

SAFE RETURN TO IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION AND CONTINUITY OF SERVICES PLAN
De Leon Independent School District
Revised March 22, 2023
April 2023 - November 2023

De Leon ISD is committed to delivering Optimum Instructional Experiences for every student. We will strive to ensure that our learning environment is educationally challenging while following all health and safety protocols in our facilities. The Safe Start (DEIC) Committee, teacher representatives and the administrative team continue to monitor school activities and school services which were identified at the beginning of the Pandemic. We use these as a guide as we continue our **Quest for Excellence** in DISD throughout the 2023-2024 school year. While the effects of Covid 19 seem to have become less prevalent in the academic setting, our students and staff continue to work together to ensure that De Leon ISD is a “learning place” just as it was throughout the 2020-21/2021-22/2022-23 school years and we are looking forward to the 2023-24 school year.

The District will continue to offer a traditional, face-to-face instructional model. We will continue to follow the guidance of the Governor, the Texas Education Agency and the Comanche County Court.

In person Instruction and Instructional Continuity

De Leon ISD is committed to providing an optimum learning environment for all students. Our district will continue to ensure our students have the opportunity to use technology and teacher expertise to challenge them to be independent thinkers and prepare them to be life-long learners.

We will:

- Develop learning relationships between teachers and students
- Use an appropriate Learning Management System (LMS) based on TEKS Resources, TEA Texas Home Learning, and identified best practices using Google Classroom
- Monitor student progress and provide feedback

Students will:

- Attend face-to-face instruction
- Engage daily in learning activities by submitting their own original work
- Follow District guidelines when using technology
- Follow the DISD Student Code of Conduct

Parents and Guardians will:

- Send students to school for face-to-face instruction.
- Ensure their student engages **daily**, completes assignments and monitors progress
- Communicate with campus staff to support student engagement and progress
- Be familiar with expectations

DISD will:

- Build a community of learners through face-to-face instruction,
- Develop a rich learning experience aligned with Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills
- Assess student needs and progress and provide feedback using NWEA MAP testing, IXL Diagnostics and TEA release tests, TEA Interim and BOY assessments
- When possible and appropriate, provide dedicated technology devices for individual student use
- Utilize the services of the District Intervention Counselor and the Campus Intervention teachers to focus on the social and emotional needs of students
- Provide opportunities for students to participate in individual and group counseling and individual and small group instruction that address specific needs of students
- Opportunities for staff members to access counseling services

Health and Safety

The Health and Safety of students and staff is one of DISD's foremost priorities. The District is committed to working with the local health department, the District SHAC Committee, and the Safe Start Committee to ensure a safe and healthy learning environment through:

- Sanitation—provide supplies such as hand sanitizers, UV lights, Foggers, water fountains retrofitted for bottle fill, thermometers for each campus, air purifiers located on all campuses, continue to employ two additional custodians
- Sanitizing Protocols—cleaning and disinfecting are part of the everyday approach to prevent the spread of infectious diseases. DISD will institute a rigorous schedule for cleaning and disinfecting in order to sanitize and keep germs on surfaces at a safe level.
- Hygiene & Personal Protective Equipment — Teachers and staff will be encouraged to wash hands at least 20 seconds at least two times each day as well as after restroom visits and before eating. Hand sanitizers will be available at each entrance.
- Covid Response Protocol—Parents/guardians should perform a wellness check prior to allowing their child to enter the school building, and Teachers and Staff should also perform a wellness check before entering each day. If a person has been diagnosed with a contagious disease, shows symptoms such as feeling feverish or having a temperature greater than 100.0 has lost taste or smell, has a cough, or difficulty breathing, shortness of breath, headache, chills, sore throat, shaking or shivering, significant muscle pain, diarrhea, etc., they should remain off Campus until the following conditions for re-entry are met:
 - At least 5 days have passed since symptoms first appeared and fever free,
 - There is improvement in symptoms
 - Anyone who tests positive for Covid -19 but does not have any symptoms, must stay home until at least 5 days after they were tested.

If a student becomes ill at school:

1. The Student will be quarantined in the nurse's area and not allowed to come in close contact with others
2. Parent/Guardians will be contacted
3. Additional sanitation of the areas used by the student will be implemented

If a student/staff tests positive for COVID-19:

1. The District will contact the Local Health Department
 2. Deep cleaning and sanitations will be applied to all exposed areas.
- Visitors—Visitors will be limited to parent meetings/conferences and special events. Again this year, we are asking that regular mealtimes will be restricted to students and staff only.

Teachers and Staff Support

De Leon ISD realizes that the health and safety of the DISD staff ensures that our students will learn and have the best educational experience possible. We believe DISD is a great learning community and is truly **The School of Choice** for this area of Texas; therefore, we intend to support our staff by maintaining safety and security throughout the work environment as we serve our students.

Return to work:

- All employees will return to work according to the district calendar for 2023-24. <https://www.deleonisd.net/page/homepage>
- All employees will self-screen each day and follow Health Guidelines as outlined previously
- An employee with concerns should inform their supervisor and ask for guidance.
- Absences and leaves are addressed in the Employee Handbook. <https://www.deleonisd.net/page/homepage>
- Contracts and work calendars will be included in the Back-to-School Packet along with Professional Training schedules

Testing Plan

Anyone who has symptoms of COVID-19, who has been in close contact with a person known to have COVID-19, or who lives in or has recently traveled from an area with ongoing spread of COVID-19, should contact their healthcare provider and be tested.

The nearest healthcare facility is below:

Name: Comanche County Medical Center

Address: 10201 TX-16, Comanche, TX 76442

Phone Number: 254-879-4900

Operational Guidelines

De Leon ISD understands effective and efficient structures are critical to ensure success in the day-to-day operations of a school.

- School Calendar is posted on the District Website and included in each employee packet. <https://www.deleonisd.net/page/homepage>
- Attendance—The 90% rule will remain (students must be in attendance in order to receive credit).
- Extracurricular Eligibility—UIL eligibility is based upon students passing each class each grading period. Students can regain eligibility halfway through the following period if passing all courses. For the 2023-24 school year.
- Facilities—Facilities may be used by outside entities though application and adherence to Facility Use Guidelines.
 - Child Nutrition--The Child Nutrition Department is committed to ensuring students receive healthy, nutritious meals each school day.
 - Food Service personnel will be trained in Safety Protocols
 - Hand sanitizers will be provided at Cafeteria entry
 - No parents/visitors will be allowed during regular meals
- Transportation—Buses will run their regular schedules with the exception of the in-town route which will have to be limited (An application for access to the in-town route must be filed at Central Office and we will consider the special circumstances of each

potential rider before approval for this route. We will strive to serve students whose parents have a special need or if there is a safety issue.) to avoid overcrowding. Parents are encouraged to provide transportation when possible to avoid crowding.

<https://www.deleonisd.net/page/disd.transportation>

- o Bus Drivers will be trained in Safety Protocols
- o Windows will remain open when possible
- o Hand Sanitizers will be provided for students as they enter
- o Buses will be sanitized after each route