Changes, Updates, and New Resources
NCDHHS K-12 Public Health Guidance

Key Changes – 10/8/2020

New Resources:
- K-12 COVID-19 Testing Considerations
- When to Quarantine (Spanish)

StrongSchoolsNC Public Health Toolkit (K-12)
- Clarified what is required for schools to report to Local Health Departments: suspected or confirmed cases.
- Added language about excluding siblings/household members if one individual is symptomatic or exposed, which reflects the screening form
- Added links to quarantine example calendars
- Clarified language regarding Plan B bus restrictions following request from NC State Board of Education and Department of Public Instruction
- Added links to quarantine example calendars
- Clarified screening flow chart language regarding antigen vs. PCR testing

Screening Reference Guide
- Language and protocol clarifications throughout document
- Clarified what is required for schools to report to Local Health Departments: suspected or confirmed cases.
- Added language about excluding siblings/household members if one individual is symptomatic or exposed, which reflects the screening form
- Added links to quarantine example calendars
- Clarified screening flow chart language regarding antigen vs. PCR testing

PPE and Infection Control Guidance
- Link added to CDC do-not-use list of hand sanitizer products contaminated with methanol

StrongSchoolsNC FAQ
- New FAQs added:
  - Exposure guidance for those doing COVID-19 screenings
  - Confidentiality
  - Social distancing protocols under Plan A
  - Parental consent and COVID-19 testing
- Updates
  - Wording and question order clarity throughout document
Key Changes – 9/17/2020

StrongSchoolsNC Public Health Toolkit (K-12)

- As of October 5, 2020, elementary schools (K – 5th grade) can operate under Plan A.
- At this time, middle and high schools (6th – 12th grade) may operate under Plan B or Plan C, only.
- It is strongly recommended schools operate transportation under Plan B health and safety requirements to ensure reduced density in a more confined space.
- It is strongly encouraged that if schools implement plan A, they also implement and emphasize recommended strategies in the StrongSchoolsNC Public Health Toolkit for social distancing and minimizing exposure like choosing to cohort students and teachers.
- Clarified that symptom screenings should take place daily.

Screening Reference Guide

- Updated screening flow chart with grammatical and wording changes for clarity.

StrongSchoolsNC FAQ

- Updated answers to 4 questions to align with newly announced option for K-5 to transition to Plan A:
  - Why are elementary (K – 5th grade) schools able to choose to operate under Plan A, while middle and high (6th – 12th grade) schools cannot?
  - Are face coverings/masks required at all times for North Carolina’s students, teachers, and staff when school buildings reopen?
  - Which operational plan will my child’s school reopen under?
  - Are school districts allowed to provide remote learning during the 2020-21 school year?
- Updated miscellaneous grammatical and wording changes to align with Toolkit.

Key Changes – 9/1/2020

StrongSchoolsNC Public Health Toolkit (K-12)

- Updated wording changes to align with child care guidance.
- Inserted list of mask exemptions.
- Updated hyperlinks and minor language errors.

StrongSchoolsNC FAQ

- Clarified symptoms that exclude a child from in person attendance.
- New FAQ added concerning financial support for families seeking school-age child care.
- Updated language and responses to questions that relate to cloth face coverings and face shields, in alignment with Executive Order 163.