



INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS: Returning to School Amid COVID-19 Pandemic

As the school year begins the Georgia Department of Public Health, Department of Education and Governor's Office are committed to keeping your student, family and community healthy. Please review the following recommendations.

1. Talk to your child about COVID-19 and remind him/her to adhere to social distancing guidelines as instructed by his/her teacher.

As schools begin to reopen, students may worry about getting ill with COVID-19 or express anxiousness over changes made in the classroom and school setting. Parents play an important role in helping students make sense of changes and guidance in a way that is honest, accurate, and minimizes anxiety or fear. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has created [guidance to help adults have conversations with children about COVID-19](#) and ways they can avoid getting and spreading the disease.

2. Daily, assess your student for the below signs and symptoms **PRIOR TO SENDING THEM TO SCHOOL or the SCHOOL BUS** using the following checklist:

- o Fever ($\geq 100.4^{\circ}\text{F}$) or chills
- o New cough
- o Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- o Fatigue
- o New loss of taste or smell
- o Sore throat
- o Muscle or body aches
- o Congestion or runny nose
- o Headache
- o Nausea or vomiting
- o Diarrhea

If your child has any of these symptoms, they should stay home from school and all extracurricular activities. You should call the child's healthcare provider.

3. Develop a plan to pick up your child from school, should they become ill
4. Ensure your emergency contact information provided to the school is up-to-date
 - a. Your school will need to communicate with you regarding closures, contact to cases, and your child's health regularly throughout the school year. Ensuring your information is correct will ensure you receive timely communication from the school