



**East Samford School Re-Opening Plan
FAQs for Families**

East Samford School Mission Statement

The mission of East Samford School, the compass for guiding students through personal discovery in academic and social pursuits, is to guarantee that each student is empowered to explore their passions, enhance 21st century skills, and develop independence through a vital system distinguished by:

- Safe and nurturing environments
- Rigorous academic challenges that are incorporated into innovative and diverse learning experiences
- Engaged stakeholders who are invested in the social development and educational process
- Inspired learners who are globally, socially, and emotionally accountable
- A culture that values and develops digital literacy and prepares students to be responsible digital citizens

Any of these procedures may change at any time based on guidance from Alabama State Department of Education, the Governor of Alabama, Centers of Disease Control, Alabama Health Department, or local government agencies, other key stakeholders and advisors. We may also choose to change procedures based on our learning through this process.

1. What will students need each day?

- a. Face mask (mandatory)
- b. ID Lanyard (mandatory)
 - i. Student must have and wear their student ID's daily. Students will need their student ID to purchase breakfast and lunch, check-out books, and for general safety identification/procedures.
- c. Backpack with essential items (i.e. school supplies, iPad)
- d. School-issued iPad (mandatory)
- e. Water bottle (highly encouraged)

Health and Wellness

1. Will students be required to wear face masks?

- a. Yes, students and staff members will be required to wear approved face masks or a universal face covering on the bus and during the school day. The mask must cover the nose and the mouth at all times. We may allow students to remove their face coverings when students are:
 - i. Eating or drinking when spaced at least 6 feet apart;
 - ii. Seated at desks or assigned work spaces at least 6 feet apart; or
 - iii. Face covering breaks
- b. All visitors are required to wear masks when they enter the buildings.

2. What type of mask will be appropriate?

- a. "Face covering" means a covering of the nose and mouth that is secured to the head with ties, straps, or loops over the ears or is wrapped around the lower face. A "face covering" can be made of a variety of synthetic or natural fabrics,

including cotton, silk, or linen, and, for the purposes of the order, can include a plastic face shield that covers the nose and mouth.

3. Do students with disabilities need to wear masks?

- a. Any student who cannot wear a mask or face shield due to a medical condition, including those with respiratory issues that impede breathing, a mental health condition, or disability, and students who would be unable to remove a mask without assistance are not required to wear face coverings. Individuals who are communicating or seeking to communicate with someone who is hearing impaired or who has another disability, where the ability to see the mouth is essential to communication, are not required to wear a mask; however, individuals should consider using another type of face covering such as a plastic face shield.

4. What is the procedure if someone is diagnosed with COVID-19?

- a. A student or staff member with a positive COVID-19 diagnosis will be subject to a 10-14 day quarantine and will follow the guidance of their healthcare provider and the Alabama Department of Public Health.
- b. The parents/guardians of any student with risk of infection due to close contact will be notified. Parents and guardians will be advised to contact the student's healthcare provider to be assessed and given further directives. Please remember that, due to HIPPA laws, we cannot share with you or any families who the specific diagnosed student is.
- c. A diagnosed positive student or staff member may return to school at the end of the quarantine period AND with a physician's note stating they are COVID-19 free.
- d. A student or staff member who has been quarantined, but not diagnosed, may return at the end of the quarantine period, he/she has not had COVID-19 symptoms.
- e. If a member of the household is COVID-19 positive, students in the household are required to complete a 10-14 day quarantine and follow protocols for return to school.
- f. Should a student exhibit COVID-19 symptoms in the classroom, he/she must be immediately referred to the nurse.
- g. If a child reports to school with a temperature higher than 100.3, Nurse Lindahl, ACS Nurse is going to provide specific guidance and we will communicate that COVID-19 testing is recommended if no other explanation is available (e.g. sinus infection, ear problems).
- h. If a positive case has been identified at East Samford, Auburn City Schools will follow CDC recommendations for cleaning and sanitizing.

5. If my child is quarantined, how will they continue instruction?

- a. Students in quarantine will continue to receive assignments from their assigned classroom teachers using Schoology. The rigor and pace of learning will continue through quarantine or closure and be supported by classroom teachers. Students who are ill or symptomatic during quarantine will receive extended time to complete assignments.

Learning Model Options

1. What is the difference between learning environments?

- a. Traditional Learning: Students will report to ESS daily to receive face-to-face instruction. Students may engage in WebEx conferences with their teachers and classmates, have specified assignments due online with due dates, and they may take notes, complete handouts and/or take paper and pencil tests.
- b. Remote Learning: Students who opt-in to remote learning are assigned coursework that comes completely from SchoolsPLP and is facilitated by certified teachers. Students enrolled in virtual school will not attend ESS in an on-campus manner. Students enrolled in remote learning may transfer to the traditional learning model only at the beginning of the second semester. This option will also be rigorous, require daily participation during school hours, and daily student/teacher interaction through WebEx, where applicable.
- c. Distance Learning Plan: Provided by the classroom teacher, this plan will be used in the event of school closure. Students who are in traditional classrooms will transition to digital learning on the Schoology platform and WebEx meetings.

Sanitizing and Cleanliness

1. Will classrooms be cleaned or sanitized regularly?

- a. Custodians will clean classrooms regularly. Teachers will support the cleanliness of the school for the safety and health of all students and staff.
- b. Student desks and common surfaces will be cleaned between all transition times.

2. What other preventative measures will be in place during the school day?

- a. Restroom use will not be allowed during transitions. Students will have the opportunity to access restrooms during their class.
- b. Each building will have designated entry-only and exit-only doors.
- c. Each classroom and lab will be equipped with sanitizer and disinfecting spray.
- d. Signage will be posted promoting social distancing, frequent handwashing/hygiene through various methods of communication.

- e. Water fountains will be available for **refilling water bottles ONLY**. Students are highly encouraged to bring individual water bottles to school. Students may have an opportunity to purchase water during breakfast and lunch as well.
- f. There will be no large group events (pep rallies, school assemblies, Great Break activities, etc.)

Daily Activities and Procedures

1. What are the expectations for riding the bus?

- a. Bus routes will be posted for a limited time period in early August. We will communicate those dates at a later time.
- b. Temperature checks prior to the school day are to be handled by families and not by ESS faculty or by ACS bus drivers.
- c. Students will be required to sit in their assigned seats.
- d. It is required that all students wear a mask on the bus.

2. Where should my child go when they arrive on campus?

- a. Parents are encouraged to drop-off no earlier than 7:40am. Teachers will not be on campus until this time. Students will not be allowed to congregate in common areas.
- b. Upon arrival, students will report directly to their homeroom class. If students would like to eat breakfast, they will report directly to the cafeteria, then homeroom. Only students eating breakfast will be allowed in the cafeteria during this time.

3. What are the dismissal procedures?

- a. Students will be dismissed in waves:
 - i. 3:30pm- Car riders, walkers, athletes, and 1st wave bus riders
 - ii. 3:38pm- 2nd wave bus riders
 - iii. 3:46pm- 3rd wave bus riders

4. How will classrooms be set-up?

- a. Student desks will be spaced apart as much as is feasibly possible and placed in forward facing rows.
- b. It is important that students bring their own supplies. Commonly shared items will be limited. Should it be necessary to share supplies, the items will be sanitized.

5. Will students change classes?

- a. Yes, student will change classes based on their assigned schedule. Students will receive their schedules on the first day of school.

6. What will PE/Elective look like this year?

- a. PE will use the gymnasium and all outside facilities to maximize physical distancing.
- b. All Elective classes will practice social distancing as much as possible.
- c. Remote learning students will have limited elective choices through the Schoology platform.
- d. In addition to fees for some of these courses, other consumable items may be required to be purchased.

7. Will students have access to lockers this year?

- a. Although we promoted lockers earlier this summer, **lockers will not be available** this year. This is to help with limiting congregation and proper social distancing. Please know that the majority of students' instructional materials will be available on their iPad.
- b. Parents who have purchased lockers via MySchool Bucks will be refunded.

8. Will my child have access to the Media Center?

- a. Mrs. Johnson will facilitate Media Days in language arts classes.
- b. Enter/exit procedures will be established. This will include students sanitizing their hands as they come and go.
- c. A wireless scanner will be used to scan student ID, then books; students will then open back cover for date stamp so that only student checking out book touches it.
- d. We will sanitize returned books and follow isolation protocols.

9. What changes will be implemented to the child nutrition program?

- a. CNP staff will adhere to current nutrition guidelines and practices.
- b. To reduce/ eliminate the handling of money, students are encouraged to pre-pay on MySchool Bucks.
- c. Students will scan their ID badge to purchase breakfast/lunch.
- d. Students will eat in the classroom during their Static period. They will be expected to eat in their assigned seats. PE and elective classes may eat in the cafeteria as long as students are distanced appropriately.
- e. Students will not self-serve. Food options will be limited and in pre-packaged boxes.
- f. In case parents need to bring a home lunch to campus, there will be a drop-off location in the vestibule of the main entrance. Make sure that your child's name is labeled on the bag/lunchbox.
- g. All outside food deliveries are prohibited. This also means no food for classroom activities.

10. Can my child use their personal cell phone instead of using the school phone to contact me?

- a. Yes, we will allow students to step out of their classroom to contact you in case of an emergency.

- b. Students will be expected to have their devices turned off and secured in backpacks until permission is given by the individual teacher. If they are actively using these devices in class without the permission of the teacher or in an inappropriate manner, the devices will be confiscated and turned into the office for a parent to pick up.

Special Activities and Visitors

1. Will teams be allowed to take field trips?

- a. Teams and groups will not be allowed to take off-campus trips.

2. Will visitors be allowed on campus for events, eat lunch with students, bring cupcakes, etc.?

- a. Visitors will have minimal access to the campus. Only people who will be permitted inside ESS facilities will be ACS employees, ESS students, and approved AU students. This means that visitors will not be allowed to eat lunch with their children in the cafeteria or visit for other non-essential activities. While we strongly desire parent and community engagement, we will work to collaborate and engage our community and family partners in new and innovative ways.
- b. All parent conferences will be conducted via WebEx.
 - i. Staff members will schedule appointments via WebEx. There will be at least a 24-hour minimum notice required for all meetings.

3. Will there be any open house events?

- a. We will host two virtual Back-to-School events. More details to come.
 - i. ESS Meet Your Teacher Drive-Thru -August 5th
 - ii. Virtual Curriculum Night (via WebEx)- August 18th and 19th

Miscellaneous

4. How can I best support my child?

- a. Encourage them to practice proper hand hygiene.
- b. Discuss the importance of social distancing.
- c. Discourage students from bringing non-essential items to school.
- d. Purchase a reusable water bottle.
- e. Stay in communication with teachers.
- f. Regularly check student's grades in Parent Portal.
- g. Practice the proper use of wearing mask/facial covering.