



Most Recent Update: December 8, 2022



## Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan Florida

### Our Philosophy

At IDEA Public Schools, we maintain the steadfast belief that in person learning is the best option for students, especially for their academic achievement and social emotional development. Education is an essential service for our students. Families, particularly low income parents of color, are disproportionately negatively impacted by school closures. We believe that the best and only way to successfully keep our schools safe and open is through an intentional community effort—100% of our Team & Family coming together, adhering to health and safety protocols, maintaining transparency, and doing whatever it takes.

Since the start of the COVID 19 d6 comply

n person learning environment where students thrive and succeed on the road to and through  
dy to be back in school, safely learning together.

with Florida law. We updated protocols regularly based on  
the CDC’s guidelines, the latest science findings, and expert advice, and 81Tf1.04990TD0Tc@003Fj/Ts0TD:0013Tc(latest)Tj8j/TT51wTe

### I. Health and Safety Protocols

As an LEA, we have implemented health and safety protocols to ensure our scholars and staff remain safe. We will continue to adhere to these safety measures, as advised by the CDC and national health experts. IDEA staff receive safety training to help mitigate the spread of COVID 19 on campus and keep all members of our community safe and accountable. Protocol development includes feedback from a broad group of stakeholders to ensure that the health and safety protocols are implemented successfully in the school setting.

There are many groups of stakeholders that are regularly engaged when changes are recommended by the CDC or health experts—or in some cases, mandated by the state and local government. The table below describes the policies and protocols that IDEA has adopted to follow the CDC’s most recent safety recommendations.

| CDC Safety Recommendation             | IDEA Public Schools Implementation and Policies (As of December 8, 2022*)  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Wearing of Masks (Highly Recommended) | All IDEA campuses have masks readily available for staff and students upon request in various locations throughout the campus. |

Physical  
Distancing

picked up by a parent or

bottle filling stations, and more—in addition to providing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for all our campuses.

In 2021-2022, we continued to invest in ventilation system enhancements to school buildings and buses to maximize air filtration. Additionally, we continued our efforts to provide access to the COVID-19 vaccine for those who were eligible and wanted the opportunity. During 2021-2022 we also leveraged our partnerships in telemedicine and community health to offer additional services to our students and families.

According to the CDC, schools play a critical role in supporting children and adolescents in eating healthy and getting regular physical activity. To ensure the continuity of food services, students will have daily access to healthy breakfasts and lunch (and supper on some campuses) and receive the proper nutrition for their minds and bodies to stay healthy and strong. The

## **Diagnostics**

Full diagnostics at the beginning of the year are ineffective because they typically take a lot of time and are not necessary in order to begin on level coursework. *Instead*, teachers will administer diagnostics aligned to priority content only, and diagnostics will be administered “just in time” and in small doses so teachers have information about which gaps persist in relation to content that will be taught immediately. Diagnostic data will be used differently based on specific content areas—for example, in science, diagnostics around discrete content knowledge and science and engineering practices will be baked into lessons as Do Nows, Thinking Tasks, and Checks for Understanding while in social studies, writing portfolio artifacts

Returning to school safely continues to be a community effort. The COVID 19 pandemic is a life event that has deeply impacted our Team & Family. It is crucial that the variety of services that IDEA provides—academic, social emotional, character development, safety, health, etc.—maintain the safe, rigorous, and fun in person learning environment where our students previously thrived in before the pandemic. We are ready to be back in school, safely learning together.

### **III. Public Comment**

Public comment and input from our various stakeholders will be an important aspect in our regular reviews of IDEA’s Safe Return to In Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan. Each round of reviews, public input will be collected through a survey—in English and Spanish—that will be posted on IDEA’s ESSER website along with the most up to date plans and revisions.

### **IV. Periodic Review Process**

Review/Revisit Dates:

December 8, 2022: Plan revised and posted for public comment to IDEA Florida’s ESSER page

December 16, 2022: Adopted plan posted to