



USD 237 Schools will open the 2021-2022 school year following the guidance and recommendations provided by the providers at Smith County Memorial Hospital and Smith County Health. The guidance and school plans for COVID-19 precautions will be re-evaluated as changes to the infection rates or populations impacted occur.

Masking

At this point masking will be voluntary for USD 237 students, employees, and visitors. Masking is not mandated or recommended in the county (with the exception of healthcare facilities) and the providers do not recommend masking at schools at this time. However, if students, employees, or visitors feel more comfortable wearing masks they will be allowed to do so.

Social Distancing and Hand Hygiene

Social distancing, when possible, and hand hygiene are important factors in reducing the spread of any infectious illness. Classrooms should be spaced accordingly as able and surfaces should be cleaned at least daily. Students and employees should be reminded to practice good hand hygiene as necessary.

Testing

Covid-19 testing should always be done in an approved medical lab and with the recommendation of a medical provider. If a student or employee has symptoms of respiratory illness, they should be encouraged to contact their primary care provider for further action as determined by the provider. Testing will only be done as a provider deems necessary.

Vaccines

The providers at SCMHS strongly recommend vaccines for all eligible people including employees as well as students 12 years and above. Vaccines are the best course of action against the spread of COVID-19.

When should you keep your child at home?

Students experiencing fever, vomiting, or diarrhea will need to stay home for 72 hours and may return to school when symptoms resolve without medication.