

Yale Elementary School

Return to Learn Guidelines for the 2023-2024 School Year



Protecting Our School Communities

The following guidelines are being shared with our community which includes students, families and staff to share new procedures for our school. In the last month, we have determined that we have an important role in slowing the spread of diseases and protecting vulnerable students and staff, to help ensure students have safe and healthy learning environments. Our goal is to start the year with student physically present in our school building. With the following guidelines in place, we hope that we can work together to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

At Home Practices

To help Yale Elementary (YES) reduce the spread we ask that you follow some simple practices at home:

Hygiene - Review how to wash their hands properly. Students will be reminded to wash their hands regularly at school. They will also have access to hand sanitizer throughout the school building. Follow the same procedures at home and stress the importance of washing hands while at school.

Illnesses - Please keep your student home if any symptoms of COVID-19, flu, strep, norovirus (stomach bug), pink eye, and/or mono are seen at home.

Social Distancing - While we are going to do our best to keep our distance while at school, please think about what you can do outside of school to help reduce the spread of illnesses.

School Practices

Face Coverings - Face coverings will be optional for all students and staff.

Temperature Checks - Students will be spot checked throughout the day if needed.

Response to Possible Symptoms - If a student has a temperature of 100 degrees or higher, they will be given a face covering and isolated until their temperature can be rechecked. If rechecked and temperature is normal, the student will be sent to class. If rechecked and temperature is still high, parents will be notified and asked to come get their child.

Arrival & Dismissal

As students arrive in the morning, they will be directed to the cafeteria to eat breakfast where they will be seated by class. Students who choose not to eat at school will be directed to their classroom. Parents will be able to escort students to the gym doors or the front doors. All parents will be asked to remain in their cars and drive through the drop-off line. While awaiting dismissal, students will remain in their classrooms, still following social distancing guidelines by not waiting in large groups.

Immunizations

All students of all grade levels have a required and current immunization record or a state approved exemption form on file with the school prior to their admission to school. YPS will not discrimination towards any student or staff who may or may not decide to receive the COVID-19 vaccination.

All plans are subject to change as new information becomes available related to COVID-19.

Yale Elementary School



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Checking In and Out

Checking students in or out can be done either by phone while sitting in the school's driveway or by traditional means at the front office. As always, please have your driver's license ready and you must still be on the student's pick up list.

Water Bottles and Water Fountains

As school opens, the traditional water fountains will still not be in use. We will continue to use our water bottle filling stations, and they will be available for student and staff use. Students are encouraged to bring pre-filled water bottles or other non-breakable water containers to school with them.

Lunch, Snacks and Recess

YES will continue the lunch schedule we set the previous year. This reduced the amount of students at lunch at one time. We have gone from three lunch periods to four. By reducing the amount of students at lunch, we are able to allow for more social distancing. Students will wash their hands before eating. Only students and staff will be allowed to have lunch on-site. Recess will not be eliminated from YES. Students will be granted daily outdoor playtime. We have reduced the number of students in each recess period.

Physical Education (PE)

YES will continue to provide physical education to PK-5th grade students. The skills and knowledge gained by students through PE are especially important during this pandemic. While PE will continue, social distancing will be in place, and any material needed for instructional purposes will be sanitized prior to use.

Supplies

Teachers will be provided enough supplies so that students will not have to share supplies such as crayons, markers, scissors and pencils. Students will keep their individual supplies separated from those of others in individually labeled containers or cubbies. Any manipulatives needed for instructional purposes will be sanitized prior to use by another student. Like last year, there will be no supply list. The district will provide the necessary material for your student. However, teachers are always accepting donations for wanted items, please check in with your child's teacher.

Bus Routes

Bus routes will run as normal. While we will do our best to practice social distancing on the bus. Students will be assigned a seat on the bus and family members will sit together. Same grade-level students will also be seated together to reduce the spread of germs. If a student becomes ill on the bus, a face covering will be provided to them until further evaluation can take place.

All plans are subject to change as new information becomes available related to COVID-19.

Yale Junior High/High School



Return to Learn Guidelines for the 2023-2024 School Year

At Home Practices

To help Yale Public Schools reduce the spread we ask that you follow some simple practices at home:
Hygiene - Review how to wash their hands properly. Students will be reminded to wash their hands regularly at school. They will also have access to hand sanitizer throughout the school building. Follow the same procedures at home and stress the importance of washing hands while at school.

Illnesses - Please keep your student home if any symptoms of COVID-19, flu, strep, norovirus (stomach bug), pink eye, and/or mono are seen at home.

School Procedures

Response to Possible Symptoms - If a student has a temperature of 100 degrees or higher, they will be given a face covering and isolated until their temperature can be rechecked. If rechecked and temperature is normal, the student will be sent to class. If rechecked and temperature is still high, parents will be notified and asked to come get their child.

Social Distancing - While we are going to do our best to keep our distance while at school, please think about what you can do outside of school to help reduce the spread of illnesses.

Face Masks - Face coverings will be optional for all staff, visitors, and students of YPS.

Contact Tracing - Yale Schools will follow the guidance of Payne County Health Department.

Cleaning - Extra cleaning will be done on the high traffic areas such as restrooms, door handles, etc..

Breakfast and Lunch

Students will be encouraged to wash their hands, and hand sanitizer will be available as well. A variety of seating options will be used to provide safer situations than the typical cafeteria setting would allow. Students are encouraged to bring their own water bottles to drink from and avoid using water fountains. Students will be reminded that sharing food or drink is not a safe practice.

Immunizations

All students of all grade levels have a required and current immunization record or a state approved exemption form on file with the school prior to their admission to school. YPS will not discrimination towards any student or staff who may or may not decide to receive the COVID-19 vaccination.

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Yale Junior High/High School

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Locker Use

Lockers are available for use, but students are encouraged to space out in the hallway and eliminate congested areas.

School Activities

It is difficult to predict what our fall and winter extracurricular activities will look like. Yale Schools will follow the guidance of the OSSAA as well as local health professionals when making any changes to activity schedules. It is equally uncertain what the junior high and high school fan experience will include. Our hope, especially for outdoor sports, is that the fans will be able to enjoy a comparatively healthy setting by social distancing. Volleyball fans, while indoors, will be encouraged to social distance. Any changes to the fan experience will be announced when necessary.

Bus Routes

Bus routes will run as normal. While we will do our best to practice social distancing on the bus, we ask that if possible, please pick up and drop off your student to reduce the number of students riding the bus. Students will be assigned a seat on the bus and family members will sit together. Same grade-level students will also be seated together to reduce the spread of germs. If a student becomes ill on the bus, a face covering will be provided to them until further evaluation can take place.

Checking In and Out

Individuals that are checking out a student must be on the student's pick up list. When a student checks in late, they must report to the office to sign in. If a parent needs to bring any item (such as lunch, medication, etc.) to a student, they must bring the item to the main office.

If you have questions or comments, please call Craig Garner by email at cgarner@yale.k12.ok.us or Richard Baker by email at rbaker@yale.k12.ok.us. You can also call the school office at 918-387-2118 during school hours.

All plans are subject to change as new information becomes available related to COVID-19.