

# Williamson Central School District

## FAQs

### RETURN TO SCHOOL PLANNING



#### **Why is the district requiring students and staff to wear masks whenever possible?**

This is mandated in the guidance from the NYS Department of Health and the New York State Education Department.

#### **What about BOCES, WTCC, PTECH and Special Education Services?**

BOCES, WTCC and PTECH anticipate being in person every day. We are currently working on a schedule to support our special education students in receiving their services.

#### **What happens if a staff member or student tests positive for COVID-19?**

We will immediately contact the Department of Health and follow their guidance if a staff or student is found to be COVID-19 positive. This may include quarantine and/or contact tracing.

#### **Does a hybrid learning plan reduce education expenses or lower taxes?**

We will still fully utilize our staff and resources in hybrid and remote learning situations - just in a different way in order to promote a safe return. We are actually seeing increased costs for sanitizing and PPE, which we are required to provide for staff and students.

#### **Will visitors and/or volunteers be permitted to visit schools?**

We will not be allowing visitors or volunteers to enter school buildings at this time. This will be re-assessed if we return to full day, all student capacity.

#### **Why M/Th or T/F for hybrid attendance days?**

This minimizes the amount of time between teacher contact days.

#### **Will my family attend on the same hybrid attendance days?**

We will do our best to ensure family members attend on the same hybrid rotation.

#### **What happens if a child or staff member exhibits symptoms of COVID-19?**

Staff and students exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 would follow school protocols, which include being sent home to seek evaluation from their primary physicians. The school district itself will not perform any COVID-19 testing on any staff or students at any time.

#### **Why can't all students attend every day?**

We measured rooms and did our best to try to accommodate all students in a model that included social distancing. We were not able to do that. In an attempt to follow best practices for limiting community spread of COVID-19, we made the decision to lower our capacity to 50% of students each day to ensure that social distancing is in place.

#### **If we choose one model of attendance, when can we change?**

Because this is new for all of us, we will be reassessing every 10 weeks to make adjustments to our Remote and Hybrid offerings. Parents/Guardians may decide to change the model students are enrolled in at those times.

#### **Will schools only be cleaned on Wednesdays?**

Cleaning will happen every day, especially the cleaning of high frequency areas and surfaces. Because Wednesdays are non-attendance days for students, we will have the opportunity to do a more extensive cleaning of the buildings.

#### **When will we have sports and extracurricular activities?**

We will run sports as soon as we have permission from NYS. We are exploring how to offer extra-curricular activities that can adhere to the safety guidance provided by the state.

#### **How will you do daily screenings to ensure student safety?**

We will be requiring parents/guardians to screen their children prior to sending them to school for the day. This screening will include a check for any COVID-19 symptoms and a temperature check. If a staff member or student is exhibiting any symptoms or a temperature, they should not report to school and should contact the building office for further guidance. We will perform random temperature checks throughout the day.

#### **Will Child Care be available?**

At this time, we plan to continue to offer after school care for UPK-4 student on the days that they attend school. We do not have any other child care options. We will work with the community to try to support families with child care options.

#### **Will students have devices they can use at home for remote days?**

All students in grades 1-12 will have their own dedicated device to use at school and at home. This is true for both the hybrid and remote model.

#### **When will we be fully back to school every day?**

As soon as we receive permission from the NYS DOH and NYSED.

#### **Will students in hybrid have band, art, study halls?**

Students who attend the hybrid model will have a regular schedule, including specials.