

**COVID Mitigation Plan**

Mending Fences staff comply with CDC and V-DOE guidance on social distancing during the provision of instruction. Instruction is designed to allow for maximum social distancing between students and behavior aides. Social distancing is maintained in whole groups, small groups, and in individualized instructional settings.

**Classrooms:**

Social distancing is accommodated through a reduction in class size by splitting the school population into two groups. The two groups will follow an alternate day schedule and allows two days of in-school instruction and three days of remote instruction. Behavior Aides continue to monitor 1:1 distance, maintaining 6 feet of space at all times and adjust position accordingly.

All classrooms are decluttered, leaving essential classroom materials and supplies. Individualized student learning kits with manipulative and other learning items are provided as needed and cleaned daily. Kits are maintained at the individual student desk and are not shared.

Trash receptacles will be placed in each classroom for the disposal of cleaning material and disposed of daily.

**Hallways**

Mending Fences staff will follow all master schedules to minimizes student movement through the hallways as much as possible. The water fountains are turned off in the school building. Students Access water through water coolers. Bottles and cups are once used only.

**Arrival and Dismissal Procedures**

Staff will monitor students at drop-off points. Staff and students enter the building with at least 6 feet between each. Students who arrive late or leave early will report to the office for a temperature screen and then be escorted to class by Mending Fences staff.

**CLASSROOM AND GENERAL CLEANING**

Mending Fences staff are responsible for their workstations throughout the day and sanitizes high-touch areas in workstations. Tables, chairs, and the high-touch regions in common meeting areas are sanitized by the meeting or event organizer. Masks and gloves must be worn during sanitization.

Student personal items are banned from school during the period of the hybrid learning schedule. Any personal items brought in by students must be support items that are defined in the IEP or student’s behavior plan. Mending Fences Staff monitor students to ensure these items are not shared with any other student and remain with the student throughout the day. If staff need to handle the things, they will wear gloves and dispose of the gloves according to trained protocols.

Mending Fences staff will have sanitizer in each classroom, the office, and common meeting areas.

**PERSONAL PROTECTION EQUIPMENT (PPE) AND HYGIENE PROTOCOLS**

Staff is trained on the proper use of PPE. All staff must wear cloth masks according to federal, state, and local guidance and maintain compliance with CDE and VA-DOE guidance. **Face masks of any type are not a replacement for social distancing**. Staff always wear masks except for when eating and drinking.

Two cloth masks are provided to each staff member. Masks are used for a single day, and staff are responsible for washing masks daily.

Mending Fences administrative service manager will maintain an appropriate inventory of PPE equipment. The administrative service manager is the COVID-19 point person and conducts an inventory audit twice a week to ensure a sufficient supply. The inventory audit is maintained on an Excel spreadsheet, and the administrative service manager orders all necessary PPE. Unless otherwise indicated, PPE should be considered as single-use and disposed of according to methods provided in training.

All staff wears masks when in the presence of students, colleagues, and visitors who are six feet or closer to them.

Masks, gloves, hand sanitizer, and face shields are provided to all staff.

**Hygiene**

Proper handwashing is an essential component of the prevention of disease transmission. Therefore, all staff complies with CDC handwashing guidelines. In addition, the training coordinator provides handwashing training protocols to all staff.

Staff will wash their hands before and after meals.

**MAINTENANCE OF HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT**

An essential part of keeping schools safe is actively encouraging sick staff and students to stay home if they are ill and emphasize all the importance of knowing the symptoms of COVID-19.

Mending Fences staff follow all federal, state, and local mandates and comply with CDC guidance to ensure a healthy learning environment using cleaning and sanitation protocols, staff and student PPE, and social distancing. Staff and students are screened daily before admittance.

**Breakfast, Lunch, Snacks**

Staff wear PPE and maintain social distancing when escorting the student to food services. Students eat in the identified area for breakfast and lunch and maintain social distancing. Staff will use PPE and social distancing to assist students in the disposal of trays, food packaging, utensils, and other items used during meal and snack time.

**SCHOOL OUTBREAK PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE**

In collaboration with the local Virginia Health Department, CDC and VA-DOE, and LEA guidance, Mending Fences staff will adhere to policies and procedures designed to ensure the safety and wellbeing of students, staff, and stakeholders in the event of an outbreak of COVID-19 in the school.

**POSITIVE COVID CASE WITHIN SCHOOL (STAFF, STUDENT, VISITOR)**

1. Notify Mending Fences supervisor.
2. Follow all school procedures for positive case.

**COVID-19 RELATED TRAINING FOR THE OPENING OF SCHOOLS**

COVID-19 training is mandated for all Mending Fences staff members and is in addition to all other regularly scheduled required training. Our Administrator Training will coordinator the training schedules.

**List of Training:**

Use, care of and disposal of PPE

Flu Epidemic

Handwashing Protocols

Infectious Control

Contact Training

Health Etiquette

Transitioning students through the building