



KIPP DELTA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Frequently Asked Questions about the Coronavirus (COVID-19)

What is the Coronavirus or COVID-19 virus?

The Novel Coronavirus, also known as COVID-19, is a respiratory illness that can spread from person to person. The virus that causes COVID-19 is a novel coronavirus that was first identified during an investigation into an outbreak in Wuhan, China. Currently, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports several cases in the United States, and no cases in Arkansas (*as of Feb. 28, 2020*).

What are the symptoms of COVID-19?

Patients with COVID-19 have had mild to severe respiratory illness with symptoms of

- Fever
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath
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How is the COVID-19 virus spread?

According to the CDC, the virus that causes COVID-19 belongs to a family of viruses called “coronavirus.” There are other viruses in the coronavirus family that can cause illness in both humans and animals. These viruses can cause either mild illness like a cold or can make people very sick with pneumonia. This particular coronavirus has not been seen previously in humans. The virus is likely to be spread from person to person. Since the virus is very new, health authorities continue to carefully watch how this virus spreads.

How will I know if I or my children have the flu or COVID-19?

While both these illnesses are respiratory viruses with symptoms of fever and a cough, it is recommended that anyone experiencing these symptoms visit a healthcare provider for diagnosis and treatment.

What can I do to prevent being infected or spreading the virus?

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Wash your hands frequently.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Stay home when you are sick.

- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in a covered trashcan.
- If you do not have a tissue, use your sleeve (not your hands).
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.

What is the KIPP Delta doing to protect students and staff?

KIPP Delta is following the guidance of Arkansas Department of Health, which is working closely with the CDC, local governments, and health care providers to prepare for and respond to the evolving COVID-19 situation.

The Arkansas Department of Health has issued guidance for schools about students and staff who have traveled to affected countries possibly been exposed to COVID-19 and on preparing for possibility of community outbreaks of COVID-19.

What will KIPP Delta do if someone at a school or office is diagnosed with COVID-19?

If both exposure and symptoms of fever or respiratory illness are present, nurses are instructed to inform the school leader and operations manager, isolate the individual, and contact Arkansas Department of Health for additional guidance. KIPP Delta is working with the Arkansas Department of Health to report any one (staff or student) who have recently traveled to an affected country or who have been exposed to COVID-19.

Where necessary, cleaning and disinfection will take place in accordance with Arkansas Department of Health standards and recommendations.

What are some other sources of information and updates?

The following resources are available to help the public stay informed about COVID-19.

- Arkansas Department of Health
– <https://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/programs-services/topics/novel-coronavirus>
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
– www.cdc.gov/COVID19

Should I or my children wear masks?

The CDC does not recommend that people who are well wear a facemask to protect themselves from respiratory illnesses, including COVID-19. You should only wear a mask if a healthcare professional recommends it. A facemask should be used by people who have COVID-19 and are showing symptoms. This is to protect others from the risk of getting

infected. The use of facemasks also is crucial for [health workers](#) and other [people who are taking care of someone infected with COVID-19 in close settings](#) (at home or in a health care facility).

Will schools be closed if there is an outbreak of COVID-19 at KIPP Delta?

School closures are one of several options available to control the spread of COVID-19 if recommended by the CDC or other health authorities. Currently, these authorities are reporting no cases of the illness in Arkansas, where the risk of infection is low, so there is no current need to close schools. KIPP Delta will continue to monitor the progress of the illness and communicate with parents and staff on an ongoing basis.

What is being done to keep schools clean and protect students?

Custodial staff is performing extra cleaning of schools and central offices, and school bus drivers have been asked to clean bus interiors frequently. If needed, KIPP Delta has access to large-scale outside vendor who can deep-clean classrooms and schools. School nurses, leaders and teachers are conducting guidance lessons with students and Information will be shared with school staff on how to speak to students about the disease.