

Sumner County Schools 2021-2022 COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Will Sumner County Schools require students or staff to wear face coverings?

A: Students and staff will not be required to wear face coverings on buses or in school buildings; however, they may wear face coverings if they choose to do so.

Q: Will Sumner County Schools be requiring proof of COVID-19 vaccination of students or staff in order to attend school?

A: Students and staff will not be required to show proof of COVID-19 vaccination.

Q: Will Sumner County Schools be performing temperature checks on students daily?

A: Students who present with symptoms of illness during the school day will be sent to the school nurse, who will contact the parent if necessary. Parents are encouraged to monitor their child for symptoms and keep their student home if they are sick.

Q: Will Sumner County Schools be conducting contact tracing?

A: The Tennessee Department of Health will provide contact tracing for all Sumner County residents. We encourage students and staff to follow the recommendation of their healthcare provider or the Tennessee Department of Health.

Q: Will there be restrictions on sports and extra-curricular activities?

A: We will follow guidelines established by TSSAA regarding school sports. Principals will communicate details about specific events throughout the year.

Q: Will visitors be allowed in school buildings this year?

A: Visitors to schools will be allowed according to Sumner County Schools Policy 1.501 Visitors to Schools.

Q: Will Sumner County Schools have the ability to implement a district-wide hybrid or remote schedule this school year?

A: By State Board of Education policy, hybrid or remote schedules are only permitted after a State of Emergency has been declared by the Governor.

Q: What if my student has tested positive for COVID-19?

A: Students who have tested positive should inform their school attendance office and discuss the student's return-to-school date with the school nurse. We encourage parents to follow the recommendation of their child's healthcare provider or the Tennessee Department of Health.

Google Classroom will be available for students who miss school due to COVID-19. Please communicate with your child's teacher for specific instructions. All COVID-19 related absences will be excused with a parent or doctor's note. Students may be counted present through participation in Google Classroom and daily communication with their teacher.

Q: What happens if my child has been told to quarantine by the Tennessee Department of Health due to contact tracing?

A: The Tennessee Department of Health will provide contact tracing for all Sumner County residents. We encourage parents to follow the recommendation of their child's healthcare provider or Tennessee Department of Health.

Parents should contact their child's school to notify them of the reason for the absence. All COVID-19 related absences will be excused with a parent or doctor's note. Google Classroom will be available for students who miss school due to COVID-19. Please communicate with your child's teacher for specific instructions. Students may be counted present through participation in Google Classroom and daily communication with their teacher.

Q: May I choose to quarantine my child if I believe they were a close contact of a COVID-19 positive individual?

A: Parents may choose to quarantine their child if they believe they are a close contact of a COVID-19 positive individual. We encourage parents to follow the recommendation of their child's healthcare provider or Tennessee Department of Health.

Parents should contact their child's school to notify them of the reason for the absence. All COVID-19 related absences will be excused with a parent or doctor's note. Google Classroom will be available for students who miss school due to COVID-19. Please communicate with your child's teacher for specific instructions. Students may be counted present through participation in Google Classroom and daily communication with their teacher.

Q: What if someone in my household tests positive for COVID-19?

A: Families are encouraged to consult with their healthcare provider or the Tennessee Department of Health on quarantine recommendations. If a quarantine is recommended, parents should contact the school to notify them of the reason for the absence. All COVID-19 related absences will be excused with a parent or doctor's note.

Google Classroom will be available for students who miss school due to COVID-19. Please communicate with your child's teacher for specific instructions. Students may be counted present through participation in Google Classroom and daily communication with their teacher.

Q: What prevention measures will the district have in place this school year?

A: Prevention measures will include:

- Teach and reinforce good hygiene measures such as handwashing and covering coughs.
- Provide hand soap and hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol, paper towels, and no-touch trash cans in all bathrooms, classrooms, and frequently trafficked areas.
- Conduct deep cleaning of schools prior to students/staff returning; schedule periodic cleanings during weekends or school holidays/breaks (to the extent practicable).
- Post signage in classrooms, hallways, and entrances to promote good hand hygiene, prevention measures, and listing COVID-19 symptoms.
- Clean and disinfect buses between morning and afternoon routes and after each day's use.
- Encourage student hand sanitizing before and after meal service.
- Conduct cleaning of cafeterias and high-touch surfaces throughout the school day.