

As per NYS Department of Health Supplemental Guidance issued August 2020, the following components of the AHRC Reopening Plan are posted separately for review.

AHRC REMOTE INSTRUCTION

A Technology Survey was sent to every family to determine the capacity that each family had for remote learning. Emails and phone numbers for contacts were verified and updated. Responses were logged and reviewed. Plans were made to enhance technology capacity where needed; approximately 100 iPads were distributed. Alternatives in terms of technology and technology platforms were discussed so that every child and family would have access to instruction.

In the preschools, the core of instruction is the Creative Curriculum and/or STAR (Strategies for Teaching, based on Autism Research). A PDF of the Creative Curriculum was shared with parents along with the weekly classroom schedule detailing classroom routines and themes to help parents establish routines for learning at home. Teachers contacted parents to set up an individual or small group time for remote instruction via one of the platforms as well as a schedule for parent contact. Children whose instructional methodology included an applied behavior analysis approach could continue instruction through the STAR online program, facilitated by teacher and teacher assistants.

Instruction in the school age program is based on various content curricula as well as STAR and LINKS. Accounts were created for McGraw Hill; Amplify; PNS and BOCES content so that parents could access a digital version of the Curriculum. Students whose instructional methodology included an applied behavior analysis approach could continue instruction through the STAR or LINKS online program, facilitated by teacher and teacher assistants.

STAR and LINKS remote instructions is monitored and reviewed by Board Certified Behavior Analysts on both the preschools and school age programs.

TESTING AND SCREENING

Staff will be temperature screened daily upon arrival to school by designated staff wearing PPE including goggles or protective face shields and gloves. A daily log confirming that staff that has been screened will be maintained. As per NYSDOH

regulations, specific temperatures will not be recorded; only an indicator that the individual has passed the screening will be recorded. Staff with temperature of 100F will not be permitted in the building and advised to return home.

Staff will also be required to complete “COVID 19 Questionnaire for Care of Self and Others” daily upon arrival to school which addresses the required questions regarding symptoms, contact and history of travel to affected geographic areas.

Children will not be temperature screened upon arrival to school. Parents are required to temperature screen children at home and to look for any signs or symptoms of COVID-19 prior to sending their child to school. Parents are advised to keep their children home if any of these signs are present. Children should be medically assessed to determine the cause prior to returning to school:

- Fever or chills (100°F or greater);
- Cough;
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing;
- Fatigue;
- Muscle or body aches;
- Headache;
- New loss of taste or smell;
- Sore throat;
- Congestion or runny nose;
- Nausea or vomiting; and/or
- Diarrhea

Should a child present signs or symptoms upon arrival, or should the temperature screening of children upon arrival at school be warranted, the schools have the capacity, personnel and necessary PPE equipment to conduct the temperature screening of children.

Students, or their parents/guardians will periodically be required to complete “COVID 19 Questionnaire for Care of Self and Others” upon arrival or virtually.

Staff, as well as families are strongly encouraged to get tested on a regular bases at one of the 34 city-run testing locations. However, AHRC schools will not be conducting COVID-19 testing on site unless directed by local health authorities.

CONTACT TRACING

The NYC DOHMH and the NYC Test & Trace Corps will investigate confirmed cases and will perform Contact Tracing as recommended by the CDC. Based on the number of cases and the conclusion of the investigation, recommendations will be made regarding the partial or full closure of school and the duration. Note: Every effort has been made to limit the number of interactions during the course of a day. There will be strict adherence to the classroom cohort design; the logging of any additional staff entering the room, i.e. therapist or supervisor; the prohibition on visitors and social distancing.

Each school will work with, support, and supplement the contact tracing efforts of the NYC Department of Health. Each school has a protocol for symptomatic individuals and positive cases in their school, and a process to adequately isolate and mitigate additional exposure to COVID-19. As stated above, the School Nurse will serve as the COVID Resource Center and ensure that these protocols are followed at the site