

RCS Learning Center
Fall 2020 Reopening Plan

C. In-person Learning Model

Many RCS students have already been attending in-person learning over the Summer months. There were a multitude of environmental changes as well as changes in health and safety practices that will continue into the Fall, however teaching procedures, ratios, data collection procedures, and educational content remain the same as prior to COVID-19. RCS staff are all expected to wear face masks and other PPE as needed during the entire school day. RCS students are also expected to wear masks, however, given their disability, there are some students who are exempt or are working towards increasing their face mask usage. Social distancing protocols are well established and followed by all in the RCS community. There are times, given the RCS student population, that therapists and teachers must get closer to the students in order to assist and increased PPE are used in these situations as outlined in the DESE PPE guidance document. Additionally, plexiglass partitions were placed on student desks in order to create another barrier between the therapist and the student. There is at least 6 feet distance between students and no more than 3 students in a classroom. Distancing protocols are followed when there is more than one student in a classroom. Common areas have been closed with students attending group educational times via zoom sessions from their own classrooms. Students are and will eat in their classrooms, rather than the cafeteria. Teachers have increased the amount of outdoor time for all students. RCS students may access the community via the school van. In the event that RCS is transporting students, staff and students will wear masks, there will be no more than 2 students transported within the van with their accompanying 1:1 therapists, and a thorough cleaning and disinfecting routine will be followed before and after transporting. RCS will work with individual families and community placements in order to determine if students will access that environment. There is an increased amount of hygiene and handwashing, which again will continue. RCS has secured two portable sinks to use at arrival and dismissal and throughout the day as needed. Hand sanitizer has been provided to staff to keep in a secured location (inaccessible to students) and in several dispensers throughout the facility. We have designated staff to keep up with outlined cleaning protocols throughout the day as outlined within our COVID-19 policies. Staff and students have been through training/lessons on COVID-19 and our policies and procedures. We will continue to provide training to staff and lessons to students as more is learned. Parent communication has been a priority as students have returned to school and will remain at the forefront of our efforts moving into the Fall.