Voyager Academy
COVID-19 Return to School Plans

2020-2024

Voyager Academy has responded to the ever changing needs caused by the COVID-19 pandemic with a flexible response as the situation evolved. Over the years Voyager has kept the safety of our students, staff, and community at the forefront of the decision making process. We also ensured that our students were able to access all educational resources, social and emotional supports, athletics, and extracurricular opportunities throughout the journey. Voyager involved a COVID task force and utilized input from all stakeholders throughout the pandemic response process.

Voyager started the 2020-2021 school year with remote learning for all except for our self-contained separate setting classes. As the year progressed we implemented a phased-in approach during the 2020-2021 school year as safety precautions were updated by the CDC and NCDHHS. The elementary school reopened in a hybrid mode on 3/2/2021, the Middle School reopened in a hybrid mode on 3/18/2021, and the high school reopened in a hybrid mode on 3/16/2021. We were thrilled to fully reopen to in-person instruction for all students and staff on 4/12/2021. The documents that follow outline our reopening plans,procedures, and guidelines that have been implemented throughout the COVID 19 pandemic in order to maintain a safe in-person learning environment.

2022-2023 COVID-19 Plans for Voyager Academy

As NCDHHS transitioned from the StrongSchools Toolkit to the CDC guidance, highlights of policies for schools include:

- It is no longer recommended that schools require staff to report their vaccination status and participate in a screening program, if they are unvaccinated
- Masks are recommended at high CDC COVID-19 community levels
- It is no longer recommended that schools implement physical distancing strategies (such as keeping students 3ft or 6ft apart)
- Universal contact tracing is not recommended
- Testing, Ventilation, and Cleaning remain important layers of protection

Vaccination:

- Students and staff are encouraged to stay up to date on their COVID-19 immunizations. Vaccination helps prevent severe illness and can help prevent the on-going spread of COVID-19.
- Unvaccinated staff members are no longer required to participate in weekly testing.

Masks

- Voyager Academy remains mask-optional and will implement on-going communication of CDC community transmission levels to students/staff/families.
    - Adult and child masks will be available at the front office of each school building and the Hock House.
    - Signage posted on building doors that includes CDC's current community level of transmission for Durham (Low/Medium/High) and corresponding mask recommendations.

Tests

- At-home rapid antigen tests are available for any staff member at any time. Please contact our nurse, Chelsea Skoff (cskoff@voyageracademy.net) if you are in need of at-home tests throughout the year.
- On-campus rapid testing is also available for staff. If you begin to feel unwell at school and have not been tested, please put on a mask and reach out to Chelsea to coordinate getting tested while at school.
- Voyager Academy will also be able to perform rapid tests on students, with parent permission, while at school.

Surveillance Testing

- Voyager will continue to offer weekly surveillance testing for students and teachers that would like to participate. This program is optional.

- Email communication will go out the week of August 22nd regarding the testing program and the electronic consent form for families and staff to sign up. The surveillance testing program is projected to kick-off August 30th.

Symptomatic Students / Voyager Academy Sick Child Procedure
The guidance will not change from the 2021-2022 school year for persons that test positive for COVID-19:

- <u>If an individual tests POSITIVE for COVID-19:</u>
    - Individuals should stay home for a full 5 days following the start of symptoms. If symptoms have improved by the 5th day, students may return to school as soon as the 6th day and would be required to wear their mask at all times and not eat around others through the 10th day.

- <u>If an individual has symptoms, but has not had a PCR COVID test:</u>
    - Testing of symptomatic individuals either by a PCR test and/or daily at-home rapid antigen tests remains highly recommended by the CDC and Voyager Academy. However, presenting a negative PCR test result is no longer required for students with symptoms to attend school as long as they feel well enough to attend school.
    - All students who have symptoms of illness must either wear a mask until they are symptom free <u>*or*</u> wear a mask until they present a negative PCR test result.
        - A student may remain at school with symptoms (excluding fever over 100.4F, vomiting, diarrhea*, *see below*) as long as their symptoms are not interfering with the student's ability to learn AND the student wears their mask at all times (excluding eating/drinking).
        - Teachers should notify a student's parent of the symptoms observed. **A template email to use for this communication will be coming from Chelsea.*
        - If a student presents a negative PCR test result and symptoms are not interfering with the student's ability to learn, they may continue to attend school and wearing a mask becomes optional
        - *Students that have a fever (temperature above 100.4F), diarrhea or vomiting are required to be sent home from school and may not return until they have been fever/vomiting/diarrhea free without medication for at least 36 hours.

Notification of COVID-19 cases

- Community notification procedures remain unchanged from the 2021-2022 school year.
    - If there is a positive case at the K-3 level, the classroom teacher sends a notification email (provided by Chelsea) to classroom parents.
    - Cases in grades 4-12 are communicated in a Friday email update listing the grade level and last on campus date.

WISHING EVERYONE A WONDERFUL 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR!

2022-2023 Voyager Academy COVID-19 and Sick Child Guidelines

Below is the **list of possible COVID symptoms as defined by the CDC and NCDHHS**:

- temperature above 100.4F**
- cough
- headache
- sore throat
- congestion or runny nose
- fatigue, muscle or body aches
- nausea or vomiting**
- diarrhea**
- shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- new loss of taste or smell

My student has one of more of these symptoms, now what?

- If a student has <u>any</u> of the symptoms listed above, COVID-19 TESTING IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED.

- A student <u>may attend school</u> if they have symptoms** as long as:
  - they WEAR A MASK AT ALL TIMES <u>AND</u>
  - they feel well enough to attend school and symptoms are not interfering with the student's ability to learn and participate in the school day

If a student has symptoms that include a **fever (temperature above 100.4F), **vomiting, or diarrhea** the student MUST remain home until they have been fever, vomiting or diarrhea free without medication for AT LEAST 36 hours, regardless of COVID-19 test results, per the Voyager Academy Parent Handbook.

- If a student receives a negative PCR test result after their symptoms began, the student will no longer need to wear a mask at school while they have symptoms.

- If a student has <u>*any*</u> of these symptoms **DURING the school day**, the parent will be notified and the student MUST wear a mask for the remainder of the school day or may be sent home.

When can my student come back to school?

Scenario	Criteria to return to school
Person has *symptoms that include* (1) or more of the following: • fever over 100.4F • vomiting • diarrhea	PERSON SHOULD GET TESTED FOR COVID-19 **Person may return to school when:** - they have been fever/vomiting/diarrhea free without medication for at least 36 hours <u>AND</u> - they must wear a mask at all times while they have any other symptoms from the list above.
Person has *symptoms of COVID-19* but has **not** received a PCR test result nor has visited a health care provider.	PERSON SHOULD GET TESTED COVID-19 **Person may return to school when:**

	- it has been at least 36 hours since the person had a fever/vomiting/diarrhea (if applicable) AND - they feel well enough to attend and participate in school. - they MUST wear a mask at all times while they have symptoms from the list above.
Person has *symptoms of COVID-19,* but has received a **negative PCR test result.**	**Person may return to school when:** - it has been at least 36 hours since the person had a fever/vomiting/diarrhea (if applicable) AND - they feel well enough to attend and participate in school. * the person is not required to wear a mask if a negative PCR COVID test result is provided.
Person has an **alternate diagnosis** that would explain the symptoms of COVID-19	**Person may return to school when:** - a doctor's note explaining the diagnosis is provided to the school.
Person has tested **positive on an at-home rapid antigen or PCR test**, but the person *does **not** have symptoms*.	**Person may return to school when:** - Person may return to school 5 days* after their positive test. - Person MUST wear a mask indoors and outdoors and avoid eating around others for an additional 5 days. - Person is not required to have documentation of a negative COVID test in order to return to school after the 5th day.
Person *has symptoms of COVID-19* and has tested **positive on an at-home rapid antigen or PCR test**.	**Person may return to school when:** - It has been 5 days* since the first day of symptoms AND - it has been at least 36 hours since the person had a fever/vomiting/diarrhea (if applicable) AND they feel well enough to attend school. - Person MUST wear a mask indoors and outdoors and avoid eating around others for an additional 5 days. - Person is not required to have documentation of a negative COVID test in order to return to school.

**Day 0 is the day the person started feeling symptoms or the day of the positive COVID test result, whichever happened first. The 5-day isolation period begins on the day AFTER Day 0 AND includes the 5th day.* The CDC's Quarantine and Isolation period calculator can be found here: *https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/quarantine-isolation.html#*

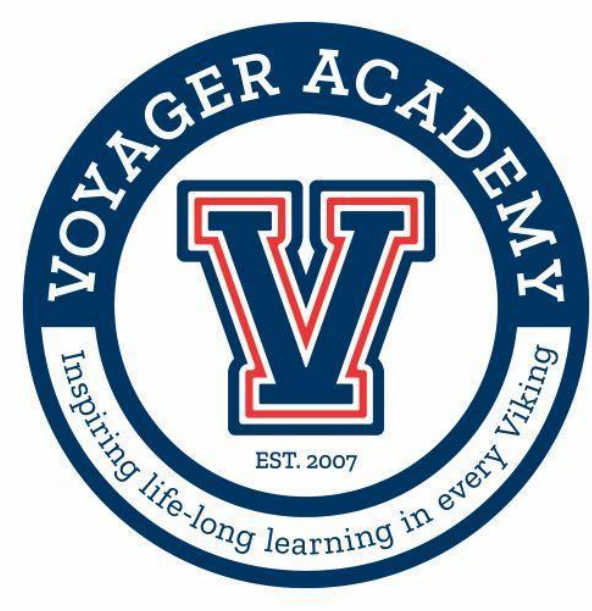
Who do I notify about my student's symptoms/test results:

- For **symptom updates and/or to report COVID test results**, please email:
  - your student's homebase teacher
  - the school nurse, Mrs. Skoff cskoff@voyageracademy.net
  - the front office administrative assistant

- For **daily attendance**, **school assignments, and homework**,
  - please email your child's teacher(s) each day while your child is home with symptoms, awaiting results, or completing their isolation period.

Where can I find COVID-19 tests?

- Free At-home Test Pick-Up Locations: https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/PickUpTests
- Free On-Site Testing Locations: https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/about-covid-19/testing/find-my-testing-place/no-cost-community-testing-events
- Retail COVID-19 Testing Locations: https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/testing-treatment/find-covid-19-tests/find-covid-19-testing-site



2021-2022 Reopening Plan

Guidelines and Procedures

INTRODUCTION

The safety of our students, staff, and community is at the forefront of all of our decision making and planning for reopening our campus during the 2021-2022 school year. During the 2020-2021 school year we operated in a fully remote and hybrid learning environment. We have developed guidelines and procedures to maintain the safety of our students and staff to mitigate the risks associated with COVID. We also recognize and understand that the individual health issues and circumstances of each family and staff member vary along with their comfort level of returning to in-person instruction on campus during the COVID-19 pandemic. We began communicating our intent to return to full in-person instruction during the spring of 2020 so that families and staff could be fully prepared for the start of the new school year. Results and feedback from our school community were considered in the determination to return to in-person instruction for the 2021-2022 school year.

We are excited and eager to be together learning on campus as a school-wide community. We recognize that we need to be vigilant with our safety protocols and procedures as well as stay abreast of all of the latest data and recommendations from our state and local health departments. Our plans have been purposefully and thoughtfully designed to meet the educational, social, and emotional needs of our students. We will also be responsive to individual family and staff needs and circumstances should a quarantine be required. Our staff are fully prepared to provide an educational plan for students during any mandatory quarantine period to ensure they can stay connected to their academic program. Voyager has also developed a remote learning plan should the school need to transition to a fully remote learning option if an entire grade, building, or full school closure is required. This document is posted on the school website and has been shared with the NC Department of Instruction.

We will continue to communicate regular updates to the entire Voyager community to keep everyone informed as our plans evolve in response to the health crisis and state mandates. Our goal continues to be a safe return to campus for everyone in our school community. Thank you for partnering with us as we navigate through these unprecedented times.

We are confident that the Voyager community of educators, families, and board members will all rise to this challenge and partner together to light the way forward. Together we will foster academic excellence, and ensure the social, and emotional well-being of our community in a safe learning environment.

Academic Excellence, Innovation, and Flexibility in a Safe Learning Environment

It is critical that our students return to their regular education plan during the 2021-2022 school year to further academic growth and social and emotional development at every grade level. Charter Schools are uniquely positioned to evaluate the needs of our community and develop innovative instructional plans to meet all student needs. We are also given greater flexibility with our instructional strategies and school calendar so that we can fulfill our vision of "Inspiring life-long learning in every Viking". With that in mind, our team will remain steadfast on our mission and core values so that all students will have the opportunity to grow and reach their maximum potential for academic, social, and emotional development while maintaining the health and safety of all students and staff in our school community.

Vision:				
"Inspiring life-long learning in every Viking"				
Mission:				
"to provide students in kindergarten through grade twelve an academically challenging and supportive learning environment"				
Values:				
Voyager prioritizes empathy, teamwork, leadership, problem-solving, and change making as student outcomes				
CONFIDENCE Trusting in your own ability and being willing to take academic risks.	**CURIOSITY** Being eager to investigate and learn about the world around us.	**EMPATHY** Being aware of and respecting another person's feelings, experiences, and differences	**REFLECTION** Using past experiences to guide future learning and decision making.	**INTEGRITY** Doing the right thing and standing strong in what you believe.

Expectations for academics and engagement will remain consistent to ensure all students reach their potential and strive for academic excellence. Students and staff will be held to the high academic ideals for quality instruction, student engagement and participation, and completion of work demonstrating mastery of content standards and skills. We have high expectations and intend to foster the academic, social, and emotional development of our students throughout the year whether we are learning on campus or if required to transition to learning remotely. Attendance procedures and policies will be implemented and grading of student work will be implemented according to all state guidelines for in person or remote learning.

VOYAGER ACADEMY REOPENING PLAN 2021 – 2022

All Students and Staff Return to Campus with Normal Operations and Health Precautions - Minimum Social Distancing

- Voyager will resume normal operations on campus for all students and staff.
- Minimum social distancing will be implemented.
- Health and hygiene precautions will continue.
- Voyager will continue to maintain cleaning and sanitizing of all schools.
- Voyager staff will continue to monitor and be vigilant about addressing and responding to any suspected, presumptive, or confirmed cases of COVID-19.
- Voyager will follow all guidelines from the CDC and NCDHHS to report such cases to the Local Health Department and implement isolation and cleaning protocols as required.

EC Service Delivery

- Students are served exactly according to their IEP for service delivery minutes and location (general or special education location).

Voyager Academy COVID Safety Procedures and Guidelines

Surveillance Testing

As part of our return to safe in-person instruction at Voyager Academy, we are participating in a COVID-19 screening testing program. Screening testing will help us identify individuals who have COVID-19 but do not show symptoms. All unvaccinated staff, student athletes, and voluntary students and staff will be tested on a weekly basis.

The primary goal of our screening COVID-19 testing is to limit the number of infected individuals at our school. The testing data will help us plan our learning accommodations and safety procedures for the upcoming school year.

How the testing program will work

Screening COVID-19 testing will take place at our school each week starting **TUESDAY, AUGUST 24th.**

We have asked a team of Duke doctors to help us administer this program and analyze the testing data from our school. Testing data sent to Duke will be de-identified, meaning that Duke will not be able to know who participated in testing or their individual results.

Overview of Process:

1. We will send families a consent form to complete on behalf of each child. If you have multiple children enrolled at Voyager, we will need a consent form for EACH student.
2. If parents/guardians sign the consent form and agree to participate in the testing program, *their child will be assigned a unique identification number*. This number will be used in place of the child's name for all testing-related procedures and data sent to Duke to help protect the child's identity.
3. Families of student athletes that do not want to be tested on campus can elect to test privately and submit a negative PCR test result.
4. Each week, a set of identification numbers will be randomly selected for testing. Because testing is random, a child may NOT be selected to be tested each week.
5. Students selected for testing for a particular week will receive a nasal swab on Tuesday morning at the school by a Duke clinician. *Our school nurse, Mrs. Skoff will be present during testing to assist and provide support to our students.*
6. While the tests we have selected are accurate in most circumstances, it is possible to receive a false positive result. *If a child's test gives a positive read-out, the child will immediately receive a second test to confirm the result.*
7. Our school administrator or nurse will contact families if their child receives a confirmed positive result for COVID-19, and we will provide instructions for picking up the student and how to isolate at home.

About the testing kits

Voyager will start the program by using the Quidel QuickVue test and will switch to the Ellume COVID-19 Home Test. These tests were chosen because they:

- Use a small swab in the front part of the nose (nares).
- Provide quick results (10-15 minutes).
- Have high accuracy.
- Are suitable and accurate in individuals with and without symptoms.
- Are approved for use in adults and children.
- Can be administered in the school.
- Can securely transmit results to our school or public health department (i.e. it is HIPAA compliant) [Ellume test].

Below is the list of possible COVID symptoms as defined by the CDC and NCDHHS:

- temperature above 100.4F
- cough
- headache
- sore throat
- vomiting
- nausea

- diarrhea
- difficulty breathing
- loss of taste or smell

If a child has any of these symptoms during the school day, the parent will be notified and the child will be sent home from school.

If a child is sent home due to any of the above symptoms, here are some of the various scenarios/criteria to return to school:

Scenario	Criteria to return to school
Person has *symptoms of COVID 19* but has received a **negative PCR test result**. *Please provide a copy of the test result to the school prior to your child returning.	Person can return to school when: -It has been at least 24 hours since the person had a fever (if applicable) AND -They have felt well for at least 24 hours
Person has an **alternate diagnosis** that would explain the symptoms of COVID 19	Person can return to school when: -A doctor's note explaining the diagnosis is provided to the school.
Person has *symptoms of COVID 19* but has **not** been tested nor has visited a health care provider.	Person can return to school when: -It has been 10 days since the first day of symptoms AND -It has been at least 24 hours since the person had a fever (without using fever reducing medicine) AND -Other symptoms of COVID 19 are improving.
Person has tested **positive on a PCR test** but the person *does **not** have symptoms*.	Person can return to school 10 days after their positive test.

Person *has symptoms of COVID 19* and has tested **positive on a PCR test**.	Person can return to school when: -It has been 10 days since the first day of symptoms AND -It has been at least 24 hours since the person had a fever (without using fever reducing medicine) AND -Other symptoms of COVID 19 are improving.

For **symptom updates and/or to report COVID test results**, please email your child's principal, the front office administrative assistant and the school nurse, Mrs. Skoff cskoff@voyageracademy.net
For **daily attendance**, school assignments, and homework, please email your child's teacher each day while your child is home with symptoms, awaiting results, or in quarantine.

Response to Suspected, Presumptive or Confirmed Cases of COVID-19

NCDHHS issued a reference guide for suspected, presumptive, or confirmed cases of COVID-19 to support schools in protecting the health of our school community.

Voyager Academy staff will adhere to all defined guidelines of any suspected, presumptive, or confirmed case of COVID-19 outlined by NCDHHS and the Durham Public Health Department. Families should also recognize that the protocols and guidelines are ever changing and Voyager will modify guidelines and protocols with any updates.

Voyager will implement the protocols below for each of the various possible scenarios:

- Exclusion- Sick student or adult with symptoms will not be allowed to enter the school building. Parents will be asked to pick up any student that shares that they have been exposed to COVID-19 even if they do not show symptoms and will be required to quarantine.
- Infection Control – Voyager staff will wear personal protective equipment while caring for a sick student or adult. The sick person will also be required to wear a face mask.
- Notification of Local Health Department – Voyager will notify the Local Health Department for any suspected, presumptive, or confirmed case of COVID-19.
- Notification to School Community – Voyager will notify the school community with any positive case reported and post the Covid data on a dashboard on the school website.
- Contact Tracing – Voyager will conduct contact tracing to identify any potential close contacts that would need to quarantine and notify as appropriate with guidelines on next steps recommended by health department.
- Cleaning and disinfecting –

    - Close off areas used by the sick person, including school transportation vehicles, and do not use these areas until after cleaning and disinfecting.
    - People should not be in the classroom, or other area of the facility while it is being cleaned.
    - Open outside doors and windows to increase air circulation in the area.
    - Use an EPA-registered disinfectant that is active against coronaviruses. Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces.
    - Remember to clean items that might not ordinarily be cleaned daily such as doorknobs, light switches, countertops, chairs, cubbies, and playground structures.
    - Follow NCDHHS Environmental Health Section guidance for additional cleaning and disinfection recommendations.
- Closure of infected area or school as determined by local authorities- Voyager will consult with the Local Health Department to determine whether an area, a classroom or the entire building should be closed.
    - Close off areas used by the sick person, do not use these areas until after cleaning and disinfecting.
    - Consult with the Local Health Department as to whether closure of a classroom or entire building is required. There may be no need to close the school if the Local Health Department determines that close contacts are excluded and there is sufficient space to continue normal operations.
    - The Local Health Department may in some situations determine that closure of a facility is needed; this will be determined on a case-by-case basis.
- Local Health Department Next Steps-
- The Local Health Department may also conduct interviews with the person (or their family member if it is a young child) who tested positive and identify individuals who were in close contact with the infected person.
- The Local Health Department will recommend testing close contacts that were exposed to someone that tested positive
- Public health staff will share that all close contacts need to quarantine at
- Voyager will coordinate with the Local Health Department to determine how to inform families and staff as appropriate – they may not necessarily need to be notified, depending on the situation.
- If positive COVID-19 test:
    - The Local Health Department will assist in notifying staff and families that there was an individual who was at the school who has tested positive with COVID-19.
    - A public health professional may contact staff and families if they are identified as a close contact to the individual who tested positive.
    - The notice to staff and families must maintain confidentiality in accordance with NCGS § 130A-143 and all other state and federal laws.

Voyager Mask Policy

The Board of Directors of Voyager Academy has voted to implement a mandatory mask policy. This policy is part of Voyager's overall commitment to ensure the health and safety of students,

staff, and our community. This mask policy is consistent with CDC and NCDHHS guidance, the Strong Schools Toolkit, and the vast majority of public schools throughout North Carolina. Voyager's mask policy will be reviewed monthly in accordance with the requirements defined in Session Law 2021-130 Senate Bill 654.

All employees, visitors, and students are required to wear a mask upon entering and remaining on campus. The school requires a two-layer cloth face mask or medical mask. Masks must securely cover the nose, mouth, and chin. Mesh masks, bandanas, neck gaiters, and face shields are not an acceptable face mask covering and are never permitted.

Students who do not follow this policy will be subject to the school's disciplinary process. Employees who do not follow this policy, will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination. Visitors who do not follow this policy will be asked to comply or leave campus. Because not wearing a mask places other students and staff in direct harm, the school will not be providing mask exemptions except in exceptional circumstances. Any mask accommodation will be reviewed in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Amendments, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

The school will provide students and staff with mask breaks. In addition, temporary removal of the mask is permitted where necessary for the following purposes:

1. Actively engaging in an outdoor athletic or fitness activity;
2. Outdoor activity when 6 feet of social distancing can be maintained
3. Consuming food or drink;
4. For any emergency or medical purpose.

Personal Health and Safety Protocols –

Wear Masks-

- Voyager will require masks for all students and all adults while on campus outside and inside school buildings.
- Evidence has shown that wearing face coverings helps reduce the spread of COVID-19, especially for those who are sick but may not know it. Individuals should be reminded frequently not to touch the face covering and to wash their hands.
- Cloth face coverings should not be placed on:
  • Anyone who has trouble breathing or is unconscious.
  • Anyone who is incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the face covering without assistance.
- Anyone who cannot tolerate a cloth face covering due to developmental, medical or behavioral health needs

Social Distancing-

- Maintain social distancing whenever possible.

Wash Hands Frequently

- Washing hands with soap for 20 seconds or using hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol reduces the spread of disease.
- Voyager will provide hand washing instruction to young students and provide soap and sanitizer to support healthy hygiene behaviors per CDC guidelines. Sanitizing stations will also be set up at the front entrance of each school and provided in each classroom.
- Teachers will reinforce handwashing during key times such as: before, during, and after eating; after using the toilet; after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing; and after touching objects with bare hands which have been handled by other individuals.
- Teachers will incorporate frequent handwashing and sanitation breaks into classroom activity.

School Cleaning and Sanitizing

- Custodial staff will maintain the cleanliness of all school facilities according to CDC guidelines and recommendations using approved cleaning and disinfecting products that are recommended to combat SARS and COVID viruses.
- Custodial staff will establish a schedule for and perform ongoing and routine environmental cleaning and disinfection of high-touch areas (e. g., door handles, stair rails, faucet handles, toilet handles, playground equipment, drinking fountains, light switches, desks, tables, chairs, with an EPA approved disinfectant for SARS-CoV-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19) and increase frequency of disinfection during high-density times.
- Staff will disinfect all shared objects (e. g., gym or physical education equipment, art supplies, toys, games) between use.

Water Fountains / Kitchen Facilities

- High contact areas like communal kitchens, refrigerators, and water fountains can contribute to the spread of viruses and disease. Extra sanitizing, cleaning, and precautions should be taken and food sharing is not allowed.

- Families should send water bottles to school with their children to provide for hydration throughout the day.

Before and After Care

- Voyager staff will provide before and after care to families that register for the before and after care program on the days your child attends school based on capacity limits and available staffing.

Voyager Academy COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions

I kept my child home from school today. It looks like it's just a cold or maybe allergies. Can they come back to school when they are feeling better?

Anytime a child has symptoms of an illness that include *(fever, cough, headache, sore throat, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, loss of taste or smell, difficulty breathing)* they will need to get a PCR COVID test to rule out COVID **BEFORE** they can return to school. Even if it looks like just a bad cold, allergies, or an upset stomach, the current guidelines from the CDC and department of health say that a child test negative on a PCR COVID test *OR* present a note from the doctor explaining their symptoms before returning to school. If a child returns to school without this documentation, they will be sent back home.

My child was sent home from school today because they aren't feeling well, what do I do next?

Please have your child get PCR COVID tested and report those results to your child's principal and the school nurse, Ms. Skoff cskoff@voyageracademy.net. Your child should remain home until you have received their results and sent them to the school.

I have multiple children that attend Voyager, but only one of them is not feeling well. Can the other children still come to school?

No. If *any* child in the home is not feeling well, ALL children that attend Voyager must also stay home until the sick child has tested and received a PCR COVID test result.

I'm a parent and am not feeling well. But my children feel fine and don't have any symptoms. Can my children still come to school?

No. If a parent or any other member of the household is not feeling well, ALL children that attend Voyager must stay home from school until the sick family member has tested and received a PCR COVID test result.

I have one child that just tested positive for COVID-19. But my other children that attend Voyager feel fine and don't have any symptoms. Can they still come to school?

No. If a member of the household has tested positive for COVID-19, the remaining family members have been exposed to the virus. All children that attend Voyager will need to stay home and complete *at least* a 10-day quarantine period. Please reach out to your child's principal and the school nurse, Ms. Skoff cskoff@voyageracademy.net for guidance on next steps for quarantining of the family members. You may also call the Durham Department of Health COVID Hotline 919-560-9217 to obtain guidance.

What is the difference between a PCR test and a rapid antigen test?

Rapid antigen tests detect protein fragments specific to the coronavirus. A PCR test detects genetic material that is specific to the coronavirus. PCR testing is considered the "gold standard" in SARS-CoV-2 detection and is the **only** test result type that Voyager Academy will accept in order for a child to return to school after having symptoms of an illness.

I did an at-home COVID test and the result was negative. Can my child come to school?

No. If your child has been staying home with symptoms of an illness, we will only accept a PCR COVID test result. Your child may not return to school with only an at-home test or rapid antigen test result.

I was notified BY THE SCHOOL NURSE that my child was identified as a potential exposure to another student that has recently tested positive for COVID-19. What do I do?

First, PLEASE READ THE ENTIRE EMAIL THAT YOU RECEIVED as there is helpful information and guidance for next steps in the letter. If your child is not currently experiencing any symptoms of illness *(fever, cough, headache, sore throat, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, loss of taste or smell, difficulty breathing)* they DO NOT need to be picked up from school or quarantine from school. Please keep a close watch on your child(ren) for any development of symptoms for 10-14 days after the date of exposure that was in your email. If your child develops symptoms at *any* point during that time please keep your child home from school and have them obtain a PCR COVID test.

I was notified by someone OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL that my child has been exposed to COVID-19. What do I do?

As soon as you are notified of an exposure, please keep your child home from school. They will need to stay home and complete a 10-day quarantine, *even if they are not currently showing any symptoms of illness*. This 10-day period begins on the LAST day your child was around the person that tested positive for COVID-19. Please notify Voyager Academy that your child is staying home due to an exposure and also include the date of the exposure so that the school can help you calculate the 10-day quarantine period.

While my child is staying home for an illness or exposure, can they still do their school work?

Yes. Please reach out to your child's teacher(s) for the link for at-home attendance and school work assigned each day.

Who else can I contact if I have questions about COVID-19?

You can reach out to the school nurse, Ms. Skoff cskoff@voyageracademy.net, your child's principal, or the Durham Department of Health COVID Hotline number 919-560-9217.

Remote Learning Plan will be implemented at Voyager if we are required to quarantine an entire grade level, building, or school due to a COVID outbreak.

Voyager has submitted the state required remote learning plan that addresses specifics about the instructional model, learning platforms, communications, expectations, and attendance. This document can be viewed on our website under the COVID tab. Families should understand that the plans will vary by grade and school building. Summarized below are the highlights of the remote learning option that will be implemented if we are required to implement a shutdown of an entire grade level, building, or school.

<u>High Expectations & Accountability</u>

- Attendance reporting in a remote learning environment will include participation in zoom classes/Seesaw/Google Classroom w/, submission of student work, and any form of communication between the teacher and student about assignments and classwork. We recognize that all families may not have reliable internet connection and that we will need to be flexible about accepting other demonstrations of student work should technology become unreliable. Voyager will provide technology support for economically disadvantaged families that need assistance with equipment and internet connectivity if the remote learning will be for an extended period of time.

<u>Remote Instructional Learning Model</u>

- Teachers will incorporate synchronous class time and small group instruction to meet the developmental and academic needs of all students. The amount of direct instruction per content area will vary by grade level.
- Teachers will also build in time for independent student work time so that they are not on the computer during their entire school day.
- Teachers will facilitate project based learning experiences to encourage the development of interpersonal and executive functioning skills in small remote group environments when developmentally appropriate.
- Teachers will also schedule office hours to meet individually with students and /or parent/guardians to provide assistance and support.
- Teachers will provide frequent feedback and grades on student work and continuously monitor student progress to ensure growth.

Social and Emotional Development

- The Voyager Social Worker and School Counselors will develop programs to support social and emotional development for students and parents.
- The school Social Worker and School Counselors will also monitor and arrange for nutrition needs and technology support for families that are economically disadvantaged to ensure that we provide an equitable education for all students.
- The Social Worker and School Counselor will provide small group meetings to discuss relevant topics to support students with academic, social, or emotional needs.
- School Counselors will provide academic, college, and career planning meetings to support students as they plan for their future.
- Athletics, Clubs, and Enrichment will not be offered during remote learning.

EC Student Delivery

- Students with general education (**inclusion/Push in)** services on their IEP will have EC teachers co-teach or assist general education classroom teachers during the regular classroom teacher's live teaching sessions.
- If this is not possible, due to scheduling of 2 classes at same time, then EC Teachers will daily (record/copy/print etc.) gen ed classroom assignment and schedule in their Google Classroom academic skills live teaching sessions that day or the following day on that assignment (individual or small group). These academic skills sessions could include re-teaching the lesson, test prep session, and any other modifications and accommodations specified on the students IEP. Service delivery minutes will correspond and all goal areas will be addressed and progress monitored. Occupational Therapy, speech therapy and Visually impaired services will be delivered virtually as well.

- Students with **Pull Out** services will log into their EC Teacher's (Not the gen ed teacher's) Google Classroom for live Google Meet sessions scheduled daily in Reading/Writing (ELA), Math and Social/Emotional skills. Service delivery minutes as specified on the IEP will match and goal areas identified will be taught and progress monitored. Occupational Therapy, speech therapy and Visually impaired services will be delivered virtually as well. Pull Out services are in addition to logging into their Gen Ed teachers' classroom for assignments.

- Students in a **Separate** setting will log into their EC Teacher's Google Classroom for daily instruction at a set time. Goal areas from the IEP will be addressed, IEP service delivery minutes will be modified. These classes may be small group or individual sessions depending on the severity of the disability and the teacher's professional judgment. Occupational Therapy, speech therapy and Visually impaired services will be delivered virtually as well. Teacher assistants will also log in and assist students at teacher's direction.

Voyager Covid Concern Form

Voyager has created an anonymous reporting tool to allow students, staff, and families the opportunity to report any COVID concern to the school so that their concern can be reviewed and addressed. The COVID concern form is on the school website under the COVID tab.

VOYAGER ACADEMY

2020-2021 Reopening Plan
Guidelines and Procedures

July 17, 2020

INTRODUCTION

The safety of our students, staff, and community is at the forefront of all of our decision making and planning for reopening our campus during the 2020-2021 school year. We recognize and understand that the individual health issues and circumstances of each family and staff member vary along with their comfort level of returning to in-person instruction on campus during the COVID-19 pandemic. In order to fully understand the perspectives of all stakeholders and engage our community in the conversation further, the Voyager Academy Leadership Team formed a Reopening Task Force comprised of students, parents, community members, teachers, staff members, administrators, and board members. The focus of the Reopening Task Force was to identify and develop plans for our safe return to school for the 2020-2021 school year and develop the state required Voyager Remote Learning Plan. Additional student, parent, and staff input was gathered throughout the process using surveys and Town Hall meetings to further guide the decision making process. We anticipate that this will be an ongoing process throughout the 2020-2021 school year as we measure and monitor our plans so that we are responsive to the changing needs as the health crisis evolves throughout the year.

While we are all excited and eager to be together learning on campus as a school-wide community, we recognize that the current statistics and the rising COVID-19 cases will require a phased in approach to ensure the safety for all. Our plans have been purposefully and thoughtfully designed to allow for maximum flexibility and responsiveness to individual family and staff needs and circumstances. With that being said, there will be opportunities for families to choose remote learning throughout the year if needed due to health concerns.

The North Carolina Department of Public Instruction defined three options for schools to return for the 2020-2021 school year as shown in the chart below. Schools must comply with the minimum requirements of the reopening plan option selected by the state but were also given the flexibility to implement more restrictive guidelines and procedures if necessary to support the needs in their school community. On July 14, 2020 Governor Cooper announced that the state was recommending that schools reopen with Plan B offering both remote and online learning. The Governor and his team all acknowledged that each school will need to survey their community and make the decision that best meets the needs of their school community during these unprecedented times. Governor Cooper acknowledged that these are difficult decisions and that there is no one perfect answer. We all need to do our part in slowing the spread of the virus so that we can all return to school as quickly and safely as possible.

COVID-19 REOPENING PLANS	**School Facilities and Students**	**Health Precautions ***	**Teaching and Learning**	**Scheduling Options**
REOPENING PLAN A ***Minimal Social Distancing***	Open All students in school at same time	Enhanced health protocols See NCDHHS requirements and recommendations	Traditional with preparation for Blended Learning	Change within day,

REOPENING PLAN B ***Moderate Social Distancing***	Open Limit density in facilities to no greater than 50% maximum occupancy	Enhanced health protocols See NCDHHS requirements and recommendations Increased requirements in addition to Plan A	Blended Learning for all	Multiple options
REOPENING PLAN C ***Remote Learning***	Closed No students in school facilities	N/A All at home	Remote Learning for all	Full change to Remote Learning

The Voyager Leadership Team and Reopening Task Force are recommending that we reopen the 2020-2021 school year under the Remote Learning option for at least 30 days for all students under Phase I of our reopening plan. After 30 days we will reassess the current health climate in our community and if we believe the decline in COVID-19 cases is sufficient to return safely to school we will recommend moving to Phase II. During the Phase II scenario Voyager will offer a blended learning model of instruction offering both in-person and remote instruction with enhanced health protocols and moderate social distancing. Voyager will implement Phase III when it is safe to return all students and staff to campus for in person instruction. The state may issue additional guidance or mandates in the future based on the status of the health crisis and Voyager Academy will adjust as necessary to comply with all state required mandates.

We will continue to communicate regular updates to the entire Voyager community to keep everyone informed as our plans evolve in response to the health crisis and state mandates. Our goal continues to be a safe return to campus for everyone in our school community. Thank you for partnering with us as we navigate through these unprecedented times.

We are confident that the Voyager community of educators, families, and board members will all rise to this challenge and partner together to light the way forward. Together we will foster academic excellence, and ensure the social, and emotional well-being of our community in a safe learning environment.

Academic Excellence, Innovation, and Flexibility in a Safe Learning Environment
It is critical that our students return to their regular education plan as quickly as possible to further academic growth and social and emotional development at every grade level. Charter Schools are uniquely positioned to evaluate the needs of our community and develop innovative instructional plans to meet all student needs. We are also given greater flexibility with our instructional strategies and school calendar so that we can fulfill our vision of "Inspiring life-long learning in every Viking". With that in mind, our team will remain steadfast on our mission and core values so that all students will have the opportunity to grow and reach their maximum potential for academic, social, and emotional development while maintaining the health and safety of all students and staff in our school community.

Vision:				
"Inspiring life-long learning in every Viking"				
Mission:				
"to provide students in kindergarten through grade twelve an academically challenging and supportive learning environment"				
Values:				
Voyager prioritizes empathy, teamwork, leadership, problem-solving, and change making as student outcomes				
CONFIDENCE Trusting in your own ability and being willing to take academic risks.	**CURIOSITY** Being eager to investigate and learn about the world around us.	**EMPATHY** Being aware of and respecting another person's feelings, experiences, and differences	**REFLECTION** Using past experiences to guide future learning and decision making.	**INTEGRITY** Doing the right thing and standing strong in what you believe.

Expectations for academics and engagement will remain consistent under each of the 3 instructional models and will be more rigorous than the emergency school closure experienced in the spring of 2020. Students and staff will be held to the high academic ideals for quality instruction, student engagement and participation, and completion of work demonstrating mastery of content standards and skills. We have high expectations and intend to foster the academic, social, and emotional development of our students throughout the year whether we are learning remotely, in a blended learning model, and when we return to campus. Attendance procedures and policies will be implemented and grading of student work will be implemented throughout all phases of the instructional models and reopening plans.

CALENDAR MODIFICATION

- The start of the 2020-2021 school year is being modified to allow for a full week of teacher planning to prepare for and collaborate with one another before the Remote Learning begins for all. **School will begin remotely for students on Monday, August 10, 2020.** Attendance on the first 20 days of school determines the funding for charter schools. In order to be fully funded we need to have 100% of our students engaged in learning on the first day of school. The revised 2020-2021 Calendar is linked **here.**

VOYAGER ACADEMY – THREE PHASE REOPENING PLAN

VOYAGER REOPENING - PHASE I
Remote Learning For All - (30 Calendar Day Plan And Then Reassess)
State Plan C

Calendar Modification

- **First day of school for students: Monday- August 10, 2020**
- First day of school for staff: Monday – August 3, 2020
- Week of August 3, 2020 reserved for teacher PD and planning
- The Voyager calendar has been revised to include 5 defined remote learning days required by the state and are added on designated teacher work days.
- The state also required that all schools add an additional 5 instructional days to the regular required instructional hours. The Voyager calendar already exceeds the state requirements for instructional hours so we do not need to extend the school year or remove any scheduled school breaks.

High Expectations & Accountability

- Attendance reporting in a remote learning environment will include participation in zoom classes, submission of student work, and any form of communication between the teacher and student about assignments and classwork. We recognize that all families may not have reliable internet connection and that we will need to be flexible about accepting other demonstrations of student work should technology become unreliable. Voyager will provide technology support for families that need assistance with equipment and internet connectivity.

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- The school Social Worker and School Counselors will also monitor and arrange for nutrition needs and technology support for families that are economically disadvantaged to ensure that we provide an equitable education for all students.

- The Social Worker and School Counselor will provide small group meetings to discuss relevant topics to support students with academic, social, or emotional needs.
- School Counselors will provide academic, college, and career planning meetings to support students as they plan for their future.
- Athletics, Clubs, and Enrichment will not be offered during remote learning.

EC Student Delivery

- Students with general education (**inclusion/Push in)** services on their IEP will have EC teachers co-teach or assist general education classroom teachers during the regular classroom teacher's live teaching sessions.
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- Students in a **Separate** setting will log into their EC Teacher's Google Classroom for daily instruction at a set time. Goal areas from the IEP will be addressed, IEP service delivery minutes will be modified. These classes may be small group or individual sessions depending on the severity of the disability and the teacher's professional judgment. Occupational Therapy, speech therapy and Visually impaired services will be delivered virtually as well. Teacher assistants will also log in and assist students at teacher's direction.

VOYAGER REOPENING - PHASE II
Blended Learning Model
State Plan B- Moderate Social Distancing

Blended Learning Instructional Model

- Reduced Capacity in the classroom – 50% maximum with 6-foot spacing
- Student families will be broken into two cohorts with an A/B schedule for attendance.
- Group A will attend in person instruction at school on Monday and Tuesday and complete remote learning on Wednesday through Friday.
- Group B will attend in person instruction at school on Thursday and Friday and participate in remote instruction on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday.
- Wednesday will be the shortened day and will be utilized to conduct a deep cleaning and sanitizing in the school between student groups and allow time for teacher planning for both in person and remote learning as well as professional development for staff.
- Parents/Guardians will have the option to remain remote all year if needed.
- A survey will be sent out to families so that they can identify if remote learning all year is preferred so that staffing assignments can be defined.
- Social distancing and mask use will be enforced at school. Parents will be contacted if students do not comply with social distancing and mask wearing. Students will be given one reminder to correct behavior to meet health requirements. Students that refuse to comply will be assigned to remote instruction in order to protect the health of our school community.
- Movement in the building will be limited and purposeful to minimize contact.
- Students and teachers will enjoy lunch outside or in their classroom.
- Outdoor education will be encouraged when appropriate.
- Athletics, clubs, and enrichment plans are still being evaluated at this time. Updates will be provided when available.

EC Service Delivery

- Regular and Resource level students will be served in classrooms and virtually according to their IEP for goal areas-service delivery minutes will correspond. Coordination will take place for occupational and speech therapy service to be delivered on whichever day students are in the building.
- Separate setting students will be allowed on campus Monday-Friday in their self-contained classrooms in order to address their complex needs and access multiple services.

Arrival and Dismissal Procedures

- Carpooling with other families is discouraged at this time because it does not allow for social distancing.
- Voyager staff will conduct a health screening and take each child's temperature with a no contact thermometer upon arrival.
- After passing the screening, students will report directly to their homeroom.
- Students with a fever over 100 degrees will not pass the health screening and will not be permitted to attend school.

- If diagnosed with COVID-19 based on a test or symptoms, person may return to school when:
- At least 3 days (72 hours) have passed since recovery defined as resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications; and
- Improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); and
- At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared.
- If they have had a negative COVID-19 test, person may return to school once there is no fever without the use of fever-reducing medicines and has felt well for 24 hours.
- Person may participate in remote learning and teaching (if applicable) while out.
- A person can return to school, following normal school policies, if they receive confirmation of an alternative diagnosis from a health care provider that would explain the COVID-19-like symptom(s), once there is no fever without the use of fever-reducing medicines and they have felt well for 24 hours.
- A temperature over 100 degrees indicates that the child has a fever. Temperatures will be recorded by school staff.

Personal Health And Safety Protocols –

Wear Masks-

- Voyager will require masks for all students and all adults while on campus outside and inside school buildings.
- There is growing evidence that wearing face coverings help reduce the spread of COVID-19, especially for those who are sick but may not know it. Cloth face coverings are not surgical masks, respirators ("N-95s"), or other medical personal protective equipment (PPE). Individuals should be reminded frequently not to touch the face covering and to wash their hands.
- Cloth face coverings should not be placed on:
  • Anyone who has trouble breathing or is unconscious.
  • Anyone who is incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the face covering without assistance.

- Anyone who cannot tolerate a cloth face covering due to developmental, medical or behavioral health needs

Wait and allow for Social Distancing

- Social distancing will be required during the implementation of Phase II – Blended Learning at Voyager Academy. Social distancing is a key tool to decrease the spread of COVID-19. Social distancing ("physical distancing") means keeping space between yourself and other people outside of your home.
- Voyager staff will provide social distancing floor/seating markings in waiting and reception areas as well as mark 6 feet of spacing to remind students and staff to always stay 6 feet apart in hallways and in areas where they may congregate.
- Voyager will provide marks on the floors of restrooms to indicate proper social distancing and staff will limit the number of students using the facilities at one time.
- Voyager will mark specific hallways as one way and have entrance and exit doors separated to limit the potential contact with others and ensure 6-foot spacing.
- Voyager will also limit nonessential visitors and activities involving external groups or organizations. Parent conferences and meetings will be held by phone or virtually.
- Voyager staff will monitor arrival and dismissal to discourage congregating and ensure students go straight from a vehicle to their classrooms and vice-versa.
- Voyager will provide a lunch option for students that will be individually packaged and served directly to the student when they are on campus for in person instruction.
- During Phase II Voyager will limit capacity to a maximum of 50% capacity allowing for social distance spacing at least 6 feet apart between people.

Wash Hands Frequently

- Washing hands with soap for 20 seconds or using hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol reduces the spread of disease.
- Voyager will provide hand washing instruction to young students and provide soap and sanitizer to support healthy hygiene behaviors per CDC guidelines. Sanitizing stations will also be set up at the front entrance of each school and provided in each classroom.
- Teachers will reinforce handwashing during key times such as: before, during, and after eating; after using the toilet; after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing; and after touching objects with bare hands which have been handled by other individuals.
- Teachers will incorporate frequent handwashing and sanitation breaks into classroom activity.

School Cleaning and Sanitizing

- Custodial staff will maintain the cleanliness of all school facilities according to CDC guidelines and recommendations using approved cleaning and disinfecting products that are recommended to combat SARS and COVID viruses.
- Custodial staff will establish a schedule for and perform ongoing and routine environmental cleaning and disinfection of high-touch areas (e. g., door handles, stair rails, faucet handles, toilet handles, playground equipment, drinking fountains, light switches, desks, tables, chairs, with an EPA approved disinfectant for SARS-CoV-2 (the

virus that causes COVID-19) and increase frequency of disinfection during high-density times.
- Staff will disinfect all shared objects (e. g., gym or physical education equipment, art supplies, toys, games) between use.

Lockers and School Supplies
- Lockers will not be accessible during Phase II – hybrid learning environment.
- Students will bring personal supplies for school use and refrain from sharing school supplies to minimize the spread of germs and disease.

Water Fountains / Kitchen Facilities
- High contact areas like communal kitchens, refrigerators, and water fountains can contribute to the spread of viruses and disease. During Phase II Blended Learning all communal kitchens, refrigerators, and water fountains will not be allowed for use by students or staff.

- Families should send water bottles to school with their children to provide for hydration throughout the day.

Before and After Care
- Voyager staff will provide before and after care to families that register for the before and after care program on the days your child attends school for in personal instruction on campus. We cannot provide child care on remote learning days due to space limitations required for social distancing.

Response to Suspected, Presumptive or Confirmed Cases of COVID-19

NCDHHS issued a reference guide for suspected, presumptive, or confirmed cases of COVID-19 to support schools in protecting the health of our school community.

Voyager Academy staff will adhere to all defined guidelines of any suspected, presumptive, or confirmed case of COVID-19.

Voyager will implement the protocols below for each of the various possible scenarios:
- Exclusion- Sick student or adult with symptoms will not be allowed to enter the school building. Parents will be asked to pick up any student that shares that they have been exposed to COVID-19 even if they do not show symptoms and will be required to quarantine.
- Infection Control – Voyager staff will wear personal protective equipment while caring for a sick student or adult. The sick person will also be required to wear a face mask.
- Notification of Local Health Department – Voyager will notify the Local Health Department for any suspected, presumptive, or confirmed case of COVID-19.
- Cleaning and disinfecting –
    - Close off areas used by the sick person, including school transportation vehicles, and do not use these areas until after cleaning and disinfecting.

- Wait at least 24 hours before cleaning and disinfecting. If 24 hours is not feasible, wait as long as possible.
- People should not be in the classroom, or other area of the facility while it is being cleaned.
- Open outside doors and windows to increase air circulation in the area.
- Use an EPA-registered disinfectant that is active against coronaviruses. Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces.
- Remember to clean items that might not ordinarily be cleaned daily such as doorknobs, light switches, countertops, chairs, cubbies, and playground structures.
- Follow NCDHHS Environmental Health Section guidance for additional cleaning and disinfection recommendations.

- Closure of infected area or school as determined by local authorities- Voyager will consult with the Local Health Department to determine whether an area, a classroom or the entire building should be closed.
  - Close off areas used by the sick person, do not use these areas until after cleaning and disinfecting.
  - o Consult with the Local Health Department as to whether closure of a classroom or entire building is
  - required. There may be no need to close the school if the Local Health Department determines that
  - close contacts are excluded and there is sufficient space to continue normal operations.
  - o The Local Health Department may in some situations determine that closure of a facility is needed;
  - this will be determined on a case-by-case basis.
- Local Health Department Next Steps-
- The Local Health Department will conduct interviews with the person (or their family member if it is a young child) who tested positive and identify individuals who were in close contact with the infected person.
- The Local Health Department will recommend testing close contacts that were exposed to someone that tested positive
- Public health staff will share that all close contacts need to quarantine at home for 14 days.
- Voyager will coordinate with the Local Health Department to determine how to inform families and staff as appropriate – they may not necessarily need to be notified, depending on the situation.
- If positive COVID-19 test:
  - The Local Health Department will assist in notifying staff and families that there was an individual who was at the school who has tested positive with COVID-19.
  - A public health professional may contact staff and families if they are identified as a close contact to the individual who tested positive.
  - The notice to staff and families must maintain confidentiality in accordance with NCGS § 130A-143 and all other state and federal laws.

COVID-19 Symptoms (Reference -NCDHHS Strong Schools Toolkit)

COVID-19 is mostly spread by respiratory droplets released when people talk, cough, or sneeze. The virus may spread to hands from a contaminated surface and then to the nose or mouth, causing infection. That's why personal prevention practices (such as handwashing and staying home when sick) and environmental cleaning and disinfection are important practices. Any scenario in which many people gather together poses a risk for COVID-19 transmission. While children generally experience mild symptoms with COVID-19, and, to date, have not been found to contribute substantially to the spread of the virus, transmission from even those with mild or no apparent symptoms remains a risk.

Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:

- Fever (100.4 degrees F or higher)
- Chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath
- Fatigue
- Difficulty breathing
- Muscle or body aches
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Headache

This list is not all possible symptoms. Other less common symptoms have been reported, including gastrointestinal symptoms like nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea. Reported symptoms in children include cold-like symptoms, such as fever, runny nose, and cough. Children with COVID-19 may not initially present with fever and cough as often as adult patients.

Voyager Reopening Plan- Phase III
All Return to Campus with Normal Operations and Health Precautions
State Plan A - Minimum Social Distancing

- Voyager will resume normal operations on campus for all students and staff.
- Minimum social distancing will be implemented.
- Health and hygiene precautions will continue.
- Voyager will continue to maintain cleaning and sanitizing of all schools.
- Voyager staff will continue to monitor and be vigilant about addressing and responding to any suspected, presumptive, or confirmed cases of COVID-19.
- Voyager will follow all guidelines from the CDC and NCDHHS to report such cases to the Local Health Department and implement isolation and cleaning protocols as required.

EC Service Delivery

- Students are served exactly according to their IEP for service delivery minutes and location (general or special ed location).

Additional Resources:

- NCDPI: Lighting Our Way Forward NC's Guidebook for Reopening Schools
- NCDHHS: Reference Guide for Suspected, Presumptive, or confirmed Cases of COVID-19
- NCDHHS: Strong Schools NC Toolkit
- NCDHHS: Strong Schools NC Infection ControlToolkit PPE
- NCDHHS: North Carolina COVID-19
- NCDHHS: StrongSchoolsNC Public Health Toolkit (K-12) Frequently Asked Questions (English | Spanish)
- CDC: Considerations for Schools
- CDC: Cleaning and Disinfecting Your Facility
- CDC: Reopening Guidance
- CDC: Coping with Stress
- EPA: Disinfectants for Use Against SARS-CoV-2
- FDA: Food Safety and the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)
- HHS/OSHA: Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19
- DHS: Guidance on the Essential Critical Infrastructure Workforce