

ADRIAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS HEAD START EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS
COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions

What offerings will Head Start provide this school year for school?

Distance Learning will be provided to all students until October 5th, 2020 (with the exception of our Porter LISD Collaborative Classroom).

In Person Services, are scheduled to resume on October 5th, 2020 for up to ten students in Head Start classrooms and up to four students in Early Head Start classrooms.

After October 5th, Head Start will work with families to provide In Person and Distance Learning options.

Where can I learn more about the Head Start plan for school?

At enrollment families will receive a copy of both the programs Reopening/Response Plan and Distance Learning Plan. In addition, these will be posted on the program website (<https://www.adrianmaples.org/schools/head-start.php>) once approved by the Board of Education.

What happens if a student or staff member is exposed to COVID-19 or tests positive for COVID-19 and how will that impact the classroom, school, or program?

Head Start and APS works very closely with the Lenawee County Health Department and its Contact Tracing Unit. State of Michigan Licensing, Office of Head Start, and The Lenawee County Health Department Return to School Toolkit will guide Head Start in the decision making process on what steps to take if there is a suspected or actual case of COVID-19 in a classroom or site location.

If a student or teacher tests positive for COVID-19 the whole classroom and the teacher(s) will be required to quarantine for 14 days. At that time learning for that classroom will then take place remotely via the Distance Learning option.

Will I be able to visit the school or volunteer in my child's classroom as a parent?

Unfortunately, due to Michigan Schools Re-Opening Guidelines and State Licensing, at this time family members and other guests are not allowed in the school building except under extenuating circumstances determined by the program or school officials. Families

may drop off or pick up items in the main office, following all mask and screening procedures.

The program will continue to provide at home In-Kind opportunities for families to be able to volunteer and participate in their child's learning.

Are masks required for children?

Masks are required for children 2 years of age and over when on the bus and in common areas (such as the hallway or at drop off and pickup locations).

Masks are encouraged, but not required for students when in their classroom environment.

Masks will never be allowed for a child under the age of 2.

What is the definition of a facial covering?

A facial covering is a cloth material that covers the nose and mouth. The program will provide cloth facial coverings for all children. Children who ride the bus will have disposable cloth masks for the duration of the bus ride to and from school.

Are face shields acceptable as alternatives to masks?

No. The CDC does not recommend the use of face shields as a substitute for cloth face coverings. However, a face shield that covers the eyes, nose, and mouth can be worn in addition to a cloth mask if desired.

Who determines whether or not a student/staff member can medically tolerate a facial covering?

A medical professional will make this determination. The program will require documentation from a medical professional as we do for other types of accommodations.

Can parents “opt-out” their child from the facial covering requirement, but still send them to face-to-face instruction?

No. If the child falls into the age range that requires a facial covering, parents will not be able to “opt-out” but would be able to continue with distance learning for the child.

What if students/families openly refuse to wear masks and they have no documentation of being unable to medically tolerate a facial covering?

The program will enforce compliance through district policies and procedures. Although our program will work with families to make children and families as comfortable as possible, we do have to follow state guidelines. If a child or family continues to refuse to comply with regulations, that child will be offered a distance learning placement.

Will my child still have outdoor play time?

Yes. Each classroom's daily schedule will still include outdoor play time. We will be working with teachers and classroom staff to ensure classrooms are not mixed or outdoors together.

Will my child still receive free breakfast and lunch at school?

Yes. Breakfast and lunch will still be provided to all students. Distance Learning students will have the opportunity to pick up weekly meals during a set day/time for each week.

Will my child use a locker or cubby?

Yes. Each student will have an individual locker or cubby to store a backpack. No other personal belongings from home will be allowed. To the extent possible, classrooms will alternate lockers to allow for an empty cubby or locker between students to maximize social distancing whenever possible.

What will Safety Precautions look like on the bus?

Students will use hand sanitizer as they board the bus and will be required to wear a mask. Students will have their temperature taken and families must answer a COVID-19 questionnaire each morning prior to their student boarding the bus. Windows will be down when possible to increase airflow. Students will be seated individually in a seat (unless they are coming from the same home) and every other row will be skipped. Every bus will be cleaned and sanitized between trips.

What will pickup and drop off look like if I bring my child to school?

Pickup and Drop Off during regularly scheduled class start/end times will occur for all classrooms outside the building. Classrooms will share site specific procedures to parents.

If a child needs to be picked up early or dropped off later, families must park and call their site/classroom to notify the program they have arrived. Families will wait outside for a staff member to screen the child for drop off, or bring the child to the parent for pick up.

How many students per classroom to promote social distancing?

Head Start will begin October 5th with no more than 10 students per classroom.
Early Head Start will begin October 5th with no more than 4 students per classroom.
Head Start-LISD Collaborative will begin August 31st with no more than 12 students.

Student ratios will only be increased as it is deemed safe to do so throughout the school year.

Will there be a protocol every morning for temperature taking or asking COVID-19 related questions?

Yes. Every student will have their temperature taken and parents will be asked COVID-19 related questions prior to the student entering the building/classroom and for bus riders prior to entering the bus.

What protocols will be in place for staff related to COVID-19?

Staff will complete a temperature and questionnaire screening related to COVID-19 at the start of each work day. Classroom staff will be required to wear a facial covering at all times throughout the school day.

If I participate in Distance Learning, how will accommodations be made for Special Education students?

Accommodations will be made by the IEP Team and vary based on the disability of the child and the LISD recommendations and guidelines.

My child is in Home Based and attends Socializations or Community Playgroups that are traditionally occurring in the Drager building, are these still happening?

At this time all in person Community Playgroups and Socializations are suspended. Home Based families will have the opportunity to participate in Zoom Socializations as scheduled.