

The **R**oadmap to **R**eopening

A Guide to Addressing the Challenges of COVID-19



Yuba City Unified School District

Revised 12/01/2020



Table of Contents



Page 3 A Message from the
Superintendent



Page 4 An Overview of What to Expect



Page 18 Health Resources for Reopening
Schools



Page 19 Frequently Asked Questions

A Message from the Superintendent

Hello YCUSD Families,

As the Superintendent of the Yuba City Unified School District (YCUSD), I look forward to welcoming back our students for the 2020-2021 school year. I have been extremely impressed with the creativity, innovation and flexibility of our YCUSD community.

The Roadmap to Reopening document addresses the recommendations and guidelines from the California Department of Public Health, California Department of Education, and our Bi-County Health Officer, associated with the reopening of schools. Outlined in this plan are the health and safety protocols, operational components and technical logistics needed to be in place for the return for in-person learning.

As we navigate the reopening of schools and the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year, YCUSD is committed to continuing to provide excellence in education while keeping the safety and welfare of our students and staff as our number one priority.

Doreen Osumi

Superintendent



An Overview of What to Expect When Schools Reopen

The health and safety of our students, staff, and families are of utmost importance. When students return to campus for the 2020-2021 school year, the on-campus school may look much different than in previous years due to the new COVID-19 health and safety measures.

Our plans to reopen school are based on guidance from state and local public health officials. District plans will be updated as the situation evolves. It is important to note that our plans must focus sharply on academic instruction to enhance student performance and address learning loss. At the same time, we will try our best to maintain the extracurricular programs, clubs, and athletics that are important to our students' physical, mental, and social well-being.

Our main priority is ensuring the health and wellness of students and staff. A concentrated effort from everyone will help to achieve our goals for safe and healthy schools. Flexibility, humility, and gratitude are paramount as we move forward with the reopening of our schools.

Tiers to Open School

TIER
1

All Distance Learning



TIER
2

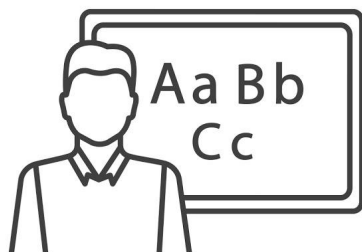
Blended Learning

In Classroom & Distance Learning



TIER
3

Classroom Learning with Restrictions



TIER
4

Classroom Learning Full Time



This framework provides guidance on the level of in person instruction that can be accommodated based on circumstances associated with the health pandemic. Movement is fluid and dependent on health orders/guidelines. If Social Distancing is in place, the number of students that can be accommodated on a school campus at one time is approximately 50%.

TIER 1

All Distance Learning

- School Facilities closed to the public
- All students learning from home
- Order for Distance Learning from authorized agency

TIER 2

Blended Learning In Classroom & Distance Learning

- 50% of students are at school at one time
- Optional Distance Learning for families to select
- Social Distancing
- Frequent Disinfecting
- Attention to hygiene
- Masks strongly encouraged for students TK through 2nd*
- Masks required for ALL students in grades 3rd through 12th and ALL staff*
- Limited size of gatherings based upon current orders
- Modified meal service
- Extra-curricular activities and athletics possible depending on orders

TIER 3

Classroom Learning with Restrictions

- All students on campus together
- Optional Distance Learning for families to select
- Frequent disinfecting
- Promote healthy hygiene practices
- Masks strongly encouraged for preschool through 2nd grade*
- Masks required for ALL students in grades 3rd through 12th and ALL staff*
- Restrictions on gatherings, guests, field trips, athletics, extra-curricular clubs
- Social Distancing

TIER 4

Classroom Learning Full Time

- Optional All Distance Learning for families to select
- No restrictions
- All students on campus
- Continued focus on proactive health measures

*This document was revised on 12/01/2020 to reflect the California Department of Public Health's (CDPH) updated K-12 School Guidance on the wearing of facial coverings. 6

What to Expect in the Tiers



Tier 1 (Purple): In person instruction is not permitted. All students and staff are engaged in Distance Learning.



Tier 2 (Red): Small cohorts of students will return to in person learning in a Blended Learning (Hybrid) model while completing distance learning assignments as directed by their teacher during home learning days and/or times. Cohorts of no more than 15-16 students in a classroom for in person teaching and learning.



Tier 3 (Orange): Students return to school to their regular five days per week in person instruction with normal class sizes and continued use of safety precautions. Families who opt to not return to the school campus for in person instruction may enroll in Yuba City Independence Academy. Distance learning will no longer be offered at a student's school of residence.



Tier 4 (Yellow): Full traditional instruction will resume, as well as typical operational activities on all sites.

Blended Learning (Hybrid) AM/PM Model

Junior Kindergarten - 5th Grade

AM Student Group

- Students attend school for in person learning for 2.5 hours per day, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, with teacher and peers in the morning
- Students work independently on teacher assigned work in the afternoon
- Wednesdays are asynchronous (learning that occurs without direct, simultaneous interaction with the teacher)
- Grab and go meals provided when exiting campus (Optional)

PM Student Group

- Students attend school for in person learning for 2.5 hours per day, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, with teacher and peers in the afternoon
- Students work independently on teacher assigned work in the morning
- Wednesdays are asynchronous (learning that occurs without direct, simultaneous interaction with the teacher)
- Grab and go meals provided when exiting campus (Optional)

6th grade - 12th grade A/B Model

- In person schedule for Cohort A on Monday/Thursday and Cohort B on Tuesday/Friday
- Wednesdays asynchronous learning
- Modified daily schedule
- Grab and Go meals provided when exiting campus

Special Education

- Self-Contained Classes will attend an A/B schedule
- Wednesday asynchronous learning



On Campus and In the Classroom

Physical/social distancing helps limit the spread of the virus. Schools in YCUSD will implement many of the following strategies to maintain smaller groups of students in shared spaces:

- As of 12/01/2020 ALL students are required to wear a mask or face-covering (Tier 2 & 3)*
- ~~All staff and students in 3rd grade and above will be required to wear a mask or face covering (Tiers 2 & 3)~~
- ~~Students in 2nd grade and below are strongly encouraged to wear a face covering (Tiers 2 & 3)~~
- We will minimize the movement of students and staff as much as practicable.
- We will serve meals in a grab and go model (Tier 2)
- We will minimize congregate movement through hallways as much as practicable (Tier 2 & 3)
- Scheduled recess will not be held but classroom breaks as needed (Tier 2)
- Large gatherings such as assemblies, field trips and events will be eliminated (Tier 2) and limited in Tier 3
- An isolation room for students who are not feeling well will be provided to minimize contact with others until they can be transported home (Tier 2)
- No parents or nonessential visitors will be given access to the campus (Tier 2)
- School offices will be closed to the public, but accessible by appointment and phone or email (Tier 1 & 2)

*This document was revised on 12/01/2020 to reflect the California Department of Public Health's (CDPH) updated K-12 School Guidance on the wearing of facial coverings.



Physical, Mental Social and Emotional Wellness

- District and school staff are committed to supporting students' physical, mental, social, and emotional wellness and offering resources to ensure students transition back to school smoothly. Support may include social-emotional learning, building relationships, community-building activities, and increased access to mental health and wellness services. Families and schools will need to work together to check how students are feeling and assess their individual needs to provide support during these challenging times. To maintain physical distancing, activities that require students to congregate should be limited and modified as guidelines change.
- Physical distancing is important to ensure the health and safety of our students. It may impact how some courses will be taught and which sports and extracurricular activities students may be able to participate in safely.

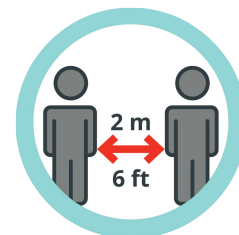
Counseling Services

- Counseling services at all school sites will continue with remote counseling options. Counselors will continue to offer individual counseling services and in-classroom social-emotional lessons (virtually while on distance learning). Your school counselor remains available and accessible to you and your student through a variety of ways: text, email, phone, virtual meetings, etc
- The district maintains the [Social-Emotional](#) page on our ycusd.org website that contains support services, community resources, helpful links and video lessons to all.
- Students choosing to attend the virtual learning program at Yuba City Independence Academy will also have access to a dedicated school counselor and counseling services.

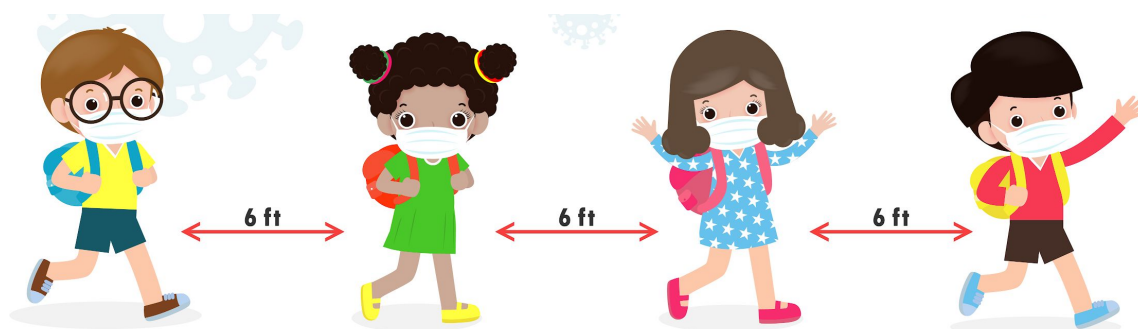
What is Physical Distancing?

Social distancing, also called “physical distancing,” means keeping space between yourself and other people outside of your home. To practice social or physical distancing:

- Stay at least 6 feet (about 2 arms-length) from other people to the extent possible
- Do not gather in groups
- Stay out of crowded places and avoid mass gatherings



In addition to everyday steps to prevent COVID-19, keeping space between you and others is one of the best tools we have to avoid being exposed to this virus and slowing its spread locally, nationally, and globally. Face coverings are most essential when physical distancing is not practicable. Learn more about physical distancing at [cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov).





Guidance for Families and General Safety Precautions

As we reopen schools, parents will be required to screen their children for COVID-19 symptoms. This guidance will be updated as the situation changes.

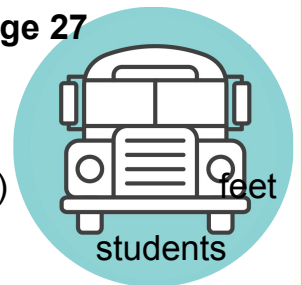
Self-Screening for Symptoms

- Before students and staff come to school, they should conduct a self-screening for signs and symptoms of COVID-19. Parents/guardians should assist younger children with the screening.
- Anyone who has been exposed to someone with COVID-19 in the past 14 days or has COVID-19 symptoms must not go to a school site.
- Staff and students will be monitored throughout the day for signs of illness; students and staff with a fever of 100.4 degrees or higher, cough, or other COVID-19 symptoms will be sent home.

Please see our At Home Symptom Checklist on page 27

Transportation

In order to practice health and safety protocols and maintain six (6) feet between students, transportation will only be provided to students with disabilities who have transportation services identified in their Individualized Education Program (IEP). Students will be required to have their temperature taken before entering the bus to ensure that they do not have a fever of 100.4 or higher, must wear a facial covering while on the bus, and use hand sanitizer before boarding and disembarking from the bus. Transportation will be reinstated for other students in Phase III and IV of the District's Reopening Plan as allowed by the state's color tiered system.



General Safety Precautions



- Schools will teach and reinforce washing hands, social distancing, avoiding contact with one's eyes, nose, and mouth, and covering coughs and sneezes among students and staff.
- Students and staff will wash their hands for 20 seconds with soap, rubbing thoroughly after application, and use paper towels (or single-use cloth towels) to dry hands thoroughly.
- Hand sanitizer will be available in all classrooms and common areas
- Schools will limit sharing, including by ensuring adequate supplies to minimize the sharing of high-touch materials to the extent practicable or limit use of supplies and equipment to one group of children at a time, with cleaning and disinfection between uses.

Other Safety Considerations

- All staff will use face coverings.
- All students ~~in grades 3-12~~ will be required to use face coverings*
- Face coverings are most essential in settings where physical distancing cannot easily be maintained, such as settings where space may be insufficient.
- Students and staff will be frequently reminded not to touch their face covering and to wash their hands frequently.
- Food service workers and staff in routine contact with the public (e.g., front office) will use gloves and facial coverings.
- Any visitor to the school office will be expected to wear a face covering.



*This document was revised on 12/01/2020 to reflect the California Department of Public Health's (CDPH) updated K-12 School Guidance on the wearing of facial coverings.



DISTANCE LEARNING



Course



Student



Learning



Communication



E-learning



Online education



Everywhere



Evaluating

Independent Study Information



We understand that there is a percentage of our families who will be unable to attend any in-person classroom instruction while the threat of COVID-19 is still present. If you are requesting that your student to be enrolled in an at-home, online, remote learning program for the school year please [click here](#) for information about Yuba City Independence Academy and how to register. Contact your child's school to begin the process.

Home School

Some parents may opt to homeschool their children this coming school year in a “private home school setting.”

Click [here](#) for more information about this program.

****Please note: this is NOT part of the independent study, home-based study option provided by YCUSD offered at Yuba City Independence Academy, YCIA.***





Sports and Extracurricular Activities

The California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) announced that in collaboration with the ten sections, education-based athletics for the 2020-2021 school year will begin with a modified sport schedule. It is anticipated that sports will commence in December 2020. Season 1 sports include; Cross Country; Boys/girls Volleyball; and Football. Season one practices begin on December 7th for Football and Cross Country All other Season 1 sports begin practice on December 14th.

Season 2 sports: Boys/Girls Golf and Boys/Girls tennis first day of practice is February 1st; Boys /Girls Soccer, Boys/ Girls wrestling, Boys/Girls Basketball, Competitive Cheer first day of practice is February 22nd; Boys/Girls Swimming, Baseball, and Softball first day of practice is March 8th; Track & Field first day of practice is March 15th.

Field trips will be limited during this school year. Virtual field trips will be available for our students.

Health Resources for Reopening Schools

California Department of Public Health COVID-19 Industry
Guidance: Schools and School-Based Programs

Sutter County Public Health Services

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Considerations for
Schools

California School Nurses Organization COVID-19 Health
Services Recovery Plan Resource Guide in Educational Settings



American Academy of Pediatrics, excerpt from the June 2, 2020 article is noted below. To read the full news release, visit: [Press release: Local Pediatricians Urge Collaborative Decision-Making About Reopening Schools](#)

California Department of Public Health COVID-19 Industry Guidance: Schools and
School-Based Programs

Sutter County Public Health Services

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Considerations for Schools

California School Nurses Organization COVID-19 Health Services Recovery Plan Resource
Guide in Educational Settings

American Academy of Pediatrics, excerpt from the June 2, 2020 article is noted below. To read the full news release, [click here.](#)

“As pediatricians, our top priority is the health and safety of our children. We urge those in public health and education to work together to strike the right balance between preventing the spread of COVID-19 and providing children with the education, nutrition, physical activity, and mental health benefits provided through the reopening of schools.”

The risk of COVID-19 transmission among groups of children has not been well-studied, but current research suggests that the risk is much lower than the adult population. The negative effects of missing in-person educational time as children experience prolonged periods of isolation and lack of instruction, however, is clear. Children rely on schools for multiple needs, including but not limited to education, nutrition, physical activity, socialization, and mental health. Special populations of students receive services for disabilities and other conditions that are virtually impossible to deliver online. Prolonging a meaningful return to in-person education would result in hundreds of thousands of children in Los Angeles County being at risk for worsening academic, developmental and health outcomes.”



School Reopening Frequently Asked Questions

The information provided is in accordance with current health orders and guidance from the California Department of Public Health (CDPH).

Screening and Testing

Will students and adults entering campuses be screened for symptoms?

Students and staff should conduct a self-screening for signs and symptoms of COVID-19. Parents/guardians should assist younger children with the screening. Anyone with a fever of 100.4 or higher and/or signs of COVID-19 must not come on a school campus.

Students and adults experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19 or that have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 in the past 14 days must not come on a school campus.

Face Coverings and Personal Protective Equipment

Will students and adults wear face coverings?

Face coverings will be used by staff. Face coverings are most essential in settings where physical distancing cannot easily be maintained. Facial coverings will be required for **ALL** students*. ~~in grades 3-12 and strongly recommended for students in grades TK-2nd.~~

Students and staff will be frequently reminded not to touch their face covering



*This document was revised on 12/01/2020 to reflect the California Department of Public Health's (CDPH) updated K-12 School Guidance on the wearing of facial coverings.

Frequently Asked Questions (continued)

What supplies will be used/provided (e.g., face coverings, thermometers, personal protective equipment) for each campus?

Schools will have a non-contact temporal or external thermometer to detect fever in students or staff who become ill after arriving at school. Hand sanitizer will be made available in all classrooms and other areas where staff/ students are likely to be present.

Schools will ensure staff use face coverings and all required protective equipment. **All** students will be required to use face coverings*. ~~for students in grades 3–12 and strongly recommended for students in grades TK–2nd.~~ Face coverings are most essential in settings where physical distancing cannot easily be maintained.

Food service workers and staff in routine contact with the public (e.g., front office) should use gloves and facial coverings.

Physical Distancing and Limiting Contact

What are the physical distancing protocols in multiple settings: in classrooms, hallways, common outdoor spaces?

Depending on grade level, physical space, and class sizes, our schools will consider the following strategies, where possible and appropriate:

- During arrival and departure, we will minimize contact at between students, staff, families, and the community.
- We will designate routes for entry and exit, using as many entrances as feasible.
- We are putting in place other protocols to limit direct contact with others as much as practicable.

*This document was revised on 12/01/2020 to reflect the California Department of Public Health's (CDPH) updated K-12 School Guidance on the wearing of facial coverings.



Frequently Asked Questions (continued)

- We will be minimizing the movement of students and teachers or staff as much as practicable.
- We will be developing instructions to maximize spacing and minimize movement in both indoor and outdoor spaces that are easy for students to understand and are developmentally appropriate.
- We will limit nonessential visitors, parents, volunteers, and activities involving other groups at the same time.
- We will maximize the use of non-classroom space for instruction, including regular use of outdoor space.
- All congregate movement through hallways will be eliminated as much as practicable.
- Meals will be served in a “grab and go” manner at the end of in person instruction
- Consider holding recess in separated areas designated by class.
- Limit communal activities where practicable.
- Avoid large gatherings such as assemblies and dances.
- Implement procedures for turning in assignments to minimize contact.
- Keep each child’s belongings separated and in individually labeled storage containers, cubbies, or areas. Ensure belongings are taken home each day to be cleaned.
- Ensure adequate supplies to minimize the sharing of high-touch materials (art supplies, equipment, etc) to the extent practicable or limit the use of supplies and equipment to one group of children at a time and clean and disinfect between uses.

Frequently Asked Questions (continued)

- Avoid sharing electronic devices, clothing, toys, books, and other games or learning aids as much as practicable.

Healthy Hygiene Practices

How will healthy hygiene practices be supported at schools?

Schools should teach and reinforce healthy hygiene practices among students and staff, such as washing hands; avoiding contact with one's eyes, nose and mouth; and covering coughs and sneezes. Methods to promote healthy hygiene include the following:

- Teach students and remind staff to use tissue to wipe their nose and to cough/sneeze inside a tissue or their elbow.
- Teach students and remind staff to wash their hands before and after eating; after coughing or sneezing; after being outside; and before and after using the restroom.
- Students and staff should wash their hands for 20 seconds with soap, rubbing thoroughly after application, and drying hands thoroughly.
- Students and staff should use fragrance-free hand sanitizer when handwashing is not practicable. Sanitizer must be rubbed into hands until completely dry. Hand sanitizers should have at least 60% ethyl alcohol. Note: frequent handwashing is more effective than the use of hand sanitizers.



Frequently Asked Questions (continued)

- Staff should model and practice handwashing.
- Consider using portable handwashing stations throughout a site and near classrooms to minimize movement and congregations in bathrooms to the extent practicable.
- Develop routines enabling students and staff to regularly wash their hands at staggered intervals.
- Teach and reinforce the use of cloth face coverings, masks, or face shields. Cloth face coverings are most essential in settings where physical distancing is not practicable.
- Students and staff should be frequently reminded not to touch their face coverings. Information should be provided to staff, students, and students' families on the proper use, removal, and washing of cloth face coverings.
- Ensure adequate supplies to support healthy hygiene behaviors, including soap, tissues, no-touch trash cans, face coverings, and hand sanitizer.

Reporting, Health Protocols, and Communication

What is the protocol for handling students or staff exhibiting symptoms?

Work with school administrators, nurses and other healthcare providers to identify an isolation room or area to separate anyone who exhibits symptoms of COVID-19. Any students or staff exhibiting symptoms will immediately be required to wear a face covering and be required to wait in an isolation area until they can be transported home or to a healthcare facility, as soon as practicable.

Frequently Asked Questions (continued)

What are the guidelines for cleaning and sanitation?

Schools will follow disinfection guidelines for classrooms, offices, and outdoor spaces that include the following:

- We will suspend or modify the use of site resources that necessitate sharing or touching items, such as playground equipment.
- Staff will clean and disinfect frequently high-touched surfaces within the school and on school buses at least daily and, as practicable, frequently throughout the day.
- We will limit the sharing of objects and equipment, such as toys, games, and art supplies, to the extent practicable. Where possible, clean and disinfect between uses.

Will extensive classroom cleaning need to be performed if a student or teacher is diagnosed with COVID-19? What are the guidelines for this?

Yes. Districts will follow the established guidelines put forward by California Department of Health Services if this occurs.

General Safety Concerns

Will campuses be required to close again?

The district will have a plan and be prepared for the possibility of repeated closures of classes, groups, or entire facilities when persons associated with the facility or in the community become ill with COVID-19. We will work with the county health department when determining whether a school closure is warranted, including the length of time necessary, based on the risk level within the specific school community.



Frequently Asked Questions (continued)

What are other measures to maintain a healthy organization?

Continued training, communication, and support can help maintain a healthy organization and community. Recommendations include the following:

- Monitor staff absenteeism.
- Monitor the types of illnesses and symptoms among your students and staff to help isolate them promptly.
- Designate a staff liaison or liaisons to be responsible for responding to COVID-19 concerns.
- Support staff and students at higher risk for severe illness or who cannot safely distance from household contacts at higher risk by providing options such as telework, virtual learning, or independent study.

Health Education

What Covid-19 health education topics will schools provide?

Schools will educate students on the importance of healthy hygiene practices, understanding and monitoring for symptoms of COVID-19, physical distancing, and mental health sources of support.

- Avoid sharing electronic devices, clothing, toys, books, and other games or learning aids as much as practicable.

What are the expected reporting procedures with County Public Health Services? What are the procedures for referring, tracing, and isolating students and staff with symptoms or diagnosis?

YCUSD has procedures in place for investigating communicable disease cases. Staff will conduct contact tracing using classroom rosters and information obtained from school personnel through interviews and in coordination with school officials.

What are the communication guidelines when a positive case is confirmed?

Communication recommendations will vary depending on the specific circumstances of a case in a school community.

Acknowledgments

This guide was developed with information and guidance from the California Department of Education along with several county offices of education and is aligned with California Department of Public Health guidelines. Guidance will be modified as public health guidelines are updated.



YCUSD COVID-19 Screening Checklist

Before you send your child off to school, please answer the following:
Is your child experiencing any of these symptoms, or a persistence of
symptoms, in the last 48 hours?

- Fever or chills (100.4° F or higher)
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea



Have you been in close contact of a positive case within the past
14 days?

If you answered yes to any of these symptoms please keep your
student at home. For your safety, and those around you, please
do not come to school if you are experiencing symptoms.