



BELL COUNTY JUVENILE SERVICES

**Killeen Area Office**

4800 E. Rancier Ave.
 Killeen, TX 76543
 (254) 690-7022
 (888) 371-7017
 (254) 690-3629 fax

**Detention Facility
& C.H.A.N.G.E. Program**

4800 E. Rancier Ave.
 Killeen, TX 76543
 (254) 690-6899
 (254) 690-2661 fax

Cory J. Burgess, Director**Administrative Offices -- Killeen**

(254) 690-7022
 (888) 371-7017
 www.bellcountytexas.com

Belton Area Office

550 East 2nd St.
 Belton, TX 76513
 (254) 933-5295
 (800) 460-2355
 (254) 933-5372 fax

Temple Area Office

205 East Central Ave.
 Temple, TX 76501
 (254) 770-6810
 (800) 460-2355
 (254) 770-6818 fax

Bell County Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program (JJAEP) COVID-19 Response Plan

Research from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), among others, has found that while children do get infected by COVID-19 and some severe outcomes have been reported in children, relatively few children with COVID-19 are hospitalized or have severe symptoms. Furthermore, The American Academy of Pediatrics notes that COVID-19 risks must be balanced with the need for children to attend school in person, given that lack of physical access to school leads to a number of negative consequences, placing “children and adolescents at considerable risk of morbidity, and in some cases mortality.”

While it is not possible to eliminate all risk of furthering the spread of COVID-19, the current science suggests there are many steps schools can take to reduce the risks to students, teachers, staff, and their families significantly. This document contains information on four sets of practices that minimize the likelihood of viral spread:

- PROVIDE NOTICE
- PREVENT the virus from entering the school
- RESPOND to a lab confirmed case in the school
- MITIGATE practices to reduce likely spread inside the school

The Bell County JJAEP has designated a group that is responsible for responding to COVID-19 concerns. This group consists of the Director/Chief Juvenile Probation Officer, the Assistant Director for Administrative Services, and the JJAEP Program Administrator. With that being said, every stakeholder in the JJAEP is encouraged to practice vigilance to prevent the introduction or spread of COVID-19 in the JJAEP.

Attendance and Enrollment

Student attendance may be earned through the delivery of virtual instruction. Any parent may request that their student be offered virtual instruction. If a parent who chooses virtual instruction wants their child to switch to on-campus instruction, they can do so, but the JJAEP is permitted to limit these transitions to occur only at the end of a grading period, if it will be beneficial to the student’s instructional quality. The JJAEP will be recording attendance each day regardless of whether the student is a virtual or on-campus student. During the first three weeks of school the JJAEP may temporarily limit access to on-campus instruction. As a result, some parents opting for their student to attend on-campus may be required to start with remote instruction temporarily. The JJAEP will work

in conjunction with the sending school district to resolve any obstacles regarding technology to provide virtual instruction.

PREVENT

Screening for COVID-19 Before Entering Campus

The JJAEP shall require teachers and staff to self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms before coming to campus each day. Symptoms are listed at the end of this document. Upon arrival to the JJAEP, teachers and staff shall have their temperature taken by a designated staff member. Anyone presenting with a temperature of 100 degrees Fahrenheit or above will not be permitted to enter the JJAEP. Teachers and staff who have COVID-19 symptoms or are lab-confirmed with COVID-19 shall report this information to their immediate supervisor and the JJAEP Program Administrator. These individuals must remain off campus until they meet the criteria to return as indicated below. Additionally, any teachers and staff who have had close contact with an individual who is lab-confirmed with COVID-19 must remain off campus until the 14-day incubation period has passed and provide documentation of such prior to returning to campus. Prior to entering the JJAEP teachers and staff will also be asked a series of questions to assess their likelihood of exposure to COVID-19. Anyone who provides information of possible exposure will not be permitted to enter the JJAEP.

Parents must ensure they do not send a child to the JJAEP if the child has COVID-19 symptoms or is lab-confirmed with COVID-19. Parents may also opt to have their child receive remote instruction if their child has had close contact with an individual who is lab-confirmed with COVID-19 until the 14-day incubation period has passed and provide documentation of such prior to returning to campus. Upon arrival to the JJAEP each day the student's temperature will be taken by a designated staff person. Students who present with a temperature of 100 degrees Fahrenheit or higher will not be permitted to enter the JJAEP and must be picked up by a parent or guardian. Students will also be asked a series of questions to assess their likelihood of exposure to COVID-19. Any student who provides information of possible exposure will not be permitted to enter the JJAEP and must be picked up by a parent or guardian. Any parent or guardian entering the JJAEP is also subject to the temperature check and screening questions. The same is the case for any visitors, contractors, volunteers, or any other stakeholder wishing to enter the JJAEP.

Individuals Confirmed or Suspected with COVID-19

Any individual who themselves is either 1.) lab-confirmed to have COVID-19; or 2.) experiences symptoms of COVID-19 (listed below) must stay home throughout the infection period, and cannot return to campus until the JJAEP screens the individual to determine any of the below conditions for campus re-entry have been met:

- a. At least three days (72 hours) have passed since recovery (resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications);
- b. The individual has improvement in symptoms; and
- c. At least ten days have passed since symptoms first appeared.

Any individual who has symptoms that could be COVID-19 and who is not evaluated by a medical professional or tested for COVID-19 is assumed to have COVID-19 and may not return to the JJAEP until the individual has completed the same three-step set of criteria listed above.

Any individual that has symptoms that could be COVID-19 and wants to return to school before completing the stay at home period must either (a) obtain a medical professional's note clearing the individual for return based on an alternative diagnosis or (b) receive two separate confirmations at least twenty-four hours apart that they are free of COVID-19 via acute infection tests at an approved COVID-19 testing location.

Identifying Possible COVID-19 Cases on Campus

- Any student who shows COVID-19 symptoms at school shall be immediately separated until they can be picked up by a parent or guardian
- Any teacher/staff member who shows COVID-19 symptoms at school shall removed themselves from the JJAEP campus and consult with a medical professional
- The JJAEP shall immediately clean all areas used by any individual who has shown COVID-19 symptoms
- Any individual who reports feeling feverish shall be given an immediate temperature check to determine if they are symptomatic for COVID-19.

RESPOND

If an individual who is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19 has been on campus the JJAEP shall notify the Bell County Public Health Department. All areas that were used by the individual shall be closed off until all non-porous surfaces in those areas can be disinfected. The JJAEP response team shall notify all teachers, staff, and families of all students of a lab-confirmed case of COVID-19 having been present on campus. If deemed appropriate, the JJAEP may close for a period of up to five school days to ensure proper cleaning procedures have been implemented. Virtual learning will be provided to students in the event of closure.

MITIGATE

The JJAEP will have hand sanitizer at each entrance and in every classroom. All individuals entering the JJAEP will be encouraged to wash their hands frequently as outlined by the CDC. The JJAEP campus shall institute more frequent cleaning practices including those areas touched in common throughout the day. Cleaning products shall be stored securely where students cannot access them. To the extent possible students will go outside to access fresh air. The JJAEP will also provide instructions to students on appropriate hygiene practices and other mitigation practices adopted by the JJAEP.

MASKS

Masks include non-medical grade disposable face masks and cloth face coverings (over the nose and mouth). The JJAEP will comply with the governor's executive orders regarding the wearing of masks and masks are required to be worn by all individuals entering the JJAEP. In such instances where it is impractical for an individual to wear a mask (i.e. exercising) it may be removed provided the individual maintains at least six feet of distance from others.

SOCIAL DISTANCING

Where feasible without disrupting the educational experience, student desks shall be placed a minimum of six feet apart. Additionally, whenever possible all individuals on the JJAEP campus should practice social distancing and remain at least six feet apart from each other. Students and staff shall not engage in activities that require or could incidentally create a space of less than six feet between them. Whenever practical, students shall enter and utilize restroom facilities one at a time. Lunch meals will be consumed at the student's desk. Whenever possible, lunch will be eaten outside.

TRANSPORTATION

Students who ride the bus to school are subject to the protocols and policies of the school district providing the transportation. These students are encouraged to practice social distancing while on the bus and to clean/wash their hands prior to boarding the bus and immediately upon exiting the bus.

COVID-19 Symptoms

Has the individual recently begun experiencing symptoms in a way that is not normal for them?

- Feeling feverish or having a measured temperature of 100 degrees Fahrenheit or higher
- Loss of taste or smell
- Cough
- Difficulty breathing
- Shortness of breath
- Headache
- Chills
- Sore throat
- Shaking or exaggerated shivering
- Significant muscle pain or aches
- Diarrhea

*Symptoms may be updated/edited upon further guidance from the CDC.

Close Contact

Close contact is defined as:

- a. Being directly exposed to infectious secretions (i.e. being coughed on while not wearing a mask or face shield); or
- b. Being within six feet for cumulative duration of fifteen minutes while not wearing a mask for face shield;

If either occurred at any time within the last 14 days at the same time the infected individual was infectious.

Individuals are presumed infectious at least two days prior to symptom onset or, in the case of asymptomatic individuals who are lab-confirmed with COVID-19, two days prior to the confirming lab test.