Preschool Reopening Virtual Meeting
Facilitators

- Muffy Grant, Executive Director, NCECF
- Kristi Snuggs, Interim Director, DCDEE
- Carla Garrett, Title I Preschool Consultant, NCDPI
- Karen McKnight, Head Start State Collaboration Office Director, NCDPI
- Dawn Meskil, Preschool Exceptional Children’s Program Co-Coordinator, NCDPI
Why are we here?
Agenda

Preschool Reopening Guidance
Questions
Next Steps
preschool reopening guidance
Guidance and Toolkits
Head Start

During the 2020-2021 program year, programs have the flexibility to deliver education and child development services in-person, virtually or a combination of both, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Programs should individualize education services based on the needs of children and families, including service delivery mechanism (in person or virtual). Services could change throughout the course of the upcoming program year as local conditions evolve. Regardless of the service delivery mechanism, it is important to communicate to both new and returning families what education services will be like during the upcoming program year.
Public Schools

- Preschool Exceptional Children’s Program
- Head Start
- NC Pre-K
- Title I Preschool

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COVID-19 REOPENING PLANS</th>
<th>School Facilities and Students</th>
<th>Health Precautions</th>
<th>Teaching and Learning</th>
<th>Scheduling Options</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>REOPENING PLAN A</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>Enhance health protocols</td>
<td>Traditional with preparation for Blended Learning</td>
<td>Change within day, see below</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimal Social Distancing</td>
<td>All students in school at same time</td>
<td>See NCDHHS requirements and recommendations</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REOPENING PLAN B</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>Enhance health protocols</td>
<td>Blended Learning for all</td>
<td>Multiple options, see below</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderate Social Distancing</td>
<td>Limit density in facilities to meet NCDHHS requirements. Maximum occupancy 30% (deleted 7/14/20)</td>
<td>See NCDHHS requirements and recommendations</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REOPENING PLAN C</td>
<td>Closed</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Remote Learning for all</td>
<td>Full change to Remote Learning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remote Learning</td>
<td>No students in school facilities</td>
<td>All at home</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Preschool Exceptional Children’s Program

Exceptional Children’s Division
• Evaluation Guidance
  • ECTA Resource
• Developmental Day Funding
• EC Division Office Hours
  • Wednesdays, 10-11 & 3-4
• Updated FAQ tool
NC Pre-K

Goals:
• All NC Pre-K students receive the benefit of fully in-person instruction to the fullest extent possible.
• All parents/guardians are offered the option of in-person instruction for the full program year.
• Recognizing the unique challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, remote learning will be available for all NC Pre-K students as an option of last resort and used as sparingly as possible (such as during time-limited school entry periods where schools are in remote learning only, during necessary quarantine periods.)
• All remote learning offered will meet standard quality measures that support children’s healthy development and engage families in their children’s learning.
June 8, 2020

Dear Early Learning Partners,

Thank you for your ongoing efforts to support young children and their families through the pre-school programs across North Carolina. Your leadership has allowed for perseverance through the challenges of COVID-19 and adjusting what it means to support early childhood educators as they tackle remote learning and the stress of the pandemic.

Today, our state released the StrongSchoolsNC: Public Health Toolkit (K–12), guidance supporting our public schools to safely reopen across North Carolina.

We know that our preschool programs located in public schools will be learning more about this guidance in the coming days. We want to provide clarification that preschool programs in public schools and in private sites (including NC Pre-K, EC, Title 1, and Head Start) are expected to follow the child care health guidance, and are not expected to follow all requirements outlined in the new K–12 schools public health guidance. While the child care and K–12 guidance is similar, there are a few areas where the child care guidance is better aligned to the needs of our early-learners, our staff, and families.

However, preschool programs in public schools (including NC Pre-K, EC, Title 1, and Head Start) are expected to follow any additional health protocols their school is implementing in response to the new K–12 schools public health guidance. For example, while preschool children would normally not be expected to social distance, they may be asked to social distance while eating in the cafeteria.

If you have any questions or concerns that come up, please reach out to any of us for further clarification and support.

Thank you for all you do,

[Signatures]

Dr. Krist Snuggs, Interim Director, NCDHHS Division of Child Development and Early Education

Amy Rhyne, Director, NCDOE Office of Early Learning

StrongSchoolsNC Public Health Toolkit
or
ChildCareStrongNC Public Health Toolkit?
Policies

- Staffing
- Health and Safety
- Remote Learning Requirements
- Family Engagement
- Daily Instruction
- Attendance
COVID Reopening “Plans”

County
DATE
Health & Safety Questions

• COVID-19 Screening
• Masks
• Class size and ratios
• Social Distancing
• Classroom materials and set up
• Outdoor Play
• Hand Sanitizer
• Child shows symptoms
• PPE
Additional Questions:

- Enrollment
- Additional funding
- Developmental Day
- ECERS requirements
- Home Visits
- Staffing
- Liability Waivers
- Developmental Screening and Assessments
- Evaluations
- IEP services
- Daily schedule modifications
- Remote Instruction
Next Steps

Regular calls
• Local planning and support
• Health and safety
• Family engagement and support
• Remote learning
• ?
Resources

Office of Head Start COVID-19 Response
Child Care Toolkit and Spanish
Strong Schools Public Health Toolkit (K-12) and Frequently Asked Questions
Interim COVID-19 Reopening Policies for NC Pre-K Programs
Memorandum on Preschool Programs and K-12 Public Health Guidance
Reference Guide for Suspected, Presumptive, or Confirmed Cases of COVID-19 (K-12)
NC DPI Lighting Our Way Forward: A Guidebook for Reopening Schools
healthychildren.org: The American Academy of Pediatrics Parenting Website
National Center Pyramid Model Innovations COVID-19 and Pandemic Resources
NCDPI Remote Learning Activities-Birth to Grade 3
Google Slides Reopening Plans Template
NC Preschool Enrollment and Eligibility Webinar
WEAR WAIT WASH
Contact Information:

Carla Garrett
Title I Preschool Consultant
NCDPI
Carla.Garrett@dpi.nc.gov

Karen McKnight
Head Start State Collaboration Office Director
NCDPI
Karen.McKnight@dpi.nc.gov

Kristi Snuggs
Interim Director
DCDEE
Kristi.Snuggs@dhhs.nc.gov

Dawn Meskil
Preschool Exceptional Children Co-Coordinator
NCDPI
Dawn.Meskil@dpi.nc.gov

Muffy Grant
Executive Director
NC Early Childhood Foundation
mgrant@buildthefoundation.org