



STRONGER
Together
BUT 6 FEET APART!

safe & secure



2021-2022
Return to In-Person Plan
For QEA Families



Dear QEA Family,

From all of us here at Quality Education Academy, we thank you and your family for the trust you have placed in us to provide an excellent education to our scholars in a safe and secure learning environment. We do not take that task lightly and appreciate your support and patience as we continue this journey together.

COVID-19 has presented many challenges across our country and the entire world. School systems have seen our fair share of challenges as well. Our Board of Directors and School Leadership Team have been working hard to make decisions that are in the best interests of every scholar and staff member. Countless hours have produced thoughtful discussions, as we have considered a wide spectrum of topics to keep scholars and staff safe, while still providing the educational development, social and emotional support that all scholars need. Since March 2020, our goal has been to provide the best education possible through various modes of instruction. We also know how important it is for scholars to receive in-person instruction. We are proud of the work our staff has done to meet the needs of our scholars and their families thus far, and are excited to return to in-person learning for the 2021-2022 School Year beginning Monday, August 16, 2021.

Much thought and care has gone into our planning and as we adjust to our “new normal” in the world of education, our “why” remains the same. We are here to educate our scholars and do so in a safe and secure learning environment. This is vital to ensuring our core value to raise the quality of life of everyone we touch. We wish continued safety and wellbeing for our entire QEA family and hope this plan helps our families navigate our full return to in-person instruction.

Your Partner in Education,

Tonya O. Bellanger
Chief Executive Officer

“You may encounter many defeats, but you must not be defeated. In fact, it may be necessary to encounter the defeats so you can know who you are, what you can rise from, how you can still come out of it.

~Maya Angelou

Return to In-Person Plan Objectives

During these unprecedented times, we have all experienced situations that seemed discouraging. Pushing through together we have made significant discoveries and innovations as we navigated through COVID. This school year presents scholars, families and staff with challenges that give us positive opportunities for growth. We are excited for the future and hope you are too. Quality Education Academy is proud to be a part of your family and we are proud that you are a part of our family as well.

This Return to In-Person Plan is designed to provide you with information and resources that can be used for your entire family. We want you and your scholar(s) to find comfort in this information and to have a clear picture of what to expect during in-person instruction. We will continue to build upon the resources contained in this document and offer your family the educational experience you deserve.

As always, we are here to help and provide guidance. Please continue to be patient as we partner with your family in education. We know that working together, we will be able to reduce the potential risk of the spread of Covid-19 in our school environment. Following guidelines in this plan, as well as being familiar with resources provided from Federal, State and Local agencies, will help us do just that!

Public comment period for this plan is open from Monday, August 2, 2021 until Thursday, September 30, 2021. Comments can be submitted to the Chief Executive Officer in writing to our main office (5012-D Lansing Drive, Winston-Salem, NC 27105), by email to qualityeducation@qeschools.org, or during the Public Comment section of our monthly Board of Directors Meeting (Board meeting dates are available on our website www.qeschools.org).

If you have any questions, please feel free to call our main office at (336) 744-7138 or send an email to qualityeducation@qeschools.org.

2021-2022 Calendar

Quality Education Academy 2021 - 2022 School Calendar

August						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				




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November						
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December						
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10/15/21 - End of 1st Quarter
01/14/22 - End of 2nd Quarter
03/18/22 - End of 3rd Quarter
06/02/22 - End of 4th Quarter

 Holidays (No School)
 Intersession (No School)
 School Event - See you there!

August

- 2 -13 Teacher Workdays (No School)
- 13 Open House
- 16 1st Day of School

September

- 6 Labor Day (No School)
- 15 1st Quarter Progress Reports
- 24 Data Day (No School)

October

- 15 Culture Day
- 18-22 Fall Intersession (No School)
- 25 Teacher Workday/Parent Conferences
- 26 1st Quarter Report Cards

November

- 3 1st Quarter Awards Day
- 6 Legacy/Ancestor's Day
- 11 Veteran's Day (No School)
- 24-26 Thanksgiving (No School)

December

- 8 2nd Quarter Progress Reports
- 9 Winter Concert
- 20-31 Winter Intersession (No School)

January

- 3-4 Winter Intersession (No School)
- 17 MLK Day (No School)
- 18 Teacher Workday/Parent Conferences
- 20 2nd Quarter Report Cards
- 26 2nd Quarter Awards Day

February

- 4 Data Day (No School)
- 21 President's Day (No School)
- 23 3rd Quarter Progress Reports
- 24 Bestowal of Blessings/Elder's Day
- 25 Teacher Workday (No School)

March

- 23 3rd Quarter Report Cards
- 24 Spring Concert
- 25 Teacher Workday (No School)

April

- 6 3rd Quarter Awards Day
- 8-14 Spring Intersession (No School)
- 15 Good Friday (No School)
- 27 4th Quarter Progress Reports

May

- 6 Teacher Workday (No School)
- 28 High School Graduation
- 30 Memorial Day (No School)

June

- 2 Last Day of School for Students
- 3 Graduations (PK, K, 5th and 8th)
- 6-10 Teacher Workdays (No School)

January						
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March						
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April						
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May						
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

June						
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

 Teacher Workday (No School)
 Data Day (No School)
 Report Card/Progress Report Date

In-Person Instruction Plan

Safe and Secure Overview

Much of the information below is directly from guidance that the CDC has provided, as well as the Strong Schools NC Public Health Toolkit. You can access these resources at the following websites below:

Strong Schools NC Public Health Toolkit (K-12) - <https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/media/164/open>

CDC COVID Website –

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html>

NC DHHS Website - <https://www.nc.gov/covid19>

You can also visit QEA’s website and click on the **Covid-19 Resources** Link for information and additional resources - <https://www.qeschools.org/covid-resources>

Staying Clean and Washing Hands

Now more than ever, it is important for scholars to keep their hands to themselves and away from others. Scholars should not touch classmates or teachers, and will have their own set of school supplies. Scholars will be given opportunities throughout the day to wash their hands as well as hand sanitizing stations are set up throughout buildings. We encourage parents to practice proper handwashing with their scholar, washing for 20 seconds. It is also important for scholars to practice not touching their face during the day.

It is especially important to wash hands:

- Before eating food
- Before touching your face
- After using the restroom
- After touching a surface at school
- After touching your nose, coughing, or sneezing
- After handling your cloth face covering



If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry. Hand sanitizer will be located in the classrooms and hallways for scholars and teachers.

Social Distancing

Keep at least 3 feet of distance between yourself and people who do not live in your household.

- Scholars should maintain space from each other at all times.
- Classrooms, hallways, common areas, etc. will all be set up to maintain social distance. Floor markings and signage will help scholars and staff adhere to this safety measure.
- QEA will limit nonessential visitors.

We know it can be difficult for children to understand why they need to stay at least 3 feet apart and how far is 3 feet exactly. Researchers recommend being honest with kids as to why 3 feet is important, so that they do not make up their own scenarios with their creative imaginations. Some tips we've found to explain how far 3 feet is to children

- Show them with a measuring tape or ruler which is a great way to help them understand. There are ways to make it fun by measuring items in your house.
- Measure it out on the floor with blocks or toys and stand on either side, giving them a reference to 3 feet of distance.
- Stand or sit 3 feet apart with your child and throw a ball back and forth. This can reinforce 3 feet of distance in a fun way too.

Designated Holding Spaces

The StrongSchoolsNC Toolkit requires schools to establish a dedicated space for potentially symptomatic individuals that will not be used for other purposes. Quality Education Academy has established three spaces throughout the elementary, middle and high school buildings for this purpose. Any scholar who may develop symptoms during the school day will be isolated in one of these spaces until a parent/guardian or emergency contact can pick the scholar up from school.



Cloth Face Coverings

Teachers, scholars and any authorized adult visitors must wear cloth face coverings over their mouth and nose. While floor markings and signage will be in place to maintain social distancing, cloth face coverings are a great way to make sure everyone is safe.



- You could spread COVID-19 to others even if you do not feel sick.
- The cloth face cover is meant to protect other people in case you are infected.
 - Everyone should wear a cloth face cover in public settings and when around people who do not live in your household, especially when other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain.
 - Quality Education Academy encourages all scholars to bring their own face masks daily. The school will provide cloth face coverings in emergency situations when needed.
 - Cloth face coverings should not be placed on anyone who has trouble breathing, or is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance.
 - Continue to keep at least 3 feet distance between yourself and others. The cloth face cover is not a substitute for social distancing.
 - Face masks can be removed only during breakfast, lunch, snack and outdoor play.
 - If your scholar qualifies for a mask exemption, according to NCDHHS guidelines, please complete a Mask Exemption Form and submit it to the main office prior to returning to in-person instruction.
 - NO scholar or staff member will wear a cloth face covering with obscene gestures or inappropriate wording.
 - Bandanas cannot be worn as cloth face coverings.

Cleaning

The Industrial Staff of Quality Education Academy are dedicated to the cleanliness of our facilities. They have worked tirelessly to ensure all buildings are clean and sanitized for our scholars and staff. Classrooms, hallways, offices and gymnasiums will be cleaned AND disinfected daily, especially on frequently touched surfaces. This includes tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, chairs, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, and sinks. Quality Education Academy use an EPA-registered disinfectant when cleaning in schools.



Temperature Checks/Monitoring for Symptoms

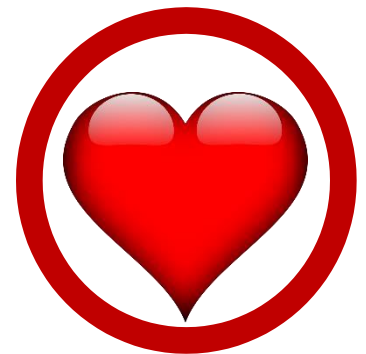
Symptom screening will take place daily for individuals entering any QEA buildings. This includes all scholars, staff and visitors.

- Temperature checks will be administered prior to a scholar entering the building.
- Scholars, staff and visitors who have a fever of 99.9°F or higher will not be allowed to enter the school building.
- The staff person taking the temperature must wear gloves, a cloth face covering, and wash and sanitize hands before touching the thermometer.
- Thermometers will be cleaned and sanitized regularly, using manufacturer's instructions.
- Staff will use touchless, temporal (forehead) thermometers.
- If a staff member or scholar tests positive for COVID-19, are exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19, or have recently had close contact with a person with COVID-19, they **MUST** stay home for the required period of quarantine/isolation time before returning to a school building.
- Scholars who develop symptoms during the day will be isolated in a special area designated by each school. The parent/guardian will be contacted and must come pick the scholar up immediately. Staff must leave campus immediately if they develop symptoms of Covid-19. The staff member/scholar showing symptoms must be tested for Covid-19 and receive their results prior to returning to the school building. If the test results are negative, the person can return to school. If the test is positive, DHHS guidelines will be followed for notification and contact tracing.



Social and Emotional Wellbeing

Quality Education Academy is committed to providing a safe and secure learning environment for all scholars and staff. Our staff are here to help scholars and support them in their fears, anxieties and emotions. The well-being of scholars is so important to the overall happiness and success they will accomplish on their educational journey. We encourage



scholars to reach out to staff to discuss concerns and ask questions. This includes, but is not limited to, COVID-19 related stressors, current important issues in the national news, family hardships, and other concerns prevalent in our city, state and country. Together as a school and a community, we can make a difference, and promote respect and love for everyone as we protect the health and safety of our scholars and staff. There is also a state supported hotline called Hope4NC Helpline at 1-855-587-3463. We encourage scholars to:



- Talk to people they trust about their concerns and how they are feeling.
- Eat healthy, exercise, get rest and find time to unwind.
- Take routine breaks from television and social media.

The CDC also has resources to help children reduce their stress during this time. That information can be found on the CDC website at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/for-parents.html>

Breakfast and Lunch Service

Breakfast, lunch and snack (Afterschool Program only) will be served in the cafeteria where social distancing is practiced. If your scholar brings their own breakfast/lunch, items cannot be shared with other scholars. As much as possible, send individually wrapped items that can be discarded after the meal is complete.



School Contact Information

Quality Education Academy
Address: 5012-D Lansing Drive, Winston-Salem, NC 27105

Main Office Phone Number: (336) 744-7138
Main Office Fax Number: (336) 666-2323

School Email: qualityeducation@qeschools.org
School Website: www.qeschools.org

Social Media:
Facebook: Quality Education Academy
Instagram and Twitter: @qeschoolsnc



Signage in Schools

Signage with guidance for scholars will be posted in all buildings. Some of the signage you can expect to see include the following:

Know Your Ws



WEAR

a cloth covering
over your nose
and mouth.



WAIT

6 feet apart.
Avoid close
contact.



WASH

your hands
or use hand
sanitizer.

STOP!

Do not enter if you
have these symptoms
of COVID-19

- Congestion or runny nose
- Headache
- Sore throat
- Nausea or vomiting
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- New loss of taste or smell
- Diarrhea
- Fever or chills
- Muscle pain
- Fatigue

**Staying apart brings us together.
Protect your family and neighbors.**



#StayStrongNC

Learn more at
nc.gov/covid19.



NC DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES

Wear a Cloth Face Covering to Protect You and Your Friends

PUT ON



WASH YOUR HANDS



PLACE OVER NOSE AND MOUTH

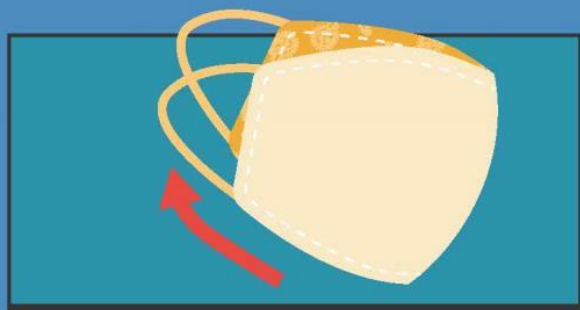


MAKE SURE YOU CAN BREATHE EASILY

TAKE OFF



TAKE OFF YOUR FACE COVERING



FOLD OUTSIDE CORNERS TOGETHER



PUT ASIDE FOR WASHING



WASH YOUR HANDS

WASH YOUR HANDS OFTEN, WEAR A MASK, AND STAY 6 FEET FROM OTHERS.



CS 318194-A 07/10/2020

cdc.gov/coronavirus



Hands that look clean can still have icky germs!

WASH YOUR HANDS!



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

This material was developed by CDC. The Life is Better with Clean Hands campaign is made possible by a partnership between the CDC Foundation, GOJO, and Staples. HHS/CDC does not endorse commercial products, services, or companies.