

High School COVID-19 Student Handbook Addendum

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the following protocols will be adopted to preserve a healthy learning environment for students and faculty at Bellingham High School. Thank you in advance for your help in mitigating risks and taking care of yourself and others.

Masks

- Students are required to wear masks on campus. Students may take a water break or eat in designated areas in the commons or outside. There may be exceptions for students who receive special education services or classes that have food in the curriculum.
- Students walking to school should wear a mask once on school property;
- Students being driven to school should wear a mask upon leaving the vehicle;
- Students taking the bus should wear masks on the bus at all times.
- Students should come to school with a clean mask. If a student needs a mask, they can get one at the main office. Please contact the school if you need assistance getting masks.

Physical Distancing

- Students will maintain physical distance and stay six feet apart when speaking and working with others throughout the school day;
- Students will not congregate or gather in large groups;
- Students may not enter the school building before 8 a.m. Upon entering the school building, students should go directly to their first period class. Students should exit the building and leave campus when dismissed.

Hallway Directions/Traffic Flow

- Students will be instructed to remain six feet apart while in hallways and common areas;
- Between classes, students should go directly to their next class and not congregate in the hallways or common areas.
- Students will need teacher permission to leave their classroom;
- There will be signs, markings and staff throughout the school building to remind students to maintain distance;
- Students who ride the bus will be dismissed at the end of the day when their bus arrives. They will leave their classroom and get on the bus.
- At the end of the day, students being picked up will leave their classroom and go to their vehicle. They will wait on the sidewalk physically distanced until their vehicle/ride arrives.
- Students walking home will leave campus and have their mask while on while on school property.
- Click on the following link to view a traffic flow map at BHS - [BHS Traffic Flow Map](#)

Hygiene/Hand-washing

- Students will be encouraged to frequently wash hands/use hand sanitizer when entering the building for the day, before/after eating, and at various points during the day.
- Students will sanitize their hands before entering every room. If sharing equipment in a classroom, students will sanitize before and after usage.
- Throughout the building there will be hand sanitizing stations.
- Each classroom will be supplied with a bottle of sanitizer and cloths that the teacher and students will use during the day.
- Teachers and office staff will arrange their desks and work areas in a way that helps staff clean and sanitize surfaces at night. Keyboards and other accessories will be placed in an accessible location. Laptops will be closed to allow for exterior sanitizing.
- Teachers and students will establish classroom protocols to wipe down desks and tabletops, and other shared equipment, in between classes and throughout the day.

Eating/Drinking

- There will be a grab and go lunch available to students. If students are remaining on campus for the afternoon asynchronous time, there will be designated space to eat.
- Students will be encouraged to frequently wash hands/use hand sanitizer when entering the building and throughout the school day.
- During class, if a student needs a drink of water and has teacher permission, they can step out into the hall, check their surroundings to ensure that no one is within six feet, briefly remove their mask, take a drink from a water bottle, put their mask back on and return to class
- During passing periods students can take a drink of water outside of the building. The water fountains will be turned off but water bottle dispensers will be available.
- Outdoor seating will be available weather permitting. If eating outdoors, students must maintain six feet distancing.

Restroom usage

- If a student needs to use the restroom, they must sign out with a teacher during class time.
- Restroom occupancy limits will be posted outside of every restroom.
- If a student enters the restroom and sees that there are too many people in the space, they should wait in the hallway until someone exits;
- Restrooms are cleaned regularly the custodial/maintenance staff;

Technology Usage and Protocols

- Students are reminded that devices and email addresses through bellingshamschools.org are property of Bellingham Public Schools.

- Students must come to school with their laptop fully charged each day;
- Students will bring their charger to school every day.
- Students will be supplied with headphones or they may bring their own.
- Whether at home or in the school building, students must follow Bellingham Public Schools technology policies.

Health/Coronavirus Policy (for caretakers at home):

1. Each morning, students/parents will perform a self-assessment for COVID symptoms including fever, body aches, cough, difficulty breathing, headache, runny nose, nasal congestion, change in taste or smell, and unusual fatigue. If a child has a symptom, they will stay home and notify the school- 360-676-6575.
2. If a child experiences any symptom of COVID, the parent/guardian will contact the school nurse to report, and in order to return to school, bring a negative test or wait the requisite 10 days.
3. If a family member of a child or a child has been exposed to anyone with a diagnosed case of COVID, the parent/guardian will keep the child home and contact the school, 360-676-6575.
4. In the event a child experiences any symptom of COVID at school, the parent/guardian will have made arrangements for the child to be picked up at school in an *expedient* manner. Until the parent or designee comes to get the child, the student will be quarantined in a designated screening room.
5. Parents/guardians will provide children with masks for school. Each child will wear a mask on the bus if that is how they are transported to school. Fabric masks will be washed at home regularly. Any family having difficulty supplying a mask should contact the school.
6. Parents/guardians will have each child's temperature taken at home every morning before school. If a child has a temperature greater than 100.4 F, the parent/guardian will keep the child home and contact their physician and the school, 360-676-6575.
7. If a child stays home for any reason, even if not sick, and continues to participate virtually, the parent will notify the school.
8. The school will call home if a student does not attend on a day they are anticipated in person to learn why.