

Preschool Addendum to the Southington Public Schools 2020-2021 Learning Plan for Students and Families - Iteration 2.0

August 26, 2020

Revised September 8, 2020

The Southington Public School Integrated Preschool Program will follow the *Southington Public Schools 2020-2021 Learning Plan for Students and Families* and the *Southington Public Schools Pupil Personnel Services Addendum*. Parents should review those in their entirety. This addendum ONLY reflects areas that may differ from those plans due to the specific nature of 3 y.o. and 4 y.o. children and their needs. This addendum was designed utilizing *Addendum 2* of the *Adapt, Advance, Achieve: Connecticut's Plan to Learn and Grow Together* developed by the Connecticut State Department of Education. *Addendum 2* was created jointly by the Connecticut State Department of Education and the Office of Early Childhood and was informed by published information by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the CT Department of Public Health.

The SPS Preschool Addendum will change as state guidance changes. Parents will be notified of changes.

Note, there has been no waiver of any requirements of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

RESOURCES

1. [SPS 2020-2021 Learning Plan for Students and Families](#)
2. [Pupil Personnel Services Addendum](#)
3. [Addendum 2 -- COVID Guidance and Considerations for Preschool Located in Public Schools -- Addendum to Adapt, Advance, Achieve: Connecticut's Guidance for Preschool in Public Schools \(July 27, 2020\)](#)
4. [Addendum 11 - Interim Guidance for the Use of Face Coverings in Schools during COVID-19 - Addendum to Adapt, Advance, Achieve Connecticut's Plan to Learn and Grow Together \(August 31, 2020\)](#)

DAILY OPERATIONS

- Approximately 2 weeks prior to the first day, the preschool will post on the preschool tab of the SPS website, detailed information regarding arrival and dismissal procedures as well as daily building procedures to be followed.
- Mock up images of preschool classroom layouts and set up will also be shared at that time.

First Day of School for Students with IEPs and Community Peers: Monday, 9/14/20

Hours of Operation:

Preschool Classrooms at Hatton Elementary School:

AM session 8:35 am - 11:15 am

PM session 12:25 pm - 3:05 pm

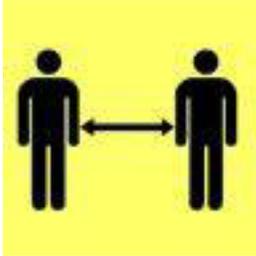
Preschool Classrooms at Strong Elementary School:

AM session 9:05 am - 11:45 am

PM session 12:55 pm - 3:35 pm

The expectations below will be followed across preschool classrooms.

	<p>Stay home if feeling ill. Students must stay home if they are feeling sick, have any symptoms consistent with COVID-19, or have had close contact with a person diagnosed with COVID-19.</p>
	<p>Morning health check by parents required. To prevent transmission among the school population, parents are instructed to screen students before leaving for school. Check to ensure temperature is below 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit and observe for symptoms associated with COVID 19 outlined by public health officials.</p>
	<p>Preschool students will be required to have a face covering or mask with them. Preschool students will be encouraged to and taught how to wear masks. Face coverings shall not be placed on anyone who has trouble breathing, or anyone who is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance. Individuals shall be careful not to touch their eyes, nose, and mouth when removing their face covering, and wash hands immediately after removing.</p> <p>Preschool teachers and parents will collaborate to work toward their preschooler wearing a mask. The District Plan for Learning guidelines for Face Coverings or Masks will be followed when students have mastered mask</p>

	<p>wearing. Students wearing masks will be provided with frequent mask breaks.</p> <p>Adults working with students will be required to wear masks and may wear face shields and/or use plexiglass dividers as noted in the Protective Equipment section of the SPS Learning Plan.</p>
	<p>Social distancing</p> <p>Cohorts are a primary prevention strategy for preschoolers due to the unrealistic nature of asking preschool students and preschool teachers to maintain social distancing. Teachers and paraprofessionals will continue to interact with and support young children, which may involve physical contact for physical assistance or emotional support. Preschool class sizes will follow OEC guidance which is currently no more than 16 children. Each cohort/classroom group will be strictly maintained as possible. A consistent cohort of staff will be maintained as possible.</p>
	<p>Frequent hand washing or hand sanitizing expected.</p> <p>Students and staff must engage in frequent hand washing or sanitizing upon arrival, before and after meals, after bathroom use, between contact with different students and after coughing or sneezing. Sanitizer will be kept out of reach of students and will be supervised to ensure safe use by children.</p>

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Because preschoolers should have access to centers, classroom activities and should be able to move around the room, teachers will reduce the number of children in certain spaces or centers to increase distance between students. Distance between centers will be at least 6 feet.
- Class size limits will be followed. Current OEC (8/20/20 OEC Letter) limits class size to 16 students per classroom.
- Hand sanitizer in all classrooms. Use will be facilitated by adults in the classroom.
- Classroom doors may be kept shut. If kept shut, adults will open and close classroom doors, sanitizing hands before and after touching the door.
- Student supplies will be individualized when possible (e.g., crayons, markers, manipulatives, sensory items, etc.)
- All classrooms will have disinfectant available. Disinfectants will be used by adults only.

- Children will be allowed to interact with other children, therefore, enhanced cleaning practices will be used. Surfaces and objects that are frequently touched, especially toys and games, will be part of routine cleaning and disinfection. Materials shared with other classrooms will be thoroughly cleaned, sanitized and disinfected. This is in addition to the provisions outlined in the **Cleaning and Sanitizing** section of the SPS Learning Plan.
- Parents will continue to provide snacks for their child. Snack time will be in the classroom, if students are not able to be spaced 6 ft. apart during snack, other preventative measures will be put into place. Staff and children will wash their hands before and after snack. Staff will also wash their hands if they have assisted a child with eating.
- Signs, messages and teaching about healthy practices (e.g., handwashing, who wears masks and why, non-physical ways to show someone that you care etc.) will be provided in a developmentally appropriate manner (e.g., using visuals for non-readers, use of social stories, etc.)
- Each classroom has an en suite bathroom that students will use one at a time. Current protocols for students who require diapering will be utilized with enhanced cleaning and sanitizing between students (e.g. sanitizing surfaces that can be touched by a student before and after use of a changing table, etc.)
- Students who receive related services as part of their IEP will have a consistent provider. If a child receives related services outside of the classroom, the related services provider will disinfect the related services room between children and follow the SPS Learning Plan for transitioning within a building.
- The preschool teacher will limit the number of people who come into the classroom, as needed. Visitors will follow safety protocols as outlined in the SPS Learning Plan.
- Arrival and dismissal procedures will be developed using classroom cohorts maintaining 6 feet between cohorts.
- Preschool will work collaboratively with a student's daycare provider to strategize about limiting exposure.
- Transportation - Parents will be required to wear a mask to help their child onto and off of the bus. Students will sit in seats starting with the back of the bus. Students will be exited starting with the front of the bus. Use of consistent school staff will minimize crossover exposure.

INSTRUCTIONAL MODELS

- For Parent Choice of Opting into Distance Learning, norms and expectations for preschool students and their families will be developmentally appropriate and will include synchronous and asynchronous activities along with parental guidance and support. A [Learning Model IEP Implementation Plan](#) will be developed in consultation with parents. Students opted into distance learning will be placed in a distance learning cohort and will be instructed by a certified early childhood special education teacher remotely.
- In the event that the district shifts to a hybrid model the Preschool will maintain a full, in-person model.

- In the event that the district shifts to a full remote model, norms and expectations for preschool students and their families will be developmentally appropriate and will include synchronous and asynchronous activities along with parental guidance and support. A [Learning Model IEP Implementation Plan](#) will be developed in consultation with parents.

OTHER RESOURCES

1. [OEC 8/20/20 Letter Group Size/Masks](#)