

LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

RETURN TO CAMPUS

FAMILY GUIDE

2020 - 2021



RETURNING TO CAMPUS SAFELY

I hope this finds you and your family safe and well. It's been about 8 months since COVID-19 caused the closure of schools and, unfortunately, the level of the virus in the Los Angeles area remains widespread. State guidelines say schools cannot reopen at this time. My commitment to you remains the same as I made in March – we will not reopen schools until it's safe and appropriate to do so.

We are preparing to serve students at schools as soon as it's possible, in the safest way possible. Our plans include the highest standards for health, education and employee practices at schools. This crisis is not a time to lower standards which could compromise the health and safety of the school community, the quality of education being provided to students or the protections for employees in the workplace.

This guide is intended to outline the two different instructional models that will be available for families when students can return to campuses, and to provide information on the safety practices in place at schools, including cleaning of classrooms, social distancing, and our school-based system of COVID-19 testing and contact tracing.

Our goal is to provide everything you need to make an informed decision about what's best for your child and your family – a return to school or continuing with online learning. Every family will be offered this choice. We ask you please complete our Program Selection form online at reopening.lausd.net/familyselection by Sunday, December 6, 2020. If you prefer, you may fill out a hard copy of the form at your child's school.

We'll keep doing our best for you and your child in these difficult times. Thank you for your continued patience and support.

Austin Beutner
Superintendent



COMMITTED TO SAFETY

In order to ensure a safe return to campus that meets the health, instructional, and social-emotional needs of our students, Los Angeles Unified is making the following commitments for its community:



GUIDANCE FROM HEALTH OFFICIALS

Los Angeles Unified will only reopen school facilities for a hybrid return when county and state public health officials announce it is appropriate to do so, no earlier than January 2021



ONLINE LEARNING OPTION

All families will have the option to participate in 100% online learning for the remainder of 2020-21



ROBUST SAFETY PROTOCOLS

Robust safety protocols will be in place at all campuses, including required PPE, mandated social distancing, frequent disinfecting, and hand sanitation, among others.



TRAINING & PREPARATION

Comprehensive training will take place for all stakeholders (teachers, administrators, students, families, and other staff) in preparation for a return to campus.



OPTIONS FOR HIGHER RISK EMPLOYEES

Employees over 65 years old or with underlying health conditions will be given the option to conduct work from home; additional opportunities to work remotely may be available for other qualifying teachers.



ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FOR SCHOOLS

Substitute teachers will provide additional support to the highest needs schools for both in-person and online instruction.



EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES

Teachers will be provided with high quality equipment and supplies to support in-person and remote instruction.



INSTRUCTIONAL FLEXIBILITY

The district will remain flexible to switch between instructional models based on health and safety information (including “all online” days for situations such as rainy days).



The two models for instruction that will be available for families to select for their students will be the Hybrid Model and Online Only. Please keep in mind that the models described here are based on the latest health and science information and may be subject to change. Please also note that your child may be learning with a new teacher, based on the number of students selecting each model.

- **Hybrid Model** - In this model, students participate in a mix of on-campus, in-person instruction and online learning. At all grade levels, students remain in consistent cohorts, meaning they stay with the same students each day. The times when students will be on campus will vary by grade.
- **Online Only** - In this model, students will continue to learn exclusively online, similar to how we began the 2020-2021 school year.

ELEMENTARY

Hybrid Learning



- Students return to campus for in-person instruction for a portion of the week with fewer students on campus at any given time
- While on campus, students will remain in a consistent cohort
- Students complete coursework online when not receiving direct, in-person instruction
- Extended supervision options will be available on campus for students when not receiving in-person instruction
- Meals provided daily
- Can opt into Online Only learning model at any time

Online Only Learning



- Students participate in all learning online, with a mix of live instruction with a teacher and independent work time
- Meals available on campus through Grab & Go
- Can opt into Hybrid Learning Model at designated points in the school calendar
- Based on enrollment, students might attend "Virtual Academy" with a teacher from their school, or another school

SECONDARY

Hybrid Learning



- Students attend campus for a portion of the week with fewer students on campus at any given time
- Students will remain in the same classroom while on campus, with the same group of students in a consistent cohort
- Students continue learning online on days when not on campus
- During on-campus days, students may engage in both in-person and remote instruction while on campus
- Student will continue learning with a full schedule of courses
- Meals provided daily
- Can opt into Online Only learning model at any time

Online Only Learning



- Students participate in all learning online, with a mix of live instruction with their teacher and independent work time
- Students will continue learning online 5 days a week
- Meals available on campus through Grab & Go
- Can opt into Hybrid Learning Model at designated points in the school calendar



Los Angeles Unified is committed to providing the best instructional programs and services for all students. With an assets-based mindset, we will ensure that all students have equitable, meaningful access to learning opportunities when participating in any model.

EARLY EDUCATION STUDENTS

- Early Education Centers are planning to offer a full-day program for students
 - Early learners will be in consistent cohorts with reduced class size, remaining with the same group of students each day
 - Centers will offer preschool collaborative classrooms
- California State Preschool Programs and Expanded Transitional Kindergarten programs will follow the elementary models described above

ENGLISH LEARNERS & STANDARD ENGLISH LEARNERS

- Students will continue to participate in the Comprehensive English Language Development program, which includes designated and integrated language development
- English Learner services will continue to be monitored to ensure progress toward reclassification and academic benchmarks
- Families are encouraged to speak to their child's teacher/school-site English Learner coordinator regarding their child's services
- Standard English Learners will continue receive Mainstream English Language Development

GIFTED/TALENTED LEARNERS

- Gifted/talented learners will receive differentiated instruction throughout the day across subject areas
- Gifted/Talented Programs will continue to support unique social emotional needs of students
- Families are encouraged to speak to their child's teacher/school-site gifted coordinator regarding their child's services
- Gifted/talented learners will continue to have access to curriculum and instruction that includes depth, complexity, novelty and acceleration

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES


- Students will continue to receive services in accordance with their Individualized Education Program (IEP) in the safest manner as possible to adhere to county health guidelines
- Case carriers and service providers will continue to monitor progress towards IEP goal attainment
- Families are encouraged to connect with their child's primary service provider for any questions regarding IEP services
- IEP meetings and assessments will continue to be scheduled and held both virtually and in-person (when safety protocols can be met)

THE THREE S's

For students and staff returning to campus, the following health and safety protocols will be in place at every school.




Every day starts with a commitment to safety and Three S's: **Screening**, **Sanitation**, and **Social Distancing**. It is up to everyone to use the Three S's to protect their health and the health of others.


Three S for Site Safety



START WITH SCREENING
COVID-19

Start every day with Screening
If you have a fever, cough, or flu-like symptoms, please DO NOT enter. Return when you're well.











COVID-19 PREVENTION
WASH YOUR HANDS

Sanitize frequently

- Practice rigorous hand hygiene.
- Clean high-touch surfaces frequently.
- Wear a face covering - age 2 and over.



STAY 6 FEET AWAY
COVID-19

Practice Social Distancing

- Keep at least 6 feet between people at all times.
- Look to signs that mark 6 feet of distance on the floor or wall.
- Distribution of food, devices and other items must comply with social distancing requirements.



SCREENING OF STUDENTS AND EMPLOYEES

A check-in area for health screening questions will be in place with enough space to maintain privacy. Daily upon arrival at the site, employees and students check in for health screening.



MODIFIED CLASSROOM LAYOUTS

Classrooms have been reconfigured to ensure safe social distancing is always taking place.



MASKS AND OTHER PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

Face coverings will be required of all students, staff, and visitors while on campus.



PHYSICAL DISTANCING

Signage and floor markings will be used to help remind about social distancing, which will be key to nearly every aspect of returning to school - during class, breaks, and lunch periods, too.



HYGIENE

Restrooms and handwashing sinks in classrooms will be stocked with soap and paper towels. Hand sanitizer will also be available in locations throughout campus.



DISINFECTING CLASSROOM FURNITURE AND OTHER SURFACES

Facilities are being kept clean and sanitized daily with an electrostatic mister.



UPGRADED AIR-FILTRATION SYSTEMS

Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning systems have been modified to bring in 100% outside air, ventilate 24/7 and are being upgraded with higher performing MERV-13 filters.



COVID-19 TESTING PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Los Angeles Unified is implementing a program to provide the highest standard of safety measures at schools. The key components of the program include daily health checks, COVID-19 testing of students and staff, and community engagement to follow up on positive cases of COVID-19 and employees who may have been exposed or are not feeling well. Additionally, reporting procedures have been developed in accordance with the law to keep the school community informed of this testing and its results and of the District's continued health mitigation measures.

Below are brief descriptions of the key components of the program.



DAILY HEALTH CHECK

The District will be releasing a digital application called the Daily Pass. This application will be used by all employees, students and visitors to complete a required daily health check for admission to a campus or office. The daily health check will monitor for safe behaviors, physical wellness and potential exposure to the virus. Those who affirmatively complete the daily health check will receive a Daily Pass that can be used for admission to schools or District offices.

Individuals who do not have access to the app can complete the health survey at a school or office entrance.



TEMPERATURE CHECKS

No-touch temperature checks will be implemented at all schools as an additional screening tool.



TESTING PROCESS

The testing process is simple. You'll receive a notice from your child's principal (for students) or immediate supervisor (for employees) that it's time to be tested. Future notifications will be sent electronically via the new Daily Pass App. You can make an appointment online, using a phone or computer including the one Los Angeles Unified has provided, at one of the many schools where testing is being provided. There's a quick check-in upon arrival at the site and a clinician will be there to help oversee the testing. While we recommend the use of nasal swabs, anyone can request a saliva test if they prefer. Both tests are what's known as PCR tests, the gold standard for COVID-19 testing. The test is free and the process should take less than 10 minutes, start to finish. Test results are handled confidentially.

- Q How will I select the option I would like my child to participate in?**
A To select the model you would like for your child or children, you must complete the online Program Selection form at reopening.lausd.net/familyselection or contact your school directly to inform them of your choice.
- Q Where do I find my child’s student ID to complete the Program Selection?**
A You may find your child’s Student ID in Parent Portal (parentportalapp.lausd.net/parentaccess), for those who have registered. You may also call your child’s school or call the Helpdesk at (213) 443-1300 for this information.
- Q Will my child be able to switch between the Hybrid and Online Only model? How often?**
A Yes. Students may move from Hybrid to Online Only at any point; students may move from Online Only to Hybrid at specified times during the school year. Please contact your school if you would like to make this switch.
- Q Will students receive the same amount of instructional time in both models?**
A Yes, students will receive the same amount of instructional minutes regardless of which model they participate in.
- Q How will the Online Only model be any different than how my child is currently learning from home? What is a “Virtual Academy” for elementary students?**
A Instruction in the Online Only model will work the same as instruction does currently. However, there is the possibility elementary students will be taught by a teacher from a neighboring school with students from that school in a “Virtual Academy.” This may be necessary based how many students in each grade elect to learn virtually, though every effort will be made to keep students with their current teachers.
- Q In a Hybrid Model, will my child mix with other groups of students?**
A No. In a Hybrid Model, your child will remain with the same group of students in the same classroom every day they are on campus. However, please note that a teacher change may be necessary.
- Q Will my child be able to receive transportation if I select the Hybrid Model?**
A Yes, transportation will be available for students who qualify on the days your child will be learning on campus. Please be sure to indicate your need for transportation on the Program Selection form for more information.
- Q Will supervised care be available in a Hybrid Model for days or hours my child is not receiving direct in-person instruction?**
A Yes, supervised care options will be available for students on campus.

For any questions about these models, or about the Program Selection form, please call our Helpdesk hotline at (213) 443-1300 or contact your school for additional support. For more information on our COVID-19 testing program, visit achieve.lausd.net/covidtesting.

