
District Five
OF LEXINGTON & RICHLAND COUNTIES

Back to School 2021-2022

Dr. Akil E. Ross, Sr.
Interim Superintendent
School District Five of Lexington and Richland Counties

What are we returning to?

D5 School leaders say…

- A Children First Mindset
- Common Goal
- Curriculum that challenges (High Expectations)
- Collaboration
- Whole Child Focus
- Valuing the growth of staff
- Data Driven Decision

A United Community

- Equity in resource allocation
- Safety and Security
- Sense of Belonging
- Stakeholders Working Together
- Support & Development
- Academic, Social and Emotional Growth
- Common Belief in All Children

COVID-19 Operations Guidance

Levels of Mitigation

COVID-19 Operations Guidance for Schools in District Five of Lexington-Richland Counties



LEVEL ONE	LEVEL TWO	LEVEL THREE	LEVEL FOUR	LEVEL FIVE
Open, No Mitigation	**Open, Low Mitigation**	**Open, Moderate Mitigation**	**Open, High Mitigation**	**Buildings Closed, Distance Learning**
	Low community transmission & low positive case rate on District COVID-19 Dashboard (Less than 5%)	Moderate community transmission & moderate positive case rate on District COVID-19 Dashboard (5%-9.99%)	High community transmission & high positive case rate on District COVID-19 Dashboard (10%-15%)	

For specific operations regarding each Level of Mitigation, please visit WWW.LEXRICH5.ORG/COVID19.

Data Driven Decision Making

To determine the necessary level of mitigation for each school, we will review the DHEC data for Lexington and Richland Counties as well as the percentage of students and/or staff who are COVID positive or quarantined.

Mitigation Level Matrix		**County Risk Level (Average)**		
		Low	Medium	High
COVID Information by School	Less than 5% of students or staff in a school are COVID positive or quarantined	Green	Yellow	Orange
	5-9.99% of students or staff in a school are COVID positive or quarantined	Yellow	Yellow	Orange
	10-15% of students or staff in a school are COVID positive or quarantined	Orange	Orange	Orange

COVID-19 Operations Guidance

Levels of Mitigation

COVID-19 Operations Guidance for District Schools

Using guidance from DHEC received on July 29, 2021, District Five of Lexington & Richland Counties has created Five Levels of Mitigation Guidance for the operations of schools. Each level is intended to help schools communicate, prepare and implement mitigation strategies to reduce transmission of COVID-19.

BLUE - LEVEL ONE (Open - No Mitigation)

- Operate according to normal policies and procedures

GREEN - LEVEL TWO (Open - Low Mitigation)

Low community transmission & low positive case rate on District COVID-19 Dashboard (Less than 5%)

- Encourage mask wearing
- Encourage social distancing to the extent possible
- Encourage hand washing and respiratory etiquette
- COVID health room protocols remain in place
- Symptomatic students and staff will be required to wear a mask while in the health room/athletic trainer's office.
- Students and staff self assess daily per the self screening checklist
- Visitors with clear educational or medical purpose allowed and strongly encouraged to wear a mask
- Volunteers with clear educational or medical purpose allowed and strongly encouraged to wear a mask
- COVID cleaning and disinfecting procedure in place for building and buses
- Field trips limited to day trips and close geographic area with consideration of community transmission. Masks required on buses.
- Quarantine students at 3 feet or closer proximity (if a cluster occurs, stricter quarantine may be required).

YELLOW - LEVEL THREE (Open - Moderate Mitigation)

Moderate community transmission & moderate positive case rate on District COVID-19 Dashboard (5%-9.99%)

Level Two protocols in place, with the following additions/changes:

- Utilize a consistent seating arrangement in the cafeteria or other common indoor area
- Visitors limited to front office areas
- Field trips suspended. Special consideration to be given to to athletic events, as well as high school students that need to attend internships and complete class assignments off campus.
- Quarantine students at 3 feet or closer proximity (if a cluster occurs, stricter quarantine may be required).

ORANGE - LEVEL FOUR (Open - High Mitigation)

High community transmission & high positive case rate on District COVID-19 Dashboard (10%-15%)

Level Three protocols in place, with the following additions/changes:

- Increase COVID Exclusion criteria for students and staff
- Visitors not allowed
- Volunteers not allowed
- Avoid students congregating in common use areas
- Quarantine students at 3 feet or closer proximity (if a cluster occurs, stricter quarantine may be required). 14 day quarantine in effect.
- Consider putting high risk sports and extracurricular activities on hold
- Consider abbreviated school day and/or weekly schedule to allow for more intense sanitation
- Consider use of optional screening testing program

RED - LEVEL FIVE (Buildings Closed, Distance Learning)

- Students will receive distance learning and buildings will be closed by Governor mandate or Superintendent

ADDITIONAL DISTRICT GUIDELINES AND PROTOCOLS

- **Daily reporting of District COVID-19 Dashboard to continue. The Nursing Supervisor will alert the Superintendent of increasing trends as needed.**
- **Athletics will follow guidelines put forth by the S.C. High School League.**
- **Mitigation Guidance based on the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC): COVID-19 Interim Guidance for K-12 School Operations .**

These COVID-19 prevention strategies remain critical to protect people, including students, parents and guardians, teachers, and staff, who are not fully vaccinated, especially in areas of moderate-to-high community transmission levels:

1. Vaccination
2. Mask use
3. Physical distancing
4. Contact tracing, in combination with isolation and quarantine
5. Staying home when sick and getting tested
6. Screening testing to promptly identify cases, clusters, and outbreaks
7. Ventilation
8. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette
9. Cleaning and disinfection

QUARANTINE UPDATE

Fully vaccinated people and people verified (positive PCR or antigen test) to have been infected with COVID-19 in the previous 90 days, who were in close contact with someone who has COVID-19 but do not have COVID-19 symptoms, do not need to quarantine unless they develop symptoms. Individuals may voluntarily choose to provide documentation of their full vaccination status to eliminate the need for quarantine. Fully vaccinated people are recommended to get tested 3-5 days after exposure, even if they do not have symptoms, and it is important for them to wear a mask at school until 14 days after exposure or they receive a negative test result. *Per DHEC COVID-19 Interim Guidance for K-12 School Operations

DISTRICT COVID-19 RESOURCES: WWW.LEXRICH5.ORG/COVID19

School District Five reserves the right to make updates to this mitigation plan.

How Are the Children?
Safety Concerns

Dr. Michael Harris
Chief Planning & Administrative Officer

Ms. Kelly C. Brown
Student Services Officer

How Are the Children?

Board Motion - July 12, 2021

I move that we direct the administration to research, establish, and implement programs to accurately measure and significantly reduce safety concerns such bullying in order to improve the classroom management and the social emotional health of all students in Lexington Richland Five.

STOPit Solutions



District Five
OF LEXINGTON & RICHLAND COUNTIES

Community Engagement

PUBLIC INPUT SURVEY

Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ARP – ESSER III allocation)

bit.ly/D5ESSERIIISurvey



Virtual Community Forum

August 12, 2021
6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Interim Superintendent Dr. Akil E. Ross, Sr. will discuss back-to-school concerns, as well as the results from the Reentry and ESSER III Survey.



Advisories

Business Advisory

Faculty Advisory

Ministers Advisory

Parents Advisory

Realtors Advisory

Senior Citizens Advisory

Student Advisory

Support Employee Advisory

Emergency Responders Advisory

How are the children?

How are the Teachers & Staff?




District Five
OF LEXINGTON & RICHLAND COUNTIES