



## Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan

### VALIDATION PLAN

Willis ISD will operate the 2021-2022 school year with in-person learning as the sole option for all students. There will not be any remote learning options at this time. The district will maintain general health protocols, COVID-19 protocols, and cleaning and disinfecting protocols as part of the district Safe Reopening Plan.

Academically, the district will use individualized learning programs that utilize adaptive diagnostic assessments paired with targeted student learning paths to support a personalized approach to instruction across content areas (Reading, Language Arts, Math, Science). Learning management systems will be put in place to deliver what our students and teachers need to enrich, support, and connect every aspect of teaching and learning. This LMS will provide equitable access and instructional continuity during prevention, intervention, and enrichment within the learning environment. The district will also use research-based systems to support our students and educators by creating assessment solutions that precisely measure growth and proficiency—and provide insights to help tailor instruction. The district realized that our students have been negatively impacted by school closures and the district is ready to assist educators, parents, and students as we assess their gaps and provide an individualized learning plan to ensure growth.

The district will use ESSER funds to implement programs related to mental health services that focus on fostering the whole child with vertically aligned lessons that teach social-emotional learning and character side by side.

During the 2021-2022 school year, WISD will be participating in the Title IV School Mental and Behavioral Health Capacity Building Initiative. This region VI grant will provide a series of training for our campus counselors and teachers that will focus on working with:

- Professional Learning Communities
- Mental Health Training

- Mental and Behavioral Health Needs Assessment (this is a multi-tiered system of supports, school climate survey)
- The SHAPE System (Pilot, measure, and give feedback to TEA)
- Collaboration with local Mental Health
- Weekly peer groups

WISD will continue to build relationships with local agencies such as Tri-County that support students and families who struggle with drug addiction and mental health issues. WISD will participate in monthly PLC meetings with Region VI School Mental Health Leaders. In addition, WISD will receive training on Mental and Behavioral health topics to support students and will utilize the Practice Guide and Toolkit that is currently piloted by TEA.

WISD is committed to training faculty and staff to meet the increased need for a response to social and emotional wellness. During the 2019-2020 school year, WISD began training instructional staff with the Mental Health First Aid training. This 8-hour course addresses ways to assist individuals experiencing mental health issues or substance abuse. The training helps identify, understand, and respond to signs of addiction and mental illnesses. Mental Health First Aid helps assist individuals experiencing a mental health or substance use-related crisis. Teachers learn risk factors and warning signs for mental health and addiction concerns, strategies for how to help someone in both crisis and non-crisis situations, and where to turn for help.

