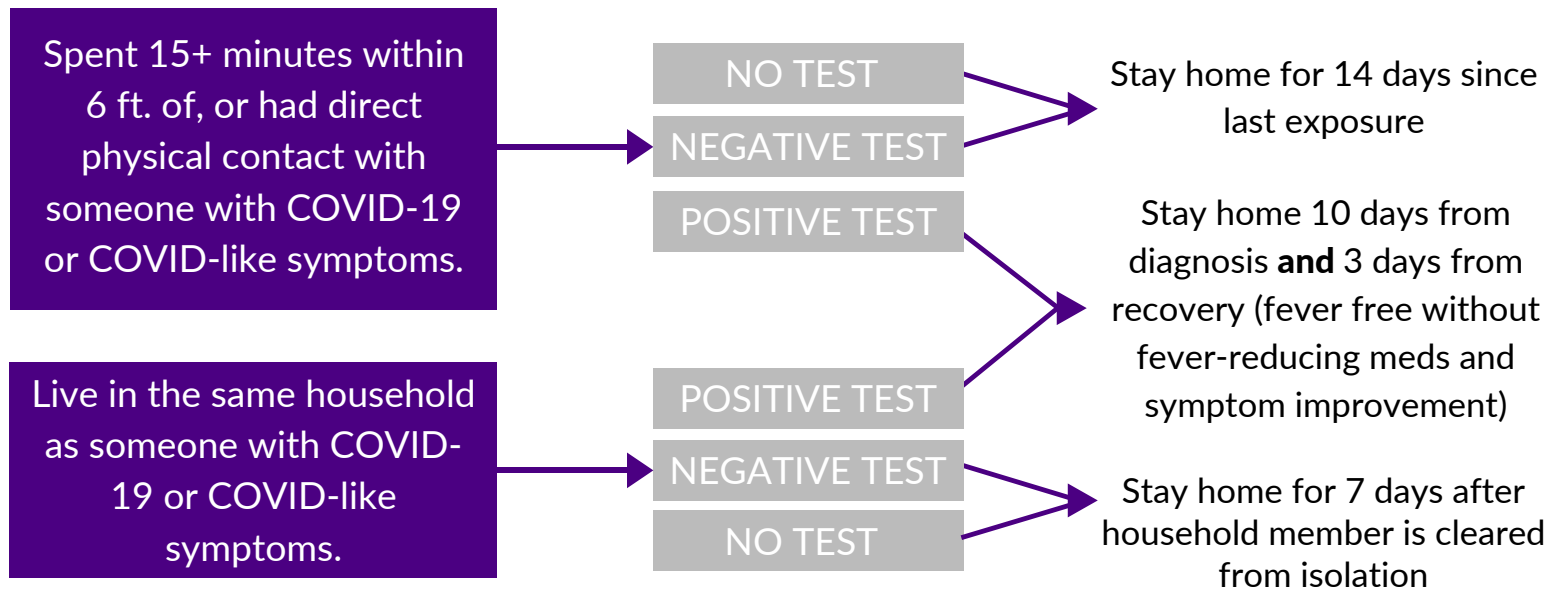


Teachers have additional Google Classroom training & certification from summer professional development.



COVID-19 Protocols: Quarantining and Returning to Campus

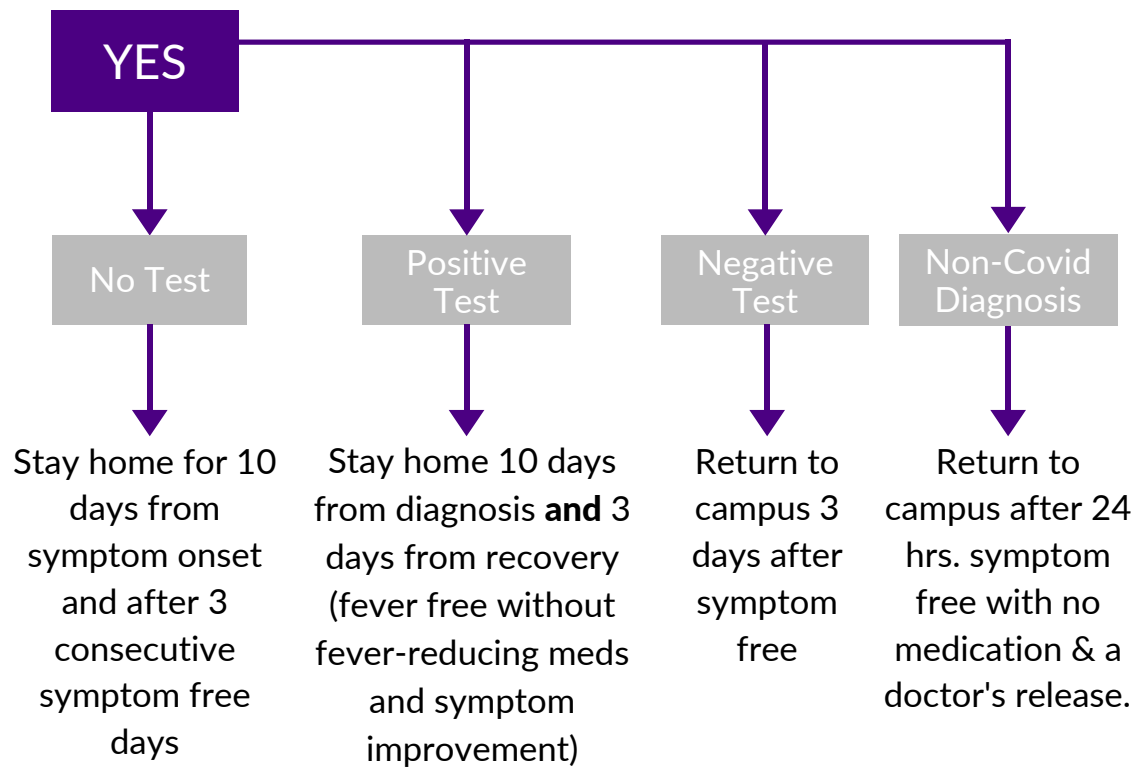
COVID-19 Exposure



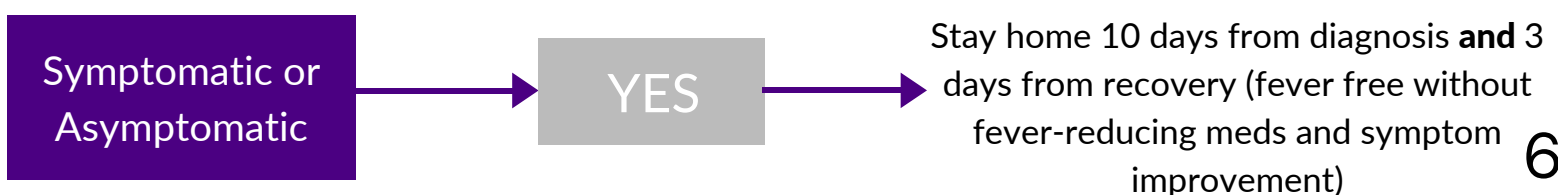
COVID-19 Symptoms

COVID Symptoms:

- fever
- cough
- shortness of breath/increased work of breathing
- loss of sense of taste or smell
- sore throat
- nasal congestion/nasal discharge
- nausea/vomiting/diarrhea
- myalgias (muscle aches)
- headache
- fatigue



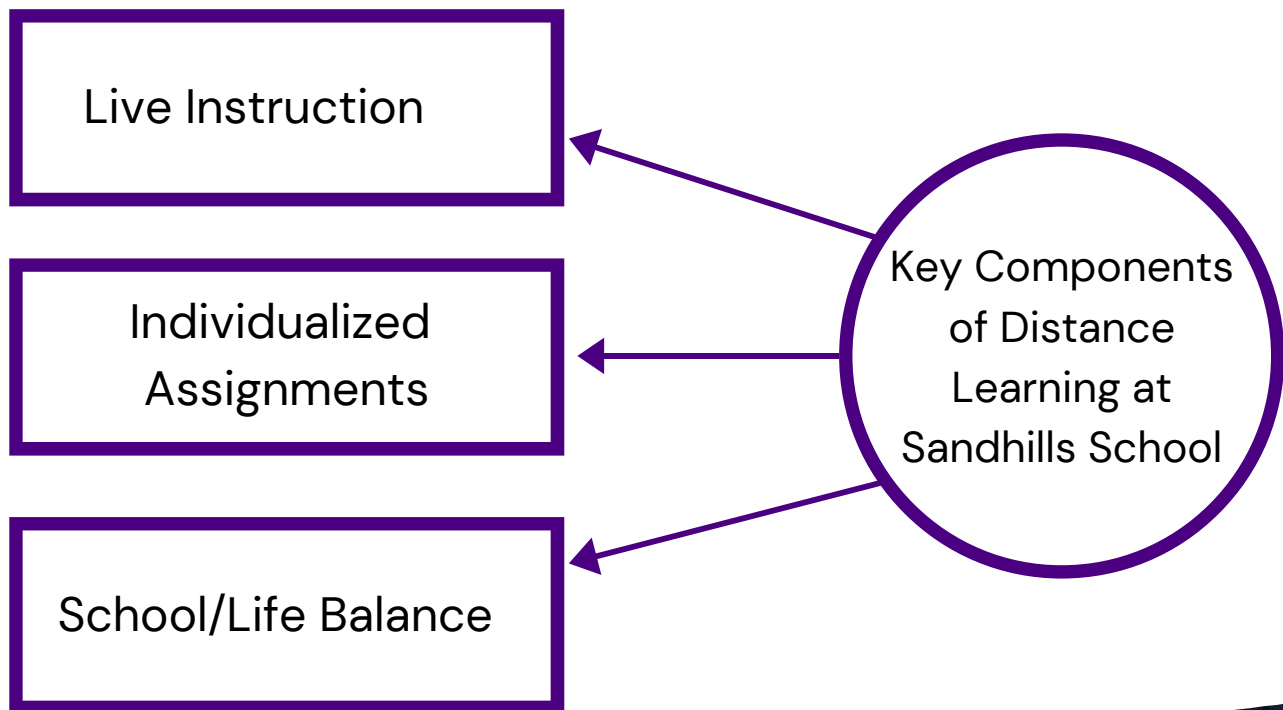
COVID-19 Diagnosis



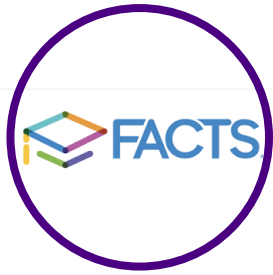
Distance Learning

During Distance Learning we will continue our mission of providing a successful learning environment to our students, utilizing evidence based Orton-Gillingham teaching principles.

In this model we continue to educate the whole child, build confidence, provide multi-sensory learning experiences, and build executive functioning skills. Sandhills School's Distance Learning model blends daily live instruction with individualized assignments, on a schedule intentionally designed to provide school/life balance.



Digital Platforms



FACTS/Renweb will continue to be our school's main information system for billing and tuition.



Sandhills Family App powered by FACTS will be available in the Apple & Android app store. This brand new app will serve as a hub for information and resources.



Google Classroom is not new for Sandhills students and they are all accustomed to managing their work, discussions, and assignments through this platform. All class assignments, videos, and announcements will be housed in Google Classroom.



During periods of quarantine requiring Distance Learning, Google Meet is the primary platform for LIVE instruction.



Zoom is a video conferencing platform that will be used to host school meetings, events and special assemblies.



Vidigami is a photo management system that will allow administration, teachers, students and parents to share photos and video clips. Vidigami will serve as each parent's window into the classroom, and can be accessed via app or website.

Administration: Plan to Reunite Team

We encourage you to contact our team if you have any questions or concerns. Sandhills School is here to provide a sense of continuity of learning for your child(ren), and to provide a strong and safe community for your family.



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