



WCS FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

FACE COVERINGS

- **Will students and staff be required to wear masks/face coverings?**
 - Yes, students and staff will wear masks/face coverings upon entry to the school building and throughout the school day. Mask/face covering breaks will be scheduled on an as needed basis. Students and staff who are unable to wear a mask due to medical reasons will be handled on an individual basis.
- **Are there times during the day when students/employees will take mask/face covering breaks?**
 - Yes, classroom teachers will have discretion for scheduling mask breaks in designated areas outside the building when weather permits as well as throughout the facility in designated mask break locations.
- **Do students have to wear a mask on the bus?**
 - Yes, all students will wear a mask/face covering for the entire duration of the bus ride.

IN-PERSON SCHOOL OPERATIONS

- **What protocols are in place for students who are riding the bus this year?**
 - This year, two students will sit in each seat and will wear a mask/face covering. The windows on the bus will be open a minimum of 2-3 inches for additional ventilation.
- **Is there an isolation room in the school?**
 - Yes, a room has been identified that is adjacent to the nurse's office for students and staff members that need to be quarantined during the school day.
- **What will "Ready, Set, Go" look like this year?**
 - Students will report to their homeroom classroom upon entering the building. Because of social distancing concerns, this social event will happen at students' own individual work space areas within the classroom.
- **What will social distancing look like in the classroom?**
 - Student desks are placed with a minimum of 3' of separation (edge of desk to edge of desk) and will use 6' of separation whenever possible depending on the number of students in a room at any given time.
- **Will students travel to other classrooms?**
 - No, aside from attending lunch and specific Unified Arts classes, student classroom cohorts will primarily stay in their classrooms throughout the school day.
- **What will Unified Arts classes look like this year?**
 - Unified Arts teachers will travel to each homeroom classroom to deliver instruction except for Band and Physical Education (when weather permits outdoor instruction). A detailed plan for all Unified Arts classes can be found in the reopening document on page #28.
- **What will recess look like this year?**

- Recess will occur outdoors while practicing social distancing. Each classroom will have a designated spot to assemble and students must remain with their homeroom class.
- **What will lunch look like this year?**
 - Lunch will occur in the cafeteria this year with two sections scheduled for each grade level. Lunchroom tables have been separated with clear social distancing lines at a minimum of 3'. Student lunch lines will be separated with 6' social distance markers.
- **What has been done to prepare the facility for social distancing?**
 - Social distancing arrows have been placed 6' apart and have been applied to all hallway locations in addition to a line dividing the hallway into a left and right side. Training will be provided to students and staff to understand and adhere to the traffic pattern. Social distancing stencils have also been painted outside at high traffic areas to provide students and staff with a 6' visual marker.
- **How will we handle social distancing in the hallways and staircases?**
 - When possible, movement will be directional (up one stair case, down another) and everyone walking on the correct side of the hallway.
- **When is handwashing/hand sanitizing scheduled in the day?**
 - Handwashing/hand sanitizing is scheduled upon entry/exit to the building, upon entry/exit to a classroom, upon entry/exit to the cafeteria, and after coming in contact with any high-touch surfaces.
- **Will hand sanitizer be available in every classroom?**
 - Yes, students and staff will be expected to use hand sanitizer whenever entering a classroom.
- **How will we be notified/will we be notified there is a positive COVID case in my students cohort?**
 - The NH Division of Public Health Services and the Windham School District will issue public notifications as appropriate.
- **Will students be allowed to use lockers?**
 - No, lockers will not be used in any area.
- **How will instruments be handled in music classes?**
 - In band classes, students will be spaced 6' by 6' apart. Trombones will be 6' by 9' spacing. Brass students will use masks for their instruments. Absorbent sanitation pads will be provided for the floors to control the excess saliva from instrument spit valves. The wiping down of music stands and any shared percussion instruments will occur between classes.
- **How will I dismiss my child from school?**
 - PickUp Patrol will be used as a feature for the end-of-day car dismissal this year with a new feature. Information will be forthcoming. Dismissals during the day will be processed through the main office vestibule. Our office staff will ask you for information to identify your child before we process the dismissal.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR AND IMPORTANT DATES

- **Where can I find important dates and deadlines for the beginning of the year?**
 - You may find important dates and deadlines by clicking [here](#).
- **When are the dates for each trimester this year?**

- Trimester 1 ends December 8, Trimester 2 ends March 19, and Trimester 3 ends June 18.
- **Are there inclement weather days this year?**
 - Any inclement weather days will leverage remote learning. As long as 80% of students participate District-wide, the day will not need to be made up in June.
- **When are the “Meet and Greet” dates scheduled?**
 - Tuesday, September 1, from 1:30 - 2:20, all students in Cohort A-L will have an opportunity to visit their classroom teacher.
 - Wednesday, September 2, from 1:30 - 2:20, all students in Cohort M-Z will have an opportunity to visit their classroom teacher teams.
 - Thursday, September 3, at 1:30 p.m. all remote students will have a "virtual meet-and-greet" with classroom teacher teams.
 - *Please note: for in-school visits, students will remain in one classroom location and teacher teams will switch classrooms locations to visit with students.
- **When will students pick up their Chromebooks?**
 - We are planning to disperse Chromebooks to students during the Meet-and-Greet opportunity on both scheduled days for the A-L and M-Z cohorts. **On Thursday, September 3, from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., we will have a curbside pickup for all students who have chosen the remote learning option.**

HYBRID/REMOTE LEARNING MODEL

- **How are class sizes being reduced during the hybrid learning model?**
 - Only half of the student population will be at WCS on any given day as divided by last name cohorts: Cohort 1 (Last Names A-L) and Cohort 2 (Last Names M-Z). Students will attend classes in their assigned homerooms.
- **Who will teach students on their remote days?**
 - Students following the hybrid learning model will receive instruction from their own team of teachers as they would on their in-person school days. Students will use Zoom to join their homeroom class for lessons throughout the school day following the WCS academic schedule.
- **Is my child able to change cohorts to attend in-person learning with friends?**
 - No, at this time, the only exception for changing cohorts is for students residing in the same household with different last names.

CLUBS/ACTIVITIES

- **Will WCS hold clubs and after school activities this year?**
 - At this time, no decision has been made regarding clubs or activities.
- **Will band and chorus meet before or after school this year?**
 - A Band/Chorus schedule will be evaluated after the first several weeks of school to determine the safest plan for students and staff.
- **Will the YMCA after-school program be offered to 5th and 6th grade students?**
 - No, the program will not run this year due to low enrollment.