



New Hope-Solebury
Health and Safety Plan Overview

Plan Development

- Guidance from PDE and DOH
- Committee Comprised of all Stakeholder Groups
 - Met on June 25, 2020 and July 14, 2020
- Plan overview/requirements

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 - Ongoing email communications
- Plan overview/requirements

Health and Safety Plan Overview

Required by Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE):

- Each school entity must create a Health and Safety Plan which will serve as the local guidelines for school reopening activities.
- The recommendations and guidelines within the plan are based off the current information from the PA Department of Health and the Bucks County Department of Health and have been adapted to meet the unique needs of the New Hope - Solebury School District
- The Health and Safety Plan must be approved by the School Board and posted on the district website prior to school starting.
- Depending upon the public health conditions in any county within the Commonwealth, there could be additional actions, orders, or guidance provided /required by the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) and/or the Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH) designating the county as being in the red, yellow, or green phase.

Plan Requirements

- Cleaning, Sanitizing, Disinfecting, and Ventilation
- Social Distancing and Other Safety Protocols
- Monitoring Student and Staff Health
- Other Considerations for Students and Staff
- Health and Safety Plan Professional Development
- Health and Safety Plan Communications

In addition the New Hope - Solebury School District has also included a component on Social Emotional Well-Being

NEW HOPE-SOLEBURY HEALTH AND SAFETY REOPENING PLAN



This guide is designed to summarize the key components of the New Hope-Solebury School District Health and Safety Reopening Plan



Students will keep a minimum of three feet distance from others. Classroom arrangements will be adjusted to facilitate social distancing.



Students will wear masks on buses and sit two at most to a seat, when necessary. Students will sit with siblings or a buddy.



A face mask, face shield or face covering is required. For lunch students will be separated by 6 feet and not required to wear masks.



Cleaning schedule will be cleaned and disinfected frequently touched objects and surfaces. Deep cleaning will be done in evenings.



Hallways and common areas will be arranged to facilitate minimal transitions, crowding and common traffic flow.



Students will clean their hands often, using soap and water or an alcohol-based (70%) hand sanitizer. Hand washing recesses will be scheduled.



Ventilation will be increased in classrooms and common areas through open windows and doors and adjustments to HVAC system.



No volunteers or nonessential visitors permitted in any schools. Meetings will be held virtually where possible. Field trips will be cancelled.

For more information on the New Hope-Solebury Health and Safety Plan check into the school district COVID-19 website.

Cleaning and Sanitizing

- Regular cleaning schedules:
 - High touch areas cleaned at least twice a day
 - Custodians trained on proper cleaning techniques
 - Buses cleaned between and before and after runs
 - Students can bring their own disinfecting wipes
 - Sensory room, therapy rooms, fitness rooms, musical equipment cleaned after every use.
 - All buildings will be deep cleaned every evening.
- Signage posted about hygiene practices
- No water fountain usage only bottle filling stations
- Commonly used items stored in Ziploc bags.
- Increase ventilation in all spaces - open windows when feasible, UV filtration for the nurses' suite, and doors will be left open when possible.

Social Distancing and Other Safety Protocols

- For all School District property face coverings **MUST** be worn. *No one will be allowed in School District buildings without a face covering.*
- Classroom space:
 - Desks in rows facing the same direction, markings on floor, 3 ft apart from center of each desk, and limit furniture. (WHO, Bucks County DOH and American Academy of Pediatrics)
 - 6-foot social distancing is not required; a lesser distance (3, 4, or 5-foot distancing) is acceptable if 6 feet is not achievable to meet the needs of students.
 - Students will be able to be mask free when eating, engaging in physical activity and when participating in face mask breaks all of which are at a distance of 6 feet or greater.
- Common areas:
 - Visual signs, one way, markings on floor, and staggered transition times.
- Cafeteria:
 - Limit the number of students at one time, no common microwave, boxed lunches, cashier will enter PIN code and cafeterias sanitized after each use.

Social Distancing and Other Safety Protocols

- Hygiene:
 - Hand washing/sanitizing scheduled throughout the day and before and after eating, teach appropriate hand washing, post signs about how to prevent the spread of COVID-19
- Student Personal Items:
 - No cubbies, no lockers at the HS and only every 4th locker at the MS, students will need to carry their items with them and not share belongings.
- Staff in close contact with students including cafeteria workers, buses, receptionists and teachers in small groups will wear face shields
- No large group gatherings will be permitted

Social Distancing and Other Safety Protocols

- Bussing:
 - Socially distance at bus stops, children from the same family are to sit together, drivers will wear masks and goggles, two students per seat, seat buddies will be assigned, front facing, face shields MUST be worn.
- Before and After School Care:
 - They will follow District plan
- Extracurricular:
 - Limit field trips, inter-group activities, pursue virtual options, for athletics (refer to the specific plan), social gathering and community events on school grounds will be limited.

Monitoring Student and Staff Health

- Education:
 - Educate all students and staff on the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and teachers will begin each day with a reminder to students
- Isolation/Quarantine:
 - If someone presents with signs or symptoms while at school they must see the nurse, be separated from others, after being sent home get a COVID-19 test, notify District of results.
- Returning to School:
 - Must have DOH clearance

Monitoring Student and Staff Health

- Protecting students and staff:
 - Nurses will identify anyone at high risk and will create individual plans to support their medical needs
- Parents and guardians:
 - Need to follow immunization guidelines, keep children home from school if they show and signs or symptoms, MUST teach their students about wearing a face covering at school.

Other Considerations for Students and Staff

- Face Coverings:
 - All students and staff will be required to wear a face covering on school grounds unless:
 - Eating, seated more than 6 feet apart, or engaged in an activity that is more than 6 feet apart.
 - Any student who cannot wear a mask due to respiratory issues, medical needs, disability, anxiety, or communication needs.
- Volunteers/Visitors:
 - Only essential visitors may be on campus after prearranged time. They must wear a mask and gloves and visitor log is required.
- Outside Groups
 - Limited access to facilities by permit holders and groups
 - Any groups using our facilities need to follow Health and Safety Plan

Social Emotional Well Being

- Addressing equity and truancy:
 - Follow State mandated attendance policies, staff are to use Language Line when communicating with non-English speaking families, continue with food and community resources, updated list of homeless students,
- Counseling services:
 - For grief and anxiety, soft start for students who may have a difficult time returning to school.
- Instruction and Interventions:
 - Social emotional instruction to occur K-12, make sure students are connected to school, peer buddies, MTSS plans to support students who are struggling, use of therapy dogs, use of social stories and virtual calming room.

Health and Safety Plan Professional Development and Communications

- All components of the Health and Safety Plan will be shared with the community via listserv, District website and Town Hall meetings.
- All staff will receive ongoing professional development regarding all components of the plan starting with the August professional development days.

As we receive updated information from PDE or the DOH the plan will be revised to meet those guidelines.

Social Emotional Well Being

- Implement social-emotional learning lessons to develop strong coping skills.
- Implement strategies such as trauma-informed practices to ensure school climates are supportive, nurturing and caring.
- “Soft Opening” - reservation only, for students who are demonstrating or have demonstrated high anxiety/school avoidance/school phobia. Visit the school(s) with a parent, no crowds, walk through schedule, re-acclimate to the school environment/setting.
- “Peer Buddies” - work in conjunction with the HS Student Government and MS Student Council to pair HS students with LES students and MS students with UES students.
- Consider using services from Roxy Therapy Dogs or Nor’Wester Therapy Dogs as an emotional support service for some of our students.
- Use of social stories for students K-2 as well as students with or at risk for high anxiety prior to return to school to assist him/her in the changes to peers and the school environment. To be implemented both by parents prior to school starting and with school staff upon return to school.
- [Social Emotional Resource Page on our COVID-19 website](#)

Response Plan:

If a confirmed case of COVID-19 should occur, we will follow all of the directives and protocols established by the Board of Health.

Protocols:

Department of Health will be notified

Letter will be sent home to parents in coordination with the Department of Health

Contact tracing will be done by the school/Department of Health to determine who needs to be quarantined

Student, staff, and any close contacts identified will be on home quarantine for 14-days as directed by the Department of Health

The school/classroom areas will be cleaned:

- Close off areas used by the person who is sick
- Open outside doors and windows to increase air circulation in the areas
- Wait up to 24-hours or as long as possible before cleaning or disinfecting to allow respiratory droplets to settle
- Clean and disinfect all areas used by the person who is sick, such as offices, bathrooms, and common areas
- If it has been greater than 7-days since a positive individual was in the building, additional cleaning and disinfecting will not be needed. Continue regular cleaning/disinfecting routines

- Most importantly, we need your support and continued collaboration in teaching your child(ren) how to be safe and healthy in school.
- We can't do this without you.

Thank you!

