

## **Conecuh County Schools’ Reopening Plan 2021-2022**

The goal of the Conecuh County School System is to move toward a more ‘traditional’ school year. The 2021-2022 plan maintains consistent, thorough sanitation of our classrooms, buses, and school spaces. In this plan, face masks are optional at Level 0 (Normal Spread) and required at Level 1 (Minimal Spread). We will continue following the Alabama Department of Public Health’s (ADPH) guidelines for exposure and quarantining. The plan allows for increased capacities in our cafeterias, gymnasiums, and auditoriums. There are also more opportunities for field trips and the ability to welcome visitors to our schools.

While the safety of our students and staff will be our top priority, it is important to note that some level of risk of infection will be present when attending a school. Should COVID-19 create a significant impact on the health and safety of our students and staff, CCS will implement a three-tiered approach. The approach will include:

- |                |                    |   |
|----------------|--------------------|---|
| <b>Level 0</b> | Normal Spread      | Traditional Learning with masks being optional  |
| <b>Level 1</b> | Minimal Spread     | Traditional Learning with an increase in social distancing protocols. Masks are required for all students and staff depending on the level of COVID-19 spread.* |
| <b>Level 2</b> | Substantial Spread | Remote Learning--students will attend school five (5) days a week remotely, using Schoology as the Learning Management System.                                  |

Adjustments to the mode of learning may be implemented on a classroom, grade-level, school, or system-level if the COVID-19 spread levels warrant. The determination will be made by the Superintendent under the advisement of the Health & Wellness Department.

### **CHALLENGES WITH WELLNESS**

In order for schools to operate in a traditional format this year, screening for symptoms and history of exposure will be very important. For students attending Conecuh County Schools, there is a continuum where wellness should be checked both at home and school.

- HOME is the first point on the screening continuum. It is critical to the health and safety of all involved that students and staff who exhibit symptoms stay home. Families are encouraged to self-report symptoms of illness, which could involve fever, new onset of cough, etc. Parents are asked to conduct a health screening for their child prior to attending school. Student should stay home if they are running fever of 100°F of greater and/or showing other symptoms.
- SCHOOL is the final point on the screening continuum. Staff will visually check for symptoms (which may include temperature checks) and/or confirm with families that students are COVID-19 symptom free.

## **Plan Highlights**

- 1. Face-masks are optional at a Level 0-Normal Spread.**
- 2. Face-masks are required at a Level 1-Minimal Spread.**
- 3. CCS will report any known positive or suspected positive case of COVID-19 to the ADPH.**
  - a. CCS will notify any student of staff by letter regarding a close contact who tests positive for COVID-19.
  - b. The Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) will contact any student or staff who is directly affected.
- 4. CCS will offer two learning options; traditional and remote for students in grades PK-12.**
  - a. Students selecting the remote option will need to enroll in Conecuh County Schools' Virtual School-- Genesis Innovative School
  - b. An application for Genesis Innovative School can be found by clicking ([HERE: Enroll in Genesis Innovative School 2021-2022](#)).

## **Contents**

<b>Page</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Description</b>
3	Levels of Safety Measures	Addressing the measures to slow the spread of COVID-19
4	Challenges with Wellness	Addressing the challenges that may arise due to COVID-19
5	Teaching and Learning	Addressing students' learning through in the Traditional School Setting
6	Transporting Student	Addressing Health and Safety on Conecuh County Schools' Buses
7	Entering and Exiting the School Buildings	Addressing safety measure for students, staff, and potential visitors
8	Serving Meals	Addressing the dining options in Conecuh County Schools
9	Transitioning	Addressing traffic in the hallways of Conecuh County Schools' campuses
10	Large Group Gatherings	Addressing protocols for gatherings that exceed 50 or more people
11	Protocols for Exposure	Addressing exposure for students and staff for 2021-2022

## Addressing COVID-19 Spread in Conecuh County Schools

### Levels of Safety Measures

The following criteria will be used to determine the level of operation for each school and/or the school system:

1. The number and/or percentage of current cases in both a school or the school system.
2. The number of staff and/or percentage of staff that are quarantined due to COVID-19 in a school or the school system.
3. Recommendations from the Department of Public Health
4. Recommendations from the Alabama Department of Education.

#### LEVEL 0 NORMAL SPREAD

- Face masks are optional for staff and students.
- Establish and maintain communication with local and state ADPH officials.
- Follow prevention guidelines (*see Practicing Prevention*).
- Utilize the protocol for students/staff who feel ill or who experience symptoms when they come to school.
- Submit a COVID-19 report to the ADPH if a positive case or suspected case is reported to the school nurse.

#### LEVEL 1 MINIMAL SPREAD

**Implement standard operating procedures for a Normal Spread along with the following preventative measures:**

- **Face masks are required for all students.** The facial-covering requirement does not apply to persons who are six (6) years of age or younger or any person with a medical condition or disability that prevents him/her from wearing a facial covering.
- Isolate and deep clean impacted classrooms and spaces.
- Implement *enhanced* social distancing measures (*see Transitionng, Large Group Gatherings, and Teaching and Learning*).

#### LEVEL 2 SUBSTANTIAL SPREAD

**School buildings are closed to students.**

District/School Considerations:

- Teachers and employees will use their classrooms and workspaces to carry out their responsibilities.
- All students will begin Remote Learning, using Schoology as the Learning Management System.

## Challenges with Wellness

<p><b>LEVEL 0 NORMAL SPREAD</b></p>	<p><b>Schools are required to do the following:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Face masks are optional for students and staff.</li> <li>● Teach and reinforce good hygiene measures such as handwashing, covering coughs, and face coverings.</li> <li>● Provide hand soap or hand sanitizer, paper towels, and no-touch trash cans in all bathrooms, classrooms, and frequently trafficked areas.</li> <li>● Clean/disinfect frequently touched surfaces at least daily.</li> <li>● Parents should conduct a student wellness check, including temperature checks, prior to sending a student to school. Student with a temperature of 100°F or greater should stay home.</li> <li>● Employees should self-screen for symptoms before departing for school.</li> </ul> <p>It is recommended that schools do the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Allow students and staff to bring hand sanitizer and optional face masks/coverings from home.</li> <li>● Allow staff to wear face masks/coverings and other appropriate PPE as desired.</li> </ul>
<p><b>LEVEL 1 MINIMAL SPREAD</b></p>	<p><b>Implement standard operating procedures for a Normal Spread along with the following preventative measures:</b></p> <p><b>Schools are required to do the following:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Face masks are required for all students.</b> The facial-covering requirement does not apply to persons who are six (6) years of age or younger or any person with a medical condition or disability that prevents him/her from wearing a facial covering.</li> <li>● Conduct a deep cleaning of schools.</li> <li>● Provide social distancing markings on floors and seating. Social distancing markings should also be in the waiting and reception areas. (Markings should be at 6ft to remind students and staff not to congregate.)</li> <li>● Limit non-essential visitors and activities involving external groups and/or organizations.</li> <li>● Ensure water fountains are only used to fill water bottles.</li> </ul>
<p><b>LEVEL 2 SUBSTANTIAL SPREAD</b></p>	<p><b>School buildings are closed to students.</b></p> <p>District/School Considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Teachers and employees will use their classrooms and workspaces to carry out their responsibilities.</li> <li>● All students will begin Remote Learning, using Schoology as the Learning Management System.</li> </ul>

## Teaching and Learning

<p><b>LEVEL 0 NORMAL SPREAD</b></p>	<p><b>Schools are required to do the following for Traditional School:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teachers will continue to provide standards-based instruction. The expectation is that each teacher incorporates students’ use of technology by using Schoology (our Learning Management System) and various educational Apps of the teachers’ choosing.</li> <li>• All PreK-12 students will be provided access to a Chromebook*. These Chromebooks <i>may</i> take the place of assigned textbooks, and <i>may</i> be checked out for home use. (Each school’s principal will make this decision.)</li> </ul> <p>Per Parent or Guardian’s Choice, Students may enroll in Virtual Learning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conecuh County Schools has designated Genesis Innovative School as the site for all students and families who wish to remain virtual. An application for attending Genesis can be found (<a href="#">HERE</a>) or on the district’s website.</li> </ul> <p><i>Note: It is possible that students who are attending CCS’ Traditional Schools may be placed in quarantine by the Health &amp; Wellness Coordinator and/or School Nurses. Students who have committed to a Traditional School will remain on roll. Time will be provided for students to receive instruction and complete assignments upon their return.</i></p>
<p><b>LEVEL 1 MINIMAL SPREAD</b></p>	<p><b>Implement standard operating procedures for a Normal Spread along with the following preventative measures:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Face masks are required for all students.</b> The facial-covering requirement does not apply to persons who are six (6) years of age or younger or any person with a medical condition or disability that prevents him/her from wearing a facial covering.</li> </ul>
<p><b>LEVEL 2 SUBSTANTIAL SPREAD</b></p>	<p><b>School buildings are closed to students.</b></p> <p>District/School Considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teachers and employees will use their classrooms and workspaces to carry out their responsibilities.</li> <li>• All students will begin Remote Learning, using Schoology as the Learning Management System.</li> </ul>

## Transporting Students

### LEVEL 0 NORMAL SPREAD

#### Schools are required to do the following:

- Provide hand sanitizer for students and bus drivers.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces on the bus at least daily.
- Air out buses when not in use.
- Assign seats to assist with contact tracing.
- Allow family members to sit together.
- Parents conduct a student wellness check, including temperatures, prior to sending a student to school. Students with temperatures of 100°F or greater should stay home.
- Employees self-screen for symptoms before departing for school.

### LEVEL 1 MINIMAL SPREAD

#### Implement standard operating procedures for a Normal Spread along with the following preventative measures:

- **Face masks are required for all students.** The facial-covering requirement does not apply to persons who are six (6) years of age or younger or any person with a medical condition or disability that prevents him/her from wearing a facial covering.
- Provide hand sanitizer for all students and bus drivers.
- Limit field trips (to areas of low transmission).
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces on the bus at least daily.
- Air out buses when not in use,
- Assign seats to assist with contact tracing.
- Allow family members to sit together.
- Parents conduct a student wellness check including temperature prior to sending a student to school. Students with temperatures of 100°F or greater should stay at home.
- Employees self-screen for symptoms before departing for school.
- Establish protocols for bus stops, loading/unloading students to minimize congregation of children from different households.

### LEVEL 2 SUBSTANTIAL SPREAD

#### **School buildings are closed to students.**

#### District/School Considerations:

- Teachers and employees will use their classrooms and workspaces to carry out their

	<p>responsibilities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● All students will begin Remote Learning, using Schoology as the Learning Management System.</li> </ul>
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<b>Entering and Exiting the Building</b>	
<b>LEVEL 0 NORMAL SPREAD</b>	<p><b>Schools are required to do the following:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Face masks are optional for staff and students.</li> <li>● Provide hand sanitizer for students and staff.</li> <li>● Utilize protocol for students /staff who feel ill/experience symptoms when they come to school (see When a Child, Staff Member, or Visitor Becomes Sick at School).</li> <li>● Establish a protocol for visitors.</li> <li>● Parents conduct a student wellness check including temperature prior to sending a student to school. Students with temperatures of 100°F or greater should stay at home.</li> <li>● Employees self-screen for symptoms before departing for school.</li> </ul>
<b>LEVEL 1 MINIMAL SPREAD</b>	<p><b>Implement standard operating procedures for a Normal Spread along with the following preventative measures:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Face masks are required for all students.</b> The facial-covering requirement does not apply to persons who are six (6) years of age or younger or any person with a medical condition or disability that prevents him/her from wearing a facial covering.</li> <li>● Mark spaced lines to enter the building and designated entrance and exit flow paths.</li> <li>● Limit unnecessary congregation of students and staff.</li> <li>● Establish a protocol for student pick-up/drop-off, staggered entry and release (by grade, class, or bus number), marked spacing for picku.</li> <li>● Monitor arrival/dismissal to encourage students to go directly from transportation to class and vice versa.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Utilize protocol for students /staff who feel ill/experience symptoms when they come to school (see When a Child, Staff Member, or Visitor Becomes Sick at School).</li> <li>● Establish a protocol for visitors.</li> <li>● Parents conduct a student wellness check including temperature prior to sending a student to school. Students with temperatures of 100°F or greater should stay at home.</li> <li>● Employees self-screen for symptoms before departing for school.</li> </ul>
<p><b>LEVEL 2 SUBSTANTIAL SPREAD</b></p>	<p><b>School buildings are closed to students.</b></p> <p>District/School Considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Teachers and employees will use their classrooms and workspaces to carry out their responsibilities.</li> <li>● All students will begin Remote Learning, using Schoology as the Learning Management System.</li> </ul>



## Serving Meals

<b>LEVEL 0 NORMAL SPREAD</b>	<p><b>Schools are required to do the following:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Provide hand sanitizer for students and staff.</li> <li>● Allow students to wash hands before and after meal services.</li> <li>● Conduct cleaning of cafeterias and high-touch surfaces throughout the school day.</li> </ul>
<b>LEVEL 1 MINIMAL SPREAD</b>	<p><b>Implement standard operating procedures for a Normal Spread along with the following preventative measures:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Face masks are required for all students.</b> The facial-covering requirement does not apply to persons who are six (6) years of age or younger or any person with a medical condition or disability that prevents him/her from wearing a facial covering.</li> <li>● No self-service.</li> <li>● Individual condiments.</li> <li>● Utilize plexiglass shields for cashiers.</li> <li>● Develop a serving model that promotes social distancing where feasible (see examples below):             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Serving meals in the classrooms.</li> <li>○ Serving meals in the cafeteria with:                 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Spaced seating (utilize outdoor space as practicable and appropriate)</li> <li>■ Longer meal periods for more staggered meal delivery</li> <li>■ Possible pre-packaged boxes or bags for each student, instead of traditional serving lines. Avoid sharing of foods and utensils.</li> <li>■ Mark spaced lines to enter the cafeteria and the serving lines; designate entrances and exit flow paths; stagger use.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Using disposable plates, utensils, etc.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>LEVEL 2 SUBSTANTIAL SPREAD</b>	<p><b>School buildings are closed to students.</b></p> <p>District/School Considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Teachers and employees will use their classrooms and workspaces to carry out their responsibilities.</li> <li>● All students will begin Remote Learning, using Schoology as the Learning Management System.</li> </ul>

## Transitioning

<b>LEVEL 0 NORMAL SPREAD</b>	<p><b>Schools are required to do the following:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Conduct cleaning of hallways and high-touch surfaces throughout the school day.</li> </ul>
<b>LEVEL 1 MINIMAL SPREAD</b>	<p><b>Implement standard operating procedures for a Normal Spread along with the following preventative measures:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Face masks are required for all students.</b> The facial-covering requirement does not apply to persons who are six (6) years of age or younger or any person with a medical condition or disability that prevents him/her from wearing a facial covering.</li> <li>● Designate areas of the hallway (i.e. lanes) to walk to keep students separated (to the extent feasible).</li> <li>● Where possible, designate hallways as one-way, posting directional arrows on walls and floors.</li> <li>● Limit mixing between groups (to the extent possible).</li> <li>● For class changes and other transitions throughout the school day:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Provide additional time for transitions.</li> <li>○ Plan staggered class (ex: by hall, odd/even room numbers, grade/discipline) changes to decrease the number of students in the hallways at one time.</li> <li>○ Have the same group of students stay with the same staff (all day for young children and as much as feasible for older children.)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>LEVEL 2 SUBSTANTIAL SPREAD</b>	<p><b>School buildings are closed to students.</b></p> <p>District/School Considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Teachers and employees will use their classrooms and workspaces to carry out their responsibilities.</li> <li>● All students will begin Remote Learning, using Schoology as the Learning Management System.</li> </ul>

## Conducting Large Group Gatherings (Applies to Groups of 50 or more)

<b>LEVEL 0 NORMAL SPREAD</b>	<p><b>Schools are required to do the following:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Provide hand sanitizer for students and staff.</li> <li>● Follow AHSAA guidelines for sporting events and practices.</li> </ul>
<b>LEVEL 1 MINIMAL SPREAD</b>	<p><b>Implement standard operating procedures for a Normal Spread along with the following preventative measures:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Face masks are required for all students.</b> The facial-covering requirement does not apply to persons who are six (6) years of age or younger or any person with a medical condition or disability that prevents him/her from wearing a facial covering.</li> <li>● Limit unnecessary congregations of students and staff.</li> <li>● Utilize virtual tools and platforms wherever possible to conduct essential business and keep in-person reporting to a minimum.</li> <li>● Discourage the congregating of students in parking lots and common areas.</li> <li>● Follow breakfast and lunch guidance (<i>see <b>Serving Meals</b></i>).</li> <li>● Abide by the maximum number of people allowed to congregate as defined by state and local health officials.</li> <li>● Stagger the schedule for large group gatherings (i.e. recess).</li> <li>● Identify and utilize large spaces (i.e. gymnasiums, auditoriums, outside spaces--as weather permits) for social distancing.</li> </ul>
<b>LEVEL 2 SUBSTANTIAL SPREAD</b>	<p><b>School buildings are closed to students.</b></p> <p>District/School Considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Teachers and employees will use their classrooms and workspaces to carry out their responsibilities.</li> <li>● All students will begin Remote Learning, using Schoology as the Learning Management System.</li> </ul>

## Protocol for Students and Staff

	Staff Member	Student
<p><b>Exposure*</b> Staff or student report close exposure to someone with COVID-19 within the last two days</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Nurse will submit information to ADPH</li> <li>● Encouraged to wear a face mask and follow social distancing if not fully vaccinated</li> <li>● Follow any guidance given by the ADPH</li> <li>● Monitor for symptoms of illness</li> <li>● Wear a face mask, go to the isolation area and go home as soon as possible.</li> <li>● Nurse will submit a COVID-19 report to ADPH</li> <li>● Send a COVID-19 notification letter to parents and other staff members affected by the confirmed case</li> <li>● Can participate in virtual teachers (if applicable) while out of work</li> <li>● May return to work with:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A Physician's Excuse,</li> <li>○ ADPH release, <u>OR</u></li> <li>○ 10 Days have passed since first symptom</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Nurse will submit information to ADPH</li> <li>● Encouraged to wear a face mask and follow social distancing if not fully vaccinated</li> <li>● Follow any guidance given by the ADPH</li> <li>● Monitor for symptoms of illness</li> <li>● Wear a face mask, go to the isolation area and go home as soon as possible.</li> <li>● Nurse will submit a COVID-19 report to ADPH</li> <li>● Send a COVID-19 notification letter to parents and other staff members affected by the confirmed case</li> <li>● Can participate in virtual teachers (if applicable) while out of school</li> <li>● May return to school with:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A Physician's Excuse,</li> <li>○ ADPH release, <u>OR</u></li> <li>○ 10 Days have passed since first symptom</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Diagnosis</b> Staff or student report diagnosis of COVID-19 less than 10 days ago</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Wear a face mask, go to the isolation area and go home as soon as possible.</li> <li>● Nurse will submit a COVID-19 report to ADPH</li> <li>● Send a COVID-19 notification letter to parents and other staff members affected by the confirmed case</li> <li>● Can participate in virtual teachers (if applicable) while out of work</li> <li>● May return to work with:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A Physician's Excuse,</li> <li>○ ADPH release, <u>OR</u></li> <li>○ 10 Days have passed since first symptom</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Wear a face mask, go to the isolation area and go home as soon as possible.</li> <li>● Nurse will submit a COVID-19 report to ADPH</li> <li>● Send a COVID-19 notification letter to parents and other staff members affected by the confirmed case</li> <li>● Can participate in virtual teachers (if applicable) while out of work</li> <li>● May return to work with:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A Physician's Excuse,</li> <li>○ ADPH release, <u>OR</u></li> <li>○ 10 Days have passed since first symptom</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<p>Staff or student report diagnosis of COVID-19 less than 10 days ago</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● If a staff member is diagnosed with COVID-19, or does not get a COVID-19 test but had symptoms, they can return to school once there is no fever without the use of fever-reducing medication and they have felt well for 24 hours.</li> <li>● Can provide documentation from a physician indicating your symptoms are not COVID-19 and it is safe to return to work or school.</li> <li>● If a positive diagnosis is reported during the school day: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Close of the facility or area used by the sick person until the area is disinfected.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● If a student is diagnosed with COVID-19, or does not get a COVID-19 test but had symptoms, they can return to school once there is no fever without the use of fever-reducing medication and they have felt well for 24 hours.</li> <li>● Can provide documentation from a physician indicating your symptoms are not COVID-19 and it is safe to return to work or school.</li> <li>● If a positive diagnosis is reported during the school day: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Close of the facility or area used by the sick person until the area is disinfected.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>Exposure is generally defined as being within 6 feet for at least 15 minutes of someone who tested positive for COVID-19</p>		