

Anansi Charter School Reopening FAQ

Consider reviewing our COVID-19 policy and procedures manual for greater detail as well as our reopening plan. (All found on the ACS website: www.anansicharterschool.org)

1. How will students, when back in the classroom, be protected?

The following are safety/health measures that will take place for students and staff:

- *Students and staff regularly wash hands and time is provided during the school day to do such.*
- *The school is thoroughly cleaned more than once a day in accordance with CDC recommendations*
- *Hand sanitizer is provided in each classroom and in main locations throughout all schools and frequently used*
- *Students and staff will be required to wear appropriate 'personal protective equipment' (PPE) during the school day, ACS will provide face shields, parents will provide masks. (ACS will provide masks for those unable to obtain a mask for their child).*
- *Classes will be divided into small groups, for example in half classes for two days in a row with a deep cleaning in between.*
- *The classroom will be arranged to accommodate fewer students and allow for social distancing*
- *There will be transition time allowing for cleaning/disinfecting classroom*
- *When students are not in the classroom, they will participate in online/distance learning*
- *Procedures will be in place to ensure students will follow social distancing guidelines and will only interact with their class in their cohort bubbles.*
- *Recess and other breaks will be staggered to allow students to break outdoors or in small groups to accommodate social distancing*
- *Students will be offered a grab and go school lunch in their outdoor eating area or in inclement weather in the classroom.*
- *Students eating meals while at school will follow social distancing guidelines.*
- *Special Education accommodations and supports will be provided according to IEPs*
- *Handwashing/sanitizing will be required throughout the day*
- *ACS will conduct checks for COVID-19 symptoms prior to child exiting from parent vehicle and prior to entering school bus each day*
- *School buses run with social distancing practice in place, as determined by TMS, and will be offered when TMS is providing transportation only*
- *Bus drivers and students will wear appropriate 'personal protective equipment' (PPE on the bus, health surveys will take place prior to boarding the bus*
- *Students and staff will be asked to remain home if sick, without penalty*
- *Parents/guardians will be allowed in schools by appoint only*
- *School building access will be limited to people providing essential functions only*
- *Visitors and volunteers will not be deemed essential and thus not be allowed on campus*

2. Will hand sanitizer be given out?

Not to individual students; however, every teacher will have a small bottle of hand sanitizer for on the spot needs, hands free hand sanitizer dispensers will be available in the classrooms, and the entry to the main facility. ACS is committed to using locally developed non-toxic products (Rolling Still).

3. Will masks be given out?

Parents will be asked to provide a multi-layered fabric mask for their children, however, ACS will provide masks if parents are not able to. ACS will provide a shield for every student and faculty member.

4. With students, how do you promote keeping social distance?

We will educate the kids about COVID-19 and we will provide new alternatives to show a hug between one another until we can hug again. They will have an intimate small cohort group to work with and grow close to in their class. We will focus on expressing with words, facial expressions and gestures.

5. Will desks and other school equipment be constantly sanitized?

Student desks will be cleaned between work blocks and sanitized daily. We are creating personalized kits of learning tools in the classroom for every student that will be sanitized before being put away at the end of the day. We will have procedural checklists and schedules for cleaning and a record sheet to ensure that the cleaning took place.

6. How about spacing in the classroom — has Anansi come up with a plan on how desks will be arranged?

All desks will be set 6 feet apart and all desks will be facing the same direction. There will only be 10-11 student desks allowed per classroom.

7. Will desks feature some sort of plexi glass in the front? I've seen some schools going that route.

No, Anansi opted to have our students have shields to wear in the classroom as a less restrictive easily cleaned affordable protection, and cloth masks.

8. Will bathrooms, in any way, see changes?

There will be touchless faucets, soap dispensers, paper towel dispensers, and foot pedal trash cans in each bathroom. There will be frequent sanitizing of bathrooms during the day which will be logged with time and date.

9. Will there be normal lunches in the cafeteria or will it be in the classroom?

All lunches will be grab and go meals. Our students will eat out of doors whenever possible and in the classrooms when weather is inclement.

11. What about air filtration systems? Has the school purchased anything of the sort?

Anansi has set all air filtration systems for 100% fresh air, purchased ceiling fans to lift air in critical areas, and air purification for rooms where needed.

12. How will you let kids know that these are serious times and that guidelines, even in school, must be followed?

We will teach the students healthy hygiene strategies and educate the students about the transmission of COVID-19.

13. Can a student return to the blended learning model, if they had first selected 100% remote learning?

Yes, if a family needs to shift from 100% remote learning back to the classroom, a transition plan will be established with the classroom teacher, and the student will be able to join either cohort group as long as that group will not exceed 50% of the class size. If one cohort group is at the 50% capacity the student will need to join the cohort group that does not.

13. Being the school director, how hard has this whole process been of making sure kids will be less exposed to the virus? I'm sure there's been countless hours of research done.

A 21-member task force has each served countless hours and participated in weekly meetings to receive updates. The director has worked collaboratively with the greater community of school leaders to learn and do the best for the students and staff to keep health safety at the forefront of our planning along with their social emotional wellbeing and educational needs. We have worked tirelessly to prepare our remote learning program and our blended learning models.