

Friend School

Safe Return Plan

2022-2023



**WE ARE FALCONS STRONG
TODAY-TOMORROW-ALWAYS!**

Please know our plan will continue to be a work in progress as we will continue to stay current on the latest information from the Oklahoma State Department of Education, the Center of Disease Control, The World Health Organization, Tribal Health Department Guidelines, and our local health organizations in Grady County. Your input is important, please feel free to call or email with any thoughts, suggestion, or questions.

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Flyin' High with Falcon Pride



COVID-19 Guidance

Positive Cases

If a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19, regardless of vaccination status
- **Isolate**

If you test positive for COVID-19 and have symptoms, stay home until:

- ✓ 5 days have passed since symptoms first appeared, **AND**
- ✓ Symptoms are improving, **AND**
- ✓ If fever is present, continue to stay home until 24 hours have passed since fever has resolved **without** the use of fever-reducing medications.
- ✓ If symptoms worsen restart your isolation at day 0.
- ✓ If you got very sick from COVID-19 or have a weakened immune system. You should isolate for at least 10 days. Consult your doctor before ending isolation.

If you test positive and never have COVID-19 symptoms, stay home until:

- ✓ 5 days have passed since the date of your COVID-19 test was collected, **AND**
- ✓ No COVID-19 symptoms have developed since you were tested.
- ✓ If symptoms develop, follow the criteria for someone with COVID-19 symptoms.

Returning to School: Isolate for 5 days at home and return on day 6, **if you meet the above criteria.** The CDC also recommends wearing a mask through day 10.

Close Contacts

The CDC recommends that instead of quarantining if you were exposed to COVID-19, you wear a high-quality mask for 10 days and get tested on day 5.

If you develop symptoms, get tested and stay home until results are received.



The CDC continues to promote the importance of being up to date with vaccination to protect people against serious illness, hospitalization, and death. Protection provided by the current vaccine against symptomatic infection and transmission is less than that against severe disease and diminishes over time, especially against the currently circulating variants. For this reason, it is important to stay up to date, especially as new vaccines become available.

Vaccinations are available for ages 6 months and up. For more information regarding vaccinations please contact your healthcare provider or the local health department. Please visit [CDC.gov](https://www.cdc.gov) for additional information.



Communication

Calling in Sick: Please do not come to school if you are sick or begin developing COVID symptoms after exposure. Students must be fever free from all illnesses for at least 24 hours without fever reducing medication before returning to school.

*Parents, please notify Ms. Kristi if your child is not feeling well and will not be in school.

Staying Up to Date: In the event of any COVID related updates and or school closure, you will be notified in the following ways:

- Automated Call
- Friend School Website
- Friend Facebook Page
- Local TV Stations

Masks



- Masks will not be required unless there is an increased risk of community spread pending a state of emergency for Grady County. Friend will monitor the changing conditions of COVID-19, and our policy may change under advisement of health or state officials.
- Masks may be required for staff and students when the state or county is in a state of emergency. The determination will be made by taking into consideration the conditions in the county, such as whether the outbreak is isolated in one area or spread throughout.
- Masks must be worn correctly over the mouth and nose when required.
- **Respiratory Etiquette:** covering your mouth or nose with a bent elbow or tissue when coughing or sneezing, will be encouraged and practiced.

Buses



- Buses will run routes as normal as possible.
- Hand Sanitizer will be available on the bus.
- Students will have assigned seats.
- Buses will be disinfected after each trip.
- Students may be asked to wear masks on buses if Grady County is in a state of emergency.

The School Day



- Multiple classes in our early childhood grades allows for more social distancing.
- Classroom seating charts will be made available for each class.
- Each student will have his/her own individual supplies.
- Hand sanitizer will be available in all classrooms and used at various times throughout the day when hand washing is not available.
- It is the responsibility of instructors/students to disinfect frequently touched and shared spaces and objects.
- Delivery of educational services will continue to be provided for students with disabilities in the same manner as students without disabilities. IEP/504 teams will collaborate in determining the appropriateness and success of a student's unique accommodations and/or modifications outlined in the student's IEP/504. The IEP/504 team will work collaboratively to identify alternative solutions if it believes an accommodation and/or modification is not appropriate or successful in a particular setting.
- Assessments will be given to identify learning loss that may have occurred due to COVID19, so these may be addressed through extended learning opportunities such as tutoring, summer opportunities, after school programs, etc.



Lunch

- At lunch, students will be separated by classes at a safe distance.
- All tables and seats will be sanitized after each use.
- Students will be assigned a seat in the cafeteria
- Seating charts will be kept to assist in contact tracing if needed.

Recess & Physical Education



- Recess times will be staggered.
- No outside toys/equipment will be allowed at school or on the playground when Grady County is in a state of emergency.
- P.E. will be held outdoors as needed.
- Any equipment used during class will be disinfected after each class period.
- Students will bring water bottles with them and may refill the bottles at the fountains.
- All high traffic surfaces will be disinfected daily.

Cleaning & Preventing the Spread



- The building will be cleaned thoroughly each day. All high traffic areas will be disinfected daily.
- You should keep your hands clean by washing them throughout the day for at least 20 seconds each time.
- Hand Sanitizer stations will be located at each door/the entrance to each classroom as well as in high traffic areas.
- When possible windows will be opened for ventilation.
- Efforts will be made to inform students, staff, and families of opportunities available for being provided COVID19 vaccines within the community. Friend School will continue efforts in maintaining healthy facilities including improving ventilation.

Confirmed COVID Outbreak



- In the event Friend Public School or the Friend Community experiences an outbreak of confirmed COVID-19 cases, additional steps and precautions will be implemented. These precautions can range anywhere from meals in the classroom to school closure/distance learning for all students. These decisions are not taken lightly and all options will be considered. The health and safety of our students and community will continue to be our top priority. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation as we chart our way through these unknown waters.

Distance Learning & Virtual Learning



- If the school has to shut down due to the number of COVID-19 cases students would enter into distance learning with their current classroom teachers.
- The school has enough devices for each student to have access during distance learning.
- Virtual learning may be available in extenuating circumstances by semester only. Students will work with one virtual learning teacher. Extra Curricular activities will not be available for virtual learning students. For consideration please contact the office for a conference.

**Distance Learning is for students in quarantine or isolation.
Virtual Learning is for students learning from home by semester.**



Visitors

- As always, visitors are required to buzz in to be let into the building and must come straight to the office to check-in.
- Only limited visitors will be allowed in the building when Grady County is in a state of emergency.
- Parents picking up students during the day will need to call the office. The office will take the child outside to the parent when Grady County is in a state of emergency.
- Parents are asked to stay in their vehicles during daily drop off and pick up.

Dear Falcon Families,

The pride, tradition, and teamwork existing at Friend throughout the years has helped guide us in navigating through the past several years and has made Friend the school it is today. The 2022-2023 school year will hold challenges as we move forward. In lieu of the current situations we find in our world today, it is so important that we remain Falcon Strong, working together to move through the next phase of recovery from COVID-19. The health and safety of our students, staff, families, and community continue to be a top priority.

All hands have been on deck among our staff over these past few years as they have put many new protocols in place to ensure social distancing, additional means of sanitizing, working to gain internet access and connectivity, virtual learning, devices for students and staff, and resources for social and emotional support to name a few. I am so grateful for their hard work and dedication.

Last year we were provided more opportunities with ESSER III - ARP Funding. We began work with the help and support of stakeholder representation and input. Your input and feedback is very much appreciated as we move forward into the next phase of recovery from COVID-19. Work will continue on our plans for using these funds. Information will continue to be updated on our website to keep everyone informed.

In addition to keeping students healthy, we were very much reminded this past summer of the need to ensure their safety. Please know that we are working with local law enforcement, and our Safety Committee in reviewing our safety and security protocols. In looking over all areas of our campus, considerations in regards to equipment and other opportunities to make our school a safer place are a priority. Thank you in advance for your support as we will be working to make improvements on an ongoing basis.

The Return to Learn plan has been updated with input from district stakeholders. The plan will continue to be reviewed and updated every 6 months. The Board of Education approved the most recent updates to our plan on August 16, 2022. We understand that this will be another year calling for flexibility, patience, and adjusting to meet the challenges we may face moving forward.

Thank you for your continued support. Together, we are Falcon Strong!

Updated 8-17-22