

The Special Children's School Parent FAQs about Reopening...

When will Preschool students return to school?

Preschool students are scheduled to begin school on November 2.

When will the School-age EC students in the Adaptive Classrooms return to school?

School-age EC students in the Adaptive Classrooms are scheduled to begin school on November 2.

When will the Typical Kindergarten students return to school?

Typical Kindergarten students are scheduled to begin school on November 9.

What do I need to do before my child attends in-person learning at school?

- Bring your completed enrollment packet back to the school. Call us if you need another packet!
- Bring medication to the school nurse if your child will need it during the school day.
- Bring the Dietary Form (signed by your child's doctor) to the school if your child has allergies or foods need to be specially prepared.
- Call and let us know if your phone number, email, or home address have changed.
- Complete the Reopening Survey on our website.

What can I do to ensure that my child and the other children at The Special Children's School are healthy, safe, and able to continue in-person learning at school?

- Keep your child at home if you, your child, or other family members are not feeling well.
- Keep your child at home if they have a temperature of 100.4° or higher.
- Keep your child at home if they have any signs of COVID, including fever, chills, body aches, headache, sore throat, change in smell or taste, cough, shortness of breath, or difficulty breathing.

What time can I drop off my car rider at school?

Drop off time is 7:45-8:15.

What time does school start?

The school day starts at 8:00.

What time does the school day end?

The school day ends at 2:30.

When will I know what time the bus will pick my child up in the morning, the drop off time in the afternoon, and the bus number?

Parents will be notified as soon as the school receives the information from the Transportation Department.

Are parents and visitors allowed to come into the school?

Parents and visitors are not allowed to come into the school at this time. Parents of car riders will stay in their car and follow the drop off/pick up procedures. Parents are only allowed to come into the front lobby/office area to bring children late to school (after 8:15) or pick them up early (before 2:15).

Will I be able to walk my child to their classroom in the morning and pick them up from class in the afternoon?

No, we will have a drive-up drop off system in place for car riders who arrive from 7:45-8:15. Parents will remain in their car and pull up the assigned entrance for their class (see map on school website). Parents will turn in the completed Entry Questionnaire. The classroom staff will then screen the student before the student can get out of the car and enter the school. If the student passes the screening, they will be escorted to class by someone from their classroom. If a child has adaptive equipment, the parent will pull over in a designated space at the assigned door so they can get out of the car, remove the equipment, and place their child in the equipment before the classroom staff take them to their classroom.

In the afternoon from 2:15-2:45, parents will pick their students up at the same designated doors. Parents will remain in the cars and the classroom staff will help the students into their cars once parents have pulled up to the loading area.

What is the “screening?”

All WSFCS employees and students who enter our school must be “screened” and pass the screening before they can enter the school. Screening includes:

- Completing an Entry Questionnaire with COVID screening questions.
- Taking the person’s temperature to determine if he/she has a fever of 100.4 or higher.
- Wearing a mask. This includes all employees and the children who attend our Kindergarten classroom.

How will my child be screened if they ride the bus?

Screening for bus riders includes:

- Parents will submit their completed Attestation Form to the bus driver/monitor.
- Student temperatures will be taken when they get off the bus at school before they go to the classroom.
- If students do not pass the screening when they get off the bus, they are not allowed to go to the classroom. They must go to the Designated Holding Space for parents to come and pick them up.

What is the Designated Holding Space?

The Designated Holding Space is a room set up for children with COVID symptoms. When the school nurse determines a child has COVID symptoms, they must be isolated. The parent is notified about the symptoms and the need for isolation. A staff member escorts the child to room 212 where the student and staff will stay while they wait for the parent to pick the student up from school. Room 212 is the space that has been set up to quarantine students with COVID symptoms. It is a private, safe space for students and is equipped with Personal Protective Equipment for staff.

What if I arrive after late after 8:15 or early before 2:15?

Parents that arrive at the school late in the morning or early in the afternoon will park in the Visitors Spaces at the front and come into the front lobby. They will be required to be screened, sign their student in/out on the computer, and then the office staff will call the classroom to the lobby to pick up or deliver your child. Parents will not be permitted to enter the building any further than the front lobby doors.

Will children be able to eat breakfast and lunch at school?

Yes, ALL Children will be eligible for FREE breakfast and lunch at school through the month of December (per Federal Funding Orders).

Does my child have to wear a mask all day at school?

The mask regulations require that:

- All students in our typical Kindergarten class will wear a mask except when they are eating lunch.
- All school-age EC students are encouraged (not required) to wear a mask if tolerable.
- All preschool students are encouraged (not required) to wear a mask if tolerable.

Will the school employees be required to wear masks?

Unless an exception applies, employees are required to wear cloth face coverings inside and outside the school buildings and whenever they are on the school grounds.

Is my child going to be able to play with other children while at school?

Yes, your child will be able to play at school! We know that most of the children at our school will not understand social distancing and the new guidelines for safety. However, for their safety we will be limiting many things. Each classroom is considered a “cohort” and each cohort will be kept separate during the school day. For example, we will not have two classes outside on the playground at the same time. Movement in the building will be limited to the classroom and playground spaces. We will limit the sharing of toys and materials. We will limit the number of children who play, work, or eat in any area of the classroom at one time. We will limit activities which require them to sit close together, such as Circle Time, eating, and Story Time. Cloth items, such as stuffed animals and furniture have been removed from the classrooms due to the difficulty sanitizing. Sand and water play will not be allowed. Playground equipment will be

sprayed with a strong sanitizer at the end of each class. We have also included two outdoor times in the daily schedule for each class to give them more frequent breaks in the fresh air.

What will the school be doing to increase safety for staff and students?

We are following the practices recommended in the StrongSchoolsNC: Public Health Toolkit (<https://files.nc.gov/covid/documents/guidance/Strong-Schools-NC-Public-Health-Toolkit.pdf>).

As a Five Star Childcare Center, we already have “hospital grade” cleaning policies in place daily. We will continue to follow our current sanitation guidelines and have added a few more. We will sanitize toys and touched surfaces frequently throughout the school day. An additional, stronger cleaning solution has been added that will be used at the end of the day for disinfecting and on the playground equipment. The school will be “deep cleaned” with an electrostatic sprayer at least twice a week (Wednesday mornings and Friday evenings) using an anti-viral mist that will sanitize all surfaces in the classrooms.

Handwashing has always been a frequent practice at our school and that will continue. We already had wall sanitizers throughout the school, but WSFCS has added sanitizing stations for additional access.

Students will wash hand frequently and be provided masks to wear if they can tolerate them.

The staff will have personal protective equipment (gowns, gloves, masks, and shields) available for their safety.

What will happen if my child tests positive for COVID?

We will follow the CDC Guidelines outlined in the NC Stay Strong Reference Guide (https://files.nc.gov/covid/PHT-ScreeningReferenceGuide_6.30.pdf) for any child that tests positive.

What will happen if someone in my child’s classroom tests positive and other students and staff are exposed?

We will follow the CDC Guidelines outlined in the NC Stay Strong Reference Guide (https://files.nc.gov/covid/PHT-ScreeningReferenceGuide_6.30.pdf) in conjunction with the Forsyth County Health Department and WSFCS to determine steps that are taken if a classroom exposure happens.