

The Webb Schools' Fall Reopening 2020-2021

7/27/20

As Governor Lamont has ordered schools to reopen in the fall we are busy planning for it to be a smooth and safe transition for our students and staff. I would like to inform you about our plan so far. There may be changes to the plan as we get closer to opening. Parents have the option to keep their children at home to participate in eLearning instead of learning in the school building. If you decide to keep your child at home, please let us know so we can plan accordingly. If you are planning to have your child attend in person, please let us know your choice of transportation; transportation provided by your district or if you prefer to transport yourself.

Adjustments to some student's IEP (Individualized Education Plans) may need to be made to accommodate health and safety guidelines and new school structures. Parents can expect that every child's IEP will be individually reviewed and adjusted as needed. PPT (Planning and Placement Team) meetings will continue to be held remotely whenever possible.

We have been charged with providing three different plans for I) In-School Learning II) Blended Learning, and III) Remote learning. The plan has been broken down into sections; In-School, Specials, Transportation, Blended, e-Learning, and a section for Contingency plans. This is in an attempt to provide for an easier access to the different areas/situations your child will be exposed to:

I. In-School Plan

a. Environment

- i. Classrooms
 - I. Students' desks will be placed with a 6 foot distance from each other.
- ii. School Entrance/Lobby/Hallways
 - I. These areas will be monitored closely for social distancing. Signage and floor markings will be in place.
- iii. Lunches will be provided. Students will be served bagged lunches in their classroom according to their assigned cohort. If weather permits, we will strive to eat outside with their cohorts. More information will be forthcoming.
- iv. Signage
 - I. Signage, wall posters and floor markings will be placed to remind staff and students of proper protocols and they will be placed throughout the schools. Our teachers will help students get accustomed to the new routines through videos, live demonstrations and practice.

The Webb Schools

The Grace S. Webb School, The Institute of Living
The Webb School at Cheshire
The Webb School in the Valley

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b. Personal Safety, Cleaning, and Sanitization Protocols

i. Masks and Face Shields

- I. In compliance with the State of Connecticut School Reopening Plan, we are requiring face masks that cover the mouth and nose for all students and staff. Some teachers may choose to use face shields (along with masks). In addition, staff will have access to gloves and hand sanitizer. Wipes will be available to help clean as well.
- II. Arrangements will be made for parents if this presents a financial hardship or if children have a medical condition (doctor's note required) that prevents them from wearing a mask. For students who are unable to wear masks we will reach out to you to discuss alternatives.

ii. Hand Washing

- I. We will require students and staff to wash/sanitize their hands frequently. Tutorials and in person instruction on how to properly wash hands will be provided. We will position hand sanitizer dispensers throughout the schools.

iii. Distancing

- I. Our goal is to maintain social distancing of 6 feet or to the maximum extent possible. We will position student desks facing the same way in each classroom. Therefore, it is important for us to receive information about your intent to have your child participate from home or in person so we can build our classrooms to accommodate for student distancing.

iv. Cohorts

- I. Cohorts –To minimize exposure we will follow a cohort model. In grades k-5 and 6-8 students will be assigned to their classroom cohort. If a classroom is not able to accommodate all students with a 6ft distance, the class cohort may be split into two cohorts under the same teacher. This means the teacher will travel between the two rooms that will be located near each other.

High school students may be traveling in cohorts or may have the subject teacher deliver their lessons by visiting students in their assigned space. More specific information will be forthcoming.

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- v. Class Scheduling
 - I. Classes will be scheduled in a manner that will limit transitions for students.
 - II. Mask breaks will be interspersed throughout the day.
- vi. Cleaning & Sanitation
 - I. Frequency of cleaning and sanitizing of common high touch surfaces throughout school such as classrooms, bathrooms, etc. will increase. Bathrooms will be cleaned two times daily. All products that will be used for cleaning and sanitizing are safe for students and staff and will eliminate COVID-19 on surfaces. These products have been reviewed and approved by our department for industrial hygiene in accordance with SDE requirements. Students will have access to water throughout the day.
- vii. Ventilation
 - I. We will increase the circulation of fresh, outside air and air filtration as appropriate for each school and space. We will use the highest filtration levels allowable for our air duct system. This includes the use of increased outside air and filtration for air conditioning in the fall and heating when the weather turns colder.
- viii. Illness Protocol
 - I. In order to keep the students and the staff safe, it is critical that students showing any signs of illness are kept home and are not sent to school. We will have an isolation room for any students and/or staff who become ill while at school. Our nurses will assess the student. Parents/guardians will be required to pick up their child from school as soon as they have been notified of the symptoms the student is displaying that renders them unfit for school. Students who are ill at home can participate in eLearning.
 - II. We will work closely with local health officials to follow all CDC, state, and local guidelines for class and school closures and return to school protocols for sick students and staff. While The Webb Schools are not directly responsible for contact tracing, we will work with health officials, and will have a plan in place for notifying staff and families, as appropriate. We will communicate these details as soon as they are available.

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c. Specials

i. Specials Teachers

- I. Art will primarily follow a push-in model where the teacher will be bringing the lessons to the classrooms.
- II. PE indoors will focus on low impact movements such as yoga, calisthenics, etc. When the weather permits, the PE lessons will be outside on school grounds.

ii. Related Services

- I. Due to the nature of the delivery methods and the individual IEP goals, students will be pulled out for individual sessions. Group sessions will be either in classroom or pull-out based on the students' needs and IEP goals.

iii. Clinical Services

- I. To preserve the therapeutic environment and the confidentiality of the clinical work, students will be pulled out for individual sessions. Group sessions will be either in classroom or pull-out based on the students' needs and IEP goals.

ci. Transportation, Drop-Off and Pick-up, Visitors

i. Transportation

- I. Your school district is responsible for the transportation of your child to and from school. However, during the current COVID-19 re-opening you have the option of transporting your child yourself. In this case staff will be available outside to sign in your child. Whichever option you would prefer; you need to make sure your local school district is aware of your intentions. For our planning purposes and ability to smoothly navigate the increase of traffic, we are asking you to let us know as well. A survey will be sent to you by email and mail.

ii. Drop-Off and Pick-up

- I. Buses will unload from front to back upon arrival. Upon dismissals buses will load from back to front. During arrival and dismissal each bus will be unloaded/loaded one at a time.
- II. Any student not complying with wearing a mask on the bus may lose their bus privileges.

iii. Visitors

- I. At this time, in order to protect everyone's health, visitors, including parents, will not be permitted to enter our school

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buildings unless absolutely necessary. If you need to visit in the school, please call the school office to make arrangements.

- II. When you arrive to the school we will follow IOL visitor policy in accordance with CDC, Department of Public Health protocols.

e. Synchronous and Asynchronous E-Learning (Remote learning while the schools are open for in-person attendance.)

- i. Through Zoom students will access classroom in real time to receive instruction with their classmates.
- ii. Students will have access to a remote individual/group conferencing with support based on individual needs.
- iii. Group sizes and screen time duration will vary, dependent on what is individually appropriate.
- iv. Related Services including clinical time will be based on need per IEP. Both group and individual sessions will be offered.

II. Blended e-Learning Plan

- a. In case of partial cancellations, The Webb Schools are planning to utilize a plan where students are divided into cohorts. Each cohort will be receiving their education in-person two days per week i.e. group A will come to school on Monday and Tuesday. Group B will attend in person on Thursday and Friday. When students are not receiving their in-person learning, they will be taking part in the remote learning. Wednesday would be utilized for a mid-week all-school thorough cleaning while students participate in remote learning.

III. Remote E-Learning All Schools

- a. In case of a cancellation of in-person learning The Webb Schools will return to full e-Learning. We are currently planning to use our Long Distance Learning Plan which was developed for the spring of 2020. It is similar to the Synchronous and Asynchronous E-Learning protocol proposed for the Fall of 2020. Through Zoom, students will access classroom in real time to receive instruction. Students will have access to a remote individual/group conferencing with support based on individual needs.
- b. Group sizes and screen time duration will vary, dependent on what is individually appropriate.

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- c. Related Services including clinical time will be based on need per IEP. Both group and individual sessions will be offered.

II. Contingency Plans

- a. In case of a suspected/confirmed case of COVID-19 in any of the schools we will work closely with local health officials to follow all state, local, and CDC guidelines for class and school closure and return to school protocols. Students who are ill at home can participate in eLearning.
- b. While The Webb Schools are not directly responsible for contact tracing, we will work with health officials, and will have a plan in place for notifying staff and families, as appropriate. We will communicate these details as soon as they are available.
- c. If the governor, state, and/or local health departments call for a closing of schools, full or partial, we will utilize an alternate plan. In this case parents/guardians will be notified and information will be available on our website as well.

Additional Policies

- I. PPT and other meetings will be held remotely.

Please feel free to contact your School Administrator or me with questions.
Looking forward to a new school year!

Kikke Levin Gerdner, Ed.D.
Director, The Webb Schools

Please follow this link to fill out the survey:

<https://forms.gle/e2YdSxUb6VEYkFK5A>

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