



PINE LAKE PREPARATORY

SAFE RETURN TO LEARN PLAN
2022-2023 ACADEMIC YEAR



Update on Guidance for K12 Settings

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

(Effective June 24, 2022, Updated August 18, 2022)

School leaders are strongly encouraged to continue implementing a layered prevention strategy to reduce the risk of COVID in school settings. Promoting vaccination, implementing a testing strategy, ensuring students and staff know to stay home when they are sick, ventilation and hygiene all remain critical tools to slow the spread and lower the risk of COVID-19 in our communities.

As of June 23, 2022, NCDHHS has sunset the StrongSchools NC Public Health Toolkit. Going forward, school administrators, staff, and families should now refer to the CDC's Operational Guidance for K12 Schools for information on how to lower risk of COVID-19 in school settings.

As we transition from the StrongSchools Toolkit to the CDC guidance, highlights of policies for schools include:

- It is no longer recommended that schools require staff to report their vaccination status and participate in a screening program, if they are unvaccinated
- Masks are recommended at high CDC COVID-19 community levels and also in some other specific situations, including for individuals following exposure or after completing isolation
- It is no longer recommended that schools implement physically distancing strategies (such as keeping students 3ft or 6ft apart)
- Universal contact tracing is not recommended in K12 settings
- Testing, Ventilation and Cleaning remain important layers of protection

While the StrongSchools Toolkit will no longer be in effect, NCDHHS will continue to update and share supplemental materials to help school leaders plan for the upcoming school year. These materials include the Procedures for Response to COVID-19 Cases in K12 Schools, K12 COVID-19 Testing Program Guidance, and Vaccine Operational Guidance for Schools. These documents will provide additional information to help schools operationalization the recommended actions in the CDC Guidance. All resources are available on the NCDHHS Guidance Website.



Promoting A Safe and Healthy Community at Pine Lake Preparatory

Protocol	2020 - 2021 School Year	2021 - 2022 School Year	2022 - 2023 School Year
Full In-Person Instruction (5 days per week)			
Daily Attestation(s) and Health Screening			
Two Way Hallways			
Increased Focus on Hand Washing and Hygiene			
Lunch Eaten Exclusively in Classrooms			
Cohorted Classrooms (Middle School)			
Traditional School Events/Programs			
Contract Tracing to Identify Close Contacts			
Full Remote Learning Option			
Normal Sports in Regular Seasons / In-School Clubs			
Increased Building and Classroom Cleaning and Sanitizing			

Pine Lake Preparatory

Health and Safety Protocols

The Pine Lake Preparatory Health and Safety Protocols have been developed to support a safe and healthy campus for the 2022-2023 school year.

Cloth Face Coverings

During the 2022-2023 School year: Masking of students, teachers, staff, visitors and vendors to Pine Lake Preparatory (PLP) is optional. Masking is also optional for all passengers and drivers on school buses and vehicles owned by PLP.

COVID-19 spreads mainly from person to person through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks. There is growing evidence that wearing a face covering helps to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services recommends masking at high CDC COVID-19 community levels and also in some other specific situations, including for individuals following exposure or after completing isolation.

COVID-19 Community Levels can be found [HERE](#).

A Healthy and Clean Campus

A healthy community is reliant on conscientious hygienic practices and the purposeful cleaning and disinfecting of each of our buildings and common spaces.

Pine Lake Preparatory will continue to support increased maintenance and cleaning teams to ensure a routine cleaning and disinfection of high touch areas is taking place throughout the day. PLP will also provide adequate supplies to support healthy hygiene behaviors (soap, hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol, paper towels, and tissues) and additional sanitizing/hand washing stations.

Effective Communication

Please communicate the absence to your child's school and to reach out to our school nurse(s), so that we may talk and support you through a safe and quick return following a diagnosis.

Lower School: Debbie Thompson – Debbie.Thompson@PineLakePrep.org

Middle School: Julie Howard – Julie.Howard@PineLakePrep.org

Upper School: Katherine Kwiatkowski – Katherine.Kwiatkowski@PineLakePrep.org

School Nurse: Rebecca Long – Rebecca.Long@PineLakePrep.org

School Nurse: Alexandra Larson – Alexandra.Larson@PineLakePrep.org

COVID-19 Diagnostic Testing

PLP continues to work with the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services and the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction to provide diagnostic testing to students who wish to be tested for COVID-19.

To set up testing please contact our school nurses at:

School Nurse: Rebecca Long – Rebecca.Long@PineLakePrep.org

School Nurse: Alexandra Larson – Alexandra.Larson@PineLakePrep.org

Appropriate Air Ventilation

Pine Lake has taken steps to increase the delivery of clean air and dilute potential contaminants in the school. In addition to running MERV-13 filters, portable HEPA filters have also been installed in every classroom in an effort to support clean air. The HVAC systems on campus are set to maximize outside airflow for 2 hours before and after the school is occupied.

