

AVONDALE HOUSE

2021 – 2022 SCHOOL YEAR COVID-19 SAFETY PLAN

Consistent with CDC and TEA public health guidance, Avondale House has adopted the following COVID-19 mitigation and response plan for the 2021 – 2022 school year. As this pandemic has reached a second year and has posed many challenges that cause changes and modifications to processes put in place, this safety plan will be updated as new information and guidance become available.

While it is not possible to eliminate all risks associated with the spread of COVID-19, this plan contains information on the practices that Avondale House has initiated to minimize the likelihood of viral spread. These practices fall into four basic categories:

- NOTIFY: Notification of our plan to parents, school districts, and the public
- PREVENT: Practices to prevent the virus from entering the school
- RESPOND: Practices to respond to lab-confirmed cases or presumed positive cases in the school
- MITIGATE: Practices to mitigate the likelihood of COVID-19 spread inside the school

While we are taking proactive measures to reduce the risk of spread, there will almost certainly be situations that necessitate temporary closure due to positive COVID-19 cases or presumed positive cases in the school. When this occurs, appropriate notifications and procedures will take place to prevent further spread of the virus.

NOTIFY: Notification of our plan to parents, school districts, and the public

Avondale House will provide notice of this plan in the following ways:

1. On our website
2. Through our social media channels
3. Other electronic notification

PREVENT: Practices to prevent the virus from entering the school

Screening for COVID-19 BEFORE campus access

Teachers, staff, students, and visitors who enter our facility must complete a self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms and potential exposure using the electronic form on our website prior to entry. The “*COVID-19 Risk Assessment Form*” can be found at www.avondalehouse.org.

Upon arrival at our facility, teachers, staff, students, and visitors will have hand sanitizer available. There may be a temperature check completed prior to entry.

Teachers and staff must report to school administration if they have COVID-19 symptoms or are lab confirmed with COVID-19. In either case, they must remain off-campus until they meet the criteria for return as outlined below.

Teachers and staff must report to the school administration if they have had close contact with an individual who is lab-confirmed with COVID-19 or is displaying symptoms of COVID-19 as defined at the end of this document, and if so, must remain off campus until a date of return has been cleared by administration which could be at minimum 10 days or greater.

Parents must ensure they do not send a child to school on campus if the child has COVID-19 symptoms (as listed in this document) or is lab-confirmed with COVID-19. Instead, parents should opt to receive virtual instruction until the below conditions for return are met.

Parents may also opt to have their students receive virtual instruction if their child has had close contact with an individual who is lab-confirmed with COVID-19 or is displaying symptoms of COVID-19 until the 14 day incubation period has passed or a negative test result is presented. Parents should discuss the situation with Avondale House administration for clarification of return to school to ensure a safe return to class.

Individuals Confirmed or Suspected with COVID-19

Any individual who themselves either: (a) are lab-confirmed to have COVID-19; or (b) experience the symptoms of COVID-19 (listed below) must stay at home throughout the incubation period, and cannot return to campus until they are screened by the staff nurse to determine if any of the below conditions for return to campus have been met:

- In the case of an individual who was diagnosed with COVID-19, the individual may return to school when all four of the following criteria are met:
 - 1) At least 24 hours has passed since recovery (resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications);
 - 2) The individual has improvement in symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath, congestion, malaise);
 - 3) At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared;
 - 4) Present one (1) NEGATIVE COVID-19 test result
- In the case of an individual who has symptoms that could be COVID-19 and who has not been evaluated by a medical professional or tested for COVID-19, such individual is assumed to have COVID-19, and the individual may not return to the campus until the individual has completed the same four-step set of criteria listed above.

If a staff/student is presumed exposed to COVID-19

He /she is to quarantine and be tested at least 5 days after the last exposure to a COVID-19 positive person. Quarantine time depends on the individuals vaccination status.

- a) If an exposed person has not been vaccinated for COVID-19, he/she will have to quarantine for 14 days.
- b) If an exposed person has been vaccinated for COVID-19, he/she will have to be tested on or after the 5th day following an exposure and may return to work/school after receipt of a NEGATIVE COVID-19 test result. This determination is based on a case by case analysis of the circumstances.

Identifying Possible COVID-19 Cases on Campus

If at any time a student shows a single COVID-19 symptom or several COVID-19 symptoms while at school. that student will be separated from the rest of the class/school and placed in an isolation room until the student can be picked up. Teachers or staff members who show symptoms of COVID-19 while at school must report to the nurse or school administration and immediately leave the campus.

In either case, the areas used by the individual who shows COVID-19 symptoms while on campus (student, teacher, or staff) will be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected as soon as feasible.

RESPOND: Practices to respond to a lab-confirmed case on campus

Required actions if individuals with lab-confirmed cases have been in the school

1. Areas that were heavily used by the individual with the lab-confirmed case (student, teacher, or staff) will be closed off until the non-porous surfaces in those areas can be disinfected.
2. Teacher and students from the impacted class will remain off campus from 10 to 14 days to monitor for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and will be allowed to return to campus if they meet the return to campus criteria.
3. Consistent with school notification requirements for other communicable diseases, and consistent with legal confidentiality requirements, Avondale House will notify all teachers, staff, families, and school districts of all students if a lab-confirmed COVID-19 case is identified among students, teachers, or staff who have been on campus.

MITIGATE: Practices to mitigate the likelihood of COVID-19 spread inside the school

Avondale House has implemented the following health & hygiene practices to reduce the spread of the virus inside the school.:

- Hand sanitizer is available at each entrance
- Posters are placed throughout the facility as visual reminders of protective measures.
- Masks will be worn by all teachers, and staff as well as students who will tolerate it.
- Each classroom has sinks with soap and water available. Students will engage in supervised handwashing several times per day in addition to washing hands after using the restroom and before and after eating.
- Teachers, staff, and campus visitors are encouraged to practice frequent handwashing while on campus.

- Students, teachers, staff, and campus visitors should cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue, and if not available, covered in their elbows. Used tissues should be thrown in the trash, hands should be washed immediately with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or hand sanitizer should be used.
- Staff will frequently clean and disinfect high touched surfaces throughout the day. This includes objects such as the door handles, common tables/desks, shared supplies, light switches, toilet seats and bathroom faucets, cabinet handles, and highly touched devices such as laptops and tablets.
- Classes will remain in cohorts with the same teachers and students whenever possible.
- Student workspace will be placed in a minimum of 6 feet apart whenever possible. When placing workspaces less than 6 feet apart if not possible, protective barriers will be used to separate workspaces.
- Breakfast and Lunch for students will take place in the classrooms.
- Classrooms will be assigned a time to utilize the outdoor recreation area.

Visitors

Parents and visitors not essential to school operations are highly discouraged from visiting Avondale House when school is in session.

When visits are necessary, parents and other visitors must make an appointment and follow COVID-19 prevention and mitigation requirements set forth in this plan.

COVID-19 Symptoms

Any of the following symptoms indicate a possible COVID-19 infection and immediate intervention is necessary to prevent the spread of infection.

Persistent dry COUGH	Nausea / Vomiting	Difficulty breathing
Sore Throat	Diarrhea	Shortness of Breath
Temperature 100.4 for greater	Abdominal Pain	Headache
Runny Nose / Sneezing	Fatigue / Tired	New Loss of Taste
Muscle Aches	Body Aches	New Loss of Smell
Body CHILLS	Feeling Feverish	

Close Contact

This document refers to “close contact” with an individual who is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19. For clarity, close contact is defined as: (a) being directly exposed to infectious secretions (being coughed on, spat on); or (b) being within 6 feet for a cumulative duration of 15 minutes or more; if either occurred at any time in the past 14 days at the same time the infected individual was infectious, this is considered a close contact.

Individuals are presumed infectious at least two days prior to symptom onset or, in the case of asymptomatic individuals who are lab-confirmed with COVID-19, two days prior to the confirmation lab test.