

Hope Academy

Ready for Learning Plan

Day to Day Operations

In order for Hope Academy to allow in-school academic instruction, the following guidelines must be followed.

Seating and Furniture Spacing

Local interior design company, PS Spaces is completing pro-bono work to assist Hope Academy in implementing appropriate spacing for all seating and furniture. Due to our limited space and small student population, Hope Academy will have little difficulty adhering to social distancing standards. Each classroom will be designed and organized in a way that promotes safe and healthy practices.

Transitions/Meals

All transitions and meals will be staggered to reduce the possibility of highly populated areas. Students and faculty will be encouraged to wear masks and space themselves out appropriately during these times. Student seating at lunch will be limited to 5 students per table. We recognize that when working with children these restrictions may be met with defiance, so teachers and faculty will have to be patient as these guidelines may take some time to take effect.

Recess/Outside Play/Gym Play

Students will not be required to wear masks during recess, outside play, and gym play. They will, however, be encouraged to avoid unnecessary physical contact with others and will go through a hand washing regimen at the conclusion of their play time. Play is an essential element for child development, and we recognize that children need to have social engagement in order to thrive. Any necessary precautions will be taken in order to balance our children's health needs with their social developmental needs.

Delivery of Academic and Essential Services

In order to be as adaptable as possible, it is essential that Hope Academy has a workable strategy for delivering nontraditional methods of academic instruction. If the state of Arkansas requires schools to close facility operations, Hope Academy will have alternative methods of instruction readily available. If the state of Arkansas increases or reduces restrictions for school operations, Hope Academy will be prepared to meet these demands.

Students will be provided with 1:1 Chromebooks in the event that the state mandates distance learning. All curriculum will be made available virtually and teachers/staff will work standard hours to ensure student success. Hope Academy will utilize the digital

learning platform, Seesaw to provide remote instruction when necessary. Training in virtual instruction for teachers will be provided by Seesaw.

If a student has a loss of learning due to school closure as a result of COVID-19 from the 2019-2020 school year, our staff is implementing the RTI model in order to identify and address gaps in learning. This will be addressed in the classroom through diagnostic assessments, small group, and 1:1 instruction. If virtual instruction is required, the teacher will provide small groups and 1:1 instruction virtually.

Traditional Learning

“Traditional Learning” will be provided through a full-time on-site model. Families that participate in traditional learning will attend Hope Academy onsite unless:

- a school closure is mandated or
- if the family is concerned about a possible exposure or
- if the family has an individual in their household who has come in contact with the virus.

During the school day all students will receive technology based instruction and will become familiarized with the digital learning resources available to them. This ensures that all students will be acclimated and comfortable using the online/digital/virtual/technological learning resources we have chosen for use in the event of a mandated school closure.

Virtual Learning

“Virtual learning” will be provided through technology-based at-home instruction with no on-site contact. This option will be made available to all students in the event that there is a mandated school closure. Virtual Learning is also available to families as a full-time learning option at their request.

The online/digital/virtual/technological learning resources that Hope Academy virtual learners will use include but are not limited to:

- Seesaw Learning Management System
- Zoom conference calls between teachers and students, counselor and student, SPED teacher and student.
- School-issued Chromebooks to manage, complete, and submit assignments.
- Bentonville Public Library (BPL) Tech Cards that allow access to the online BPL database.
- EBSCO research database for assignment assistance.
- Assignments designed by teachers for this method of academic instruction.
- Teachers received beginning of the year training on the use of Seesaw both in the classroom and virtually. The staff at Hope Academy will continue to receive support through consultation with the Bentonville Public School District.

- Digitized diagnostic assessments will be used if required.
 1. Math: We have a digitized version of the Numeracy Project. This version can be administered via zoom with teacher guidance. Bentonville Public Schools is providing training for our staff in administering.
 2. ELA: We will use Dibels. We will also have a digitized version of this that teachers can administer via zoom. Training will be provided by the product provider.
- Teachers will be responsible for engaging with their students, providing them with timely feedback, creating and grading assignments, and addressing academic shortcomings. Teachers will work in collaboration with the school counselor to address the emotional and physical needs for each child.

If parents/legal guardians are comfortable, teachers will have the option to do in house, one-on-one instruction for each student on a rotating basis.

In the event of technological failure, a designated faculty member will be assigned to assist parents/students with troubleshooting their devices. If technological instruction is impossible for a particular family, a designated faculty member will deliver printed instruction materials at the beginning of each week.

Virtual Social/Emotional Learning

Hope Academy will maintain our commitment to the development of the whole child through:

- Delivery of Trust Based Relational Intervention (TBRI) and Positive Action lessons through Zoom
- Daily class nurture groups through Zoom
- Parent resources from Conscious Discipline, TBRI, and Positive Action

Faculty Exposure/Loss of Staff member

In the event of faculty exposure, the staff member in question will self-quarantine until test results are returned. If test results are negative, the staff member will be allowed to return to work. If test results are positive, the staff member will self-quarantine for 14 days. At the end of the 14 days, the staff member will re-test and be allowed to return to work when test results come back negative. During the self-quarantine period, a substitute will be provided for the staff member.

Student Exposure

In the event of a student exposure, that child will be required to remain quarantined until test results return. If the results are negative, the child may return to school the following day. If the test results are positive, all faculty and students, *from the compromised student's class*, will quarantine for 14 days. These days will start, from the time the compromised student quarantines.

Family Support/Essential Services

In the midst of this pandemic family support will be essential. Hope Academy will assist families in as many ways as possible. This may include but is not limited to:

- Food deliveries
- Virtual/In home counseling services
- Virtual/in home OT/PT/Speech services
- Virtual/in home IEP/504 Meetings

All in home meetings will be conducted only if the parent/legal guardian is comfortable with Hope Academy faculty entering their homes. If one of our families is suffering from COVID-19 or has had a potential exposure, virtual services will be used.

General Communication

As information and regulations regarding the COVID-19 pandemic change and become available, Hope Academy will make necessary changes to meet the health and safety needs of the community, and will communicate these changes in a timely manner.

All changes will be communicated immediately to parents, staff, and students through phone calls, email, direct communication, and through the family Facebook group.

Bi-Weekly updates will be sent out by a Hope Academy designee detailing major updates or changes to Hope Academy's policies and procedures.

As needed, Hope Academy can provide informational resources regarding the COVID-19 pandemic.

Our hope is that through encouraging and consistent engagement, we can provide our students and families with a learning experience that meets their health and safety needs. We want to instill trust in the minds of all staff, parents, and students that Hope Academy will be a safe place for all to thrive and stay healthy.