



## Changes, Updates, and New Resources NCDHHS K-12 Public Health Guidance

### Key Changes – 10/8/2020

#### New Resources:

- [K-12 COVID-19 Testing Considerations](#)
- [When to Quarantine \(Spanish\)](#)

#### [StrongSchoolsNC Public Health Toolkit \(K-12\)](#)

- Clarified what is required for schools to report to Local Health Departments: suspected or confirmed cases.
- Added language about excluding siblings/household members if one individual is symptomatic or exposed, which reflects the screening form
- Added links to quarantine example calendars
- Clarified language regarding Plan B bus restrictions following request from NC State Board of Education and Department of Public Instruction
- Added links to quarantine example calendars
- Clarified screening flow chart language regarding antigen vs. PCR testing

#### [Screening Reference Guide](#)

- Language and protocol clarifications throughout document
- Clarified what is required for schools to report to Local Health Departments: suspected or confirmed cases.
- Added language about excluding siblings/household members if one individual is symptomatic or exposed, which reflects the screening form
- Added links to quarantine example calendars
- Clarified screening flow chart language regarding antigen vs. PCR testing

#### [PPE and Infection Control Guidance](#)

- Link added to CDC do-not-use list of hand sanitizer products contaminated with methanol

#### [StrongSchoolsNC FAQ](#)

- New FAQs added:
  - Exposure guidance for those doing COVID-19 screenings
  - Confidentiality
  - Social distancing protocols under Plan A
  - Parental consent and COVID-19 testing
- Updates
  - Wording and question order clarity throughout document

## Key Changes – 9/17/2020

### [StrongSchoolsNC Public Health Toolkit \(K-12\)](#)

- As of October 5, 2020, elementary schools (K – 5<sup>th</sup> grade) can operate under Plan A.
- At this time, middle and high schools (6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade) may operate under Plan B or Plan C, only.
- It is strongly recommended schools operate transportation under Plan B health and safety requirements to ensure reduced density in a more confined space.
- It is strongly encouraged that if schools implement plan A, they also implement and emphasize *recommended* strategies in the StrongSchoolsNC Public Health Toolkit for social distancing and minimizing exposure like choosing to cohort students and teachers.
- Clarified that symptom screenings should take place daily

### [Screening Reference Guide](#)

- Updated screening flow chart with grammatical and wording changes for clarity

### [StrongSchoolsNC FAQ](#)

- Updated answers to 4 questions to align with newly announced option for K-5 to transition to Plan A:
  - Why are elementary (K – 5<sup>th</sup> grade) schools able to choose to operate under Plan A, while middle and high (6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade) schools cannot?
  - Are face coverings/masks required at all times for North Carolina’s students, teachers, and staff when school buildings reopen?
  - Which operational plan will my child’s school reopen under?
  - Are school districts allowed to provide remote learning during the 2020-21 school year?
- Updated miscellaneous grammatical and wording changes to align with Toolkit

## Key Changes – 9/1/2020

### [StrongSchoolsNC Public Health Toolkit \(K-12\)](#)

- Updated wording changes to align with child care guidance
- Inserted list of mask exemptions
- Updated hyperlinks and minor language errors

### [StrongSchoolsNC FAQ](#)

- Clarified symptoms that exclude a child from in person attendance
- New FAQ added concerning financial support for families seeking school-age child care
- Updated language and responses to questions that relate to cloth face coverings and face shields, in alignment with Executive Order 163