



Clonlara COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan

Introduction

Clonlara is a close-knit community. Our students are accustomed to having the freedom to move around the building, spending time in fluid multi-age groups, and working and playing collaboratively. Because of the nature of our community, the restrictions imposed on us by the need to contain the spread of the Coronavirus feel especially challenging. As members of our larger community, we need to understand the impact of our actions on the health and well-being of others, and recognize that the better we do at containing the virus now, the faster community spread will be under control in Southeast Michigan, and the sooner we can return to normal.

As you read through these guidelines, please understand that they are written based on the best information available at this time, and that they may be updated as more is learned about how to contain the virus. Our school is located in the Detroit Region, which is considered Medium High risk on the [Michigan Safe Start Map](#) and we are currently in Phase 4 of the [Michigan Safe Start Plan](#). According to the [Washtenaw County Health Department](#), “there is evidence of community spread locally. Residents can assume there is a possibility the virus may be present when they are in public places in the community” and “people should be taking all recommended prevention measures.” Because of this, we will be starting the school year on September 8 with Distance Learning only for the first four weeks. We will monitor local and regional conditions, follow any orders from the governor of Michigan, and work closely with the Washtenaw County Health Department to decide when to open the school to in-person learning.

The purpose of this plan is to outline the policies and procedures that we will implement when we are able to return to school in-person under different Phases. In Phases 1-3, we are required to offer Distance Learning only. In Phase 4, we have the option to return to in-person learning, but have chosen to begin the school year with Distance Learning given the current rate of community spread, slow turn-around for testing, and inadequate contact tracing. Once community spread is very low, overall cases are lower and steadily decreasing, and testing and contact tracing are efficient enough to quickly contain any active cases, we will prepare to return to in-person learning following the policies and procedures outlined below. When we reach Phase 5, we will lessen restrictions as appropriate and in Phase 6 we will be able to return to our regular activities.

Clonlara School has developed this plan based on the [MI Safe Schools: Michigan’s 2020-21 Return to School Roadmap](#) and the [Michigan Safe Start Plan](#), and following guidance of the [Washtenaw County Health Department](#) and the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#).

Clonlara’s Plans based on the Michigan Safe Start Plan Phases

Phases 1-3	Phase 4		Phases 5-6
1. Uncontrolled growth Increasing number of new cases every day 2. Persistent spread Continue to see high case levels 3. Flattening Case growth is gradually declining Schools are closed for in-person instruction	4. Improving Cases clearly declining <p style="text-align: center;">It depends...</p> Schools consider conditions for the sub-region of concern. In-person instruction is permitted with required safety protocols		5. Containing Continued case improvements and outbreaks can be quickly contained 6. Post-pandemic Community spread not expected to return Schools are open for in-person instruction with safety protocols
	IF... -COVID-19 case numbers rising and falling, or plateauing -Community spread continues	IF... -Case numbers low and decreasing in region -Little or no community spread -Low percent positive Covid-19 test rates -Fast turn-around for testing -Reliable contact tracing	
Clonlara students learn through Distance Learning Program provided by their classroom teachers	Clonlara students learn through Distance Learning Program provided by their classroom teachers	Clonlara students are in school 5 days a week with Phase 4 safety protocols	Clonlara students are in school 5 days a week with Phase 5 safety protocols. In Phase 6, regular school events resume

Phase 4 Policies and Procedures

Entering the Building

Only Clonlara staff and students will be allowed entry to the building. Families will be asked to maintain 6 feet distance when checking in. After checking in with the staff member conducting the daily screening, students will enter through their designated door and proceed directly to their classroom. At dismissal, students will wait outdoors with their teachers until they are picked up. If you need to drop off or pick up your child outside of the usual times, you will need to call the office for a staff person to meet you outside.

Daily Screening

Clonlara will cooperate with the Washtenaw County Health Department regarding protocols for screening students and staff. At this time, this includes screening staff and students for fever and other symptoms before entering the school building daily.

When students arrive at school in the morning, they will put on their mask and report to the check-in table in front of the building. They will be asked about symptoms, any exposure to a person with a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19, and they will have their temperature taken with a touchless thermometer. If they have any symptoms, possible exposure, or a fever (100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher), they will be asked to return home and quarantine for 14

days or until they have been cleared to return by their doctor. Please help us by keeping your child home if any of these situations apply. Staff will also be screened daily.

After screening, your child will say good-bye outside of the building, apply hand sanitizer, and proceed through the designated door for their classroom.

Classroom Pods

Each class will function as a “pod”. Class size will be limited to 10-12 students, and they will remain with their teacher throughout the day. There will be one additional teacher to provide support and assistance to classroom teachers as needed. Students will not interact with other classes, and each class will remain in their own classroom area, including a designated outdoor area for each group. The two Youngers classrooms will be used for grades K-5, and the Middles and Olders (6-12) will use the Multi-Purpose Room as their classroom. Each of these classroom spaces has its own independent HVAC system. Students will be assigned to use a specific bathroom in or near their classroom.

Face Masks

All staff and students must wear masks indoors (unless not medically tolerated). The only exception to this will be when students are eating snack or lunch and sitting at least 6 feet apart. All staff and students must wear masks outdoors when less than 6 feet of distance is maintained. Masks may be homemade (at least two layers) or disposable level-one (basic) grade surgical masks, and may not have vents. Students must keep a spare mask at school.

Homemade masks must be washed daily.

Disposable masks must be disposed of at the end of each day.

Students will eat snacks and lunch outdoors whenever possible (and indoors if that is not possible), spaced at least 6 feet apart.

Students are welcome to go outside for “mask breaks” whenever they need them.

Hygiene

Staff will teach and reinforce handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and/or the safe use of hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

Students and staff will wash hands or use hand sanitizer (at least 60% alcohol) before entering the school building, before and after eating, and before and after handling masks.

Physical Distancing

Classroom spaces will be arranged to facilitate distancing, although students will not be required to maintain 6 feet distance from one another at all times as long as they are wearing a mask.

Staff will maintain six feet of spacing between themselves and students as much as possible.

Students and staff will avoid direct physical contact, such as hugging, shaking hands, or holding hands.

Cleaning

We will follow the requirements of the Michigan Safe Schools Return to School Roadmap. Frequently touched surfaces including light switches, doors, benches, and bathrooms, must undergo cleaning at least every four hours with either an EPA-approved disinfectant or diluted bleach solution. Student work surfaces (desks and tables) will be wiped down with either an EPA-approved disinfectant or diluted bleach solution after every class period.

Materials

Students will keep all personal items in their cubby and will not share items with other students. Students will be asked to bring only necessary items to school. Every student will have an individual container of school supplies. Any shared materials will be sanitized after each use, or set aside for 2 days. There will be no soft toys, pillows, blankets, or carpets in the classrooms.

Field Trips

During Phase 4, we will limit our outings to walking trips to local parks with our own “pods”. We may have the opportunity to have virtual field trips, or invite guest speakers if we are able to host them outdoors.

Events

All school events will be held virtually.

Quarantine Room

There will be a room, separate from all classrooms in use, where students or staff will quarantine if they develop a fever or symptoms during the course of the school day. Staff members who interact with a sick individual will wear personal protective equipment (PPE), including gloves, mask, face shield, and a gown. The sick individual will wear a surgical face mask. They will remain in that room until they are able to leave and will exit directly through the outside door. The room will be then aired out and sanitized before being used again. We will use the room off the Atrium (formerly the Olders room) for this purpose.

Learning During Quarantine

If an individual student or family is in quarantine, learning activities will be posted online, and they will be invited to participate remotely in teacher-led classes. If an entire class, or the entire school is in quarantine, everyone in that class (or the school) will resume Distance Learning until the end of the quarantine period. If a teacher is in quarantine, that class will return to Distance Learning until the teacher is able to return.

Health and Safety Protocols

In creating these guidelines, we have referred to [CDC recommendations](#) and the [MI Safe Schools: Michigan’s 2020-21 Return to School Roadmap](#). We will update our protocols if new recommendations are released. When in doubt, we will err on the side of caution.

Illness

Students or staff who show any signs of illness may not attend school. They may return to school when they have been fever-free for at least 72 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications and when they have no other symptoms.

Students who become sick at school will be quarantined in the Quarantine Room. Parents will be notified immediately to pick up their child. Staff who become ill at school will return home immediately and the additional teacher will remain with that class to the end of the school day. If it is a suspected case of COVID-19, all parents will be notified to pick up their students in that class immediately. If a student with a suspected case of COVID-19 has siblings at school, parents will be asked to pick up the siblings as well.

COVID-19 Symptoms

If a student or staff member exhibits any symptoms of COVID-19, the school will notify the Washtenaw County Health Department and will require a negative COVID-19 test or 14 days of quarantine and no symptoms before the individual returns to school.

COVID-19 symptoms include: fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath/difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, or diarrhea.

The Washtenaw County Health Department offers guidance on what to do if you are sick with COVID-19: <https://www.washtenaw.org/3104/What-to-do-if-Youre-Sick>.

How to reduce your risk: <https://www.washtenaw.org/3102/Prevention-Risk-Reduction>

Notification

Families and staff will be notified immediately of both suspected and confirmed cases of COVID-19 at school.

Families and staff must stay home and notify the school immediately if they or a member of their household

- is experiencing COVID-19 symptoms
- has a confirmed case of COVID-19
- has been exposed (15 minutes or more, less than 6 feet apart) to a confirmed case of COVID-19

Testing

Clonlara will cooperate with the Washtenaw County Health Department regarding implementing protocols for testing students and staff. Symptomatic students and staff sent home from school will remain at home until they have tested negative for COVID-19, or have completed 14 days of quarantine.

Responding to Positive Tests Among Staff and Students

We will cooperate with the local public health department if a confirmed case of COVID-19 is identified, and will collect the contact information for all known close contacts of the affected individual from two days before he or she showed symptoms to the time when he or she was last present at the school.

Anyone who tests positive for COVID-19 will stay home and self-isolate for 14 days. Anyone who has had close contact with someone who has tested positive or is symptomatic for COVID-19 needs to be tested and stay home until receiving a negative result, or stay home and monitor for symptoms. If a student, teacher, or staff member tests positive for COVID-19, students in the same class (and siblings of a student who tests positive) should also be tested and remain at home until receiving a negative test result or completing 14 days of quarantine.

Areas and materials used by an individual who tests positive for COVID-19 will be cleaned and disinfected before being used again.

By coming to school, you are agreeing that;

- You are not feeling ill today
- You are not experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19
- You have not had a positive test for COVID-19 in the past 14 days
- Nobody in your household is experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19
- Nobody in your household has had a positive test for COVID-19 in the past 14 days
- You have not been in close contact (15 minutes or more, less than 6 feet apart) with anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 14 days

Failure to follow these guidelines may result in the school returning to Distance Learning.

Phase 5 Policies and Procedures

Policies and Procedures for Phase 5 will be less stringent than those for Phase 4, and will be determined by the most up-to-date recommendations from the CDC, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, and the Washtenaw County Health Department at the time our sub-region moves into Phase 5 of the Michigan Safe Start Plan.

Clonlara School

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