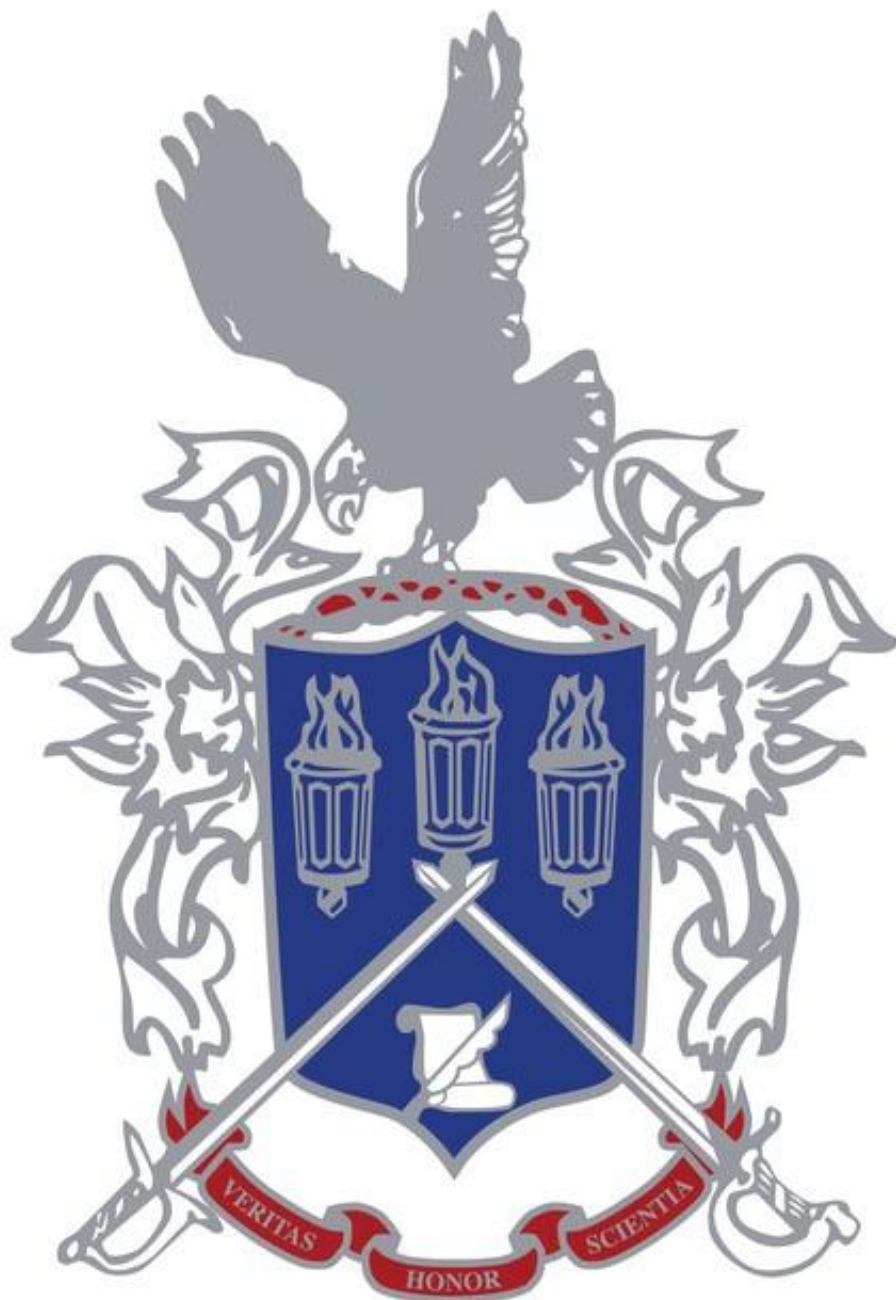


Fort Dale Academy
COVID-19 Protocols
A Plan For Reopening



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Guiding Principles

Five principles will be used to guide all planning, decision making, and execution of plans during the 2020-2021 school year.

1. FDA will put safety first. We will leverage science, data, and public health leadership to inform choices we make.
2. FDA will be transparent. We will share what we know and what we do not know and be clear about what we can control and what is outside of our control.
3. FDA will be equitable. We will center decisions on what is best for all students, families, faculty, and staff.
4. FDA will listen. We will bring together diverse stakeholders and experts to understand realities on the ground and to generate creative solutions.
5. FDA will be decisive. Given the size and scope of the challenge, we must move deliberately and make tough choices. We may need to adapt, and if so, we will adapt quickly.





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Dear Fort Dale Family,

It is with great anticipation we open the 2020-2021 school year. Fort Dale Academy has always been a leader in education and community involvement through a strong commitment to excellence. The coming year will be a test of that commitment and a measure of our ability to adapt to a changing world. There are great opportunities in front of us, and I am certain we will excel in all the endeavors in which we undertake. This year will be a year to be remembered for generations to come and will be one of the crowning moments in our school's history.

It is not just the anticipation of starting a new school year, but the uncertainty surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic and how it will affect our school that causes a great deal of angst. The world as we know it has changed. In order for us to keep our students, faculty, and staff healthy, there are some changes we will have to make. The following pages are our plan for reopening FDA. This plan was produced with the help of community leaders, medical professionals, teachers, and other school personnel. This plan will be a fluid document and may change several times during the course of the year as we gain information from medical professionals, the CDC, the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH), the AISA, and knowledge gained through our own personal daily experiences at FDA.

We are all in this together! Never before in an educational setting has the longevity of the entire group depended so much on the actions of the individuals in the group. Some of the things we will ask you to do may not be easy or convenient, but Fort Dale Academy is depending on each of you to rise up and do what is necessary to keep everyone involved safe.

In closing, our administration will remain flexible, transparent, and forthcoming with information as it applies to our school and our procedures. Please rest assured the decisions we make will be preceded by much "prayer and petition" to God. Through His care and guidance, we will not just survive this situation, but we will thrive and become a beacon of hope in a chaotic world.

Thank you for your efforts in advance!

David Sikes
Head of School

Accredited by
Southern Association of Colleges and Schools
Alabama Independent School Association

Fort Dale Academy

2020-2021 School Calendar

July 2020						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
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August 2020						
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September 2020						
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October 2020						
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November 2020						
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December 2020						
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January 2021						
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February 2021						
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28						

March 2021						
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April 2021						
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May 2021						
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

June 2021						
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27	28	29	30			

School Day
Schools Closed/ Holidays
Early Dismissal of students
First Day and Last day of School
Teacher Work Day (No School for Students)



Curriculum Delivery

FDA will offer two options for instructional delivery to all students in grades 1-12.

Option 1–Traditional Learning–Face to face instruction will be administered in the classroom setting.

Option 2–Virtual Learning–Classroom instruction will be streamed live daily for all students choosing the virtual option. Should a student choose the virtual option, the student must remain in the virtual class for the 9-week term, except for extenuating circumstances approved by administration. This option will be available for any student who has to be quarantined due to Covid-19. (The 9-week rule does not apply to these students.) **If you are choosing the virtual option, then you need to sign a virtual enrollment form and return it to the office by August 12th. This form will be available on the website beginning Monday, July 27th.**

FDA will adhere to several phases of response based on the COVID-19 conditions in our community.

A) Masks will be required under the following circumstances:

- 1) The Governor's order requiring masks remains in place
- 2) Our community moves into the yellow phase on the phase guidelines
- 3) Anytime it is impossible to appropriately distance from other people (during transition from one place to another on campus-lunch line, class change, bathroom break, etc.)
- 4) Anytime it is deemed necessary by school officials

B) The calendar for the 2020-2021 academic year will remain intact. In the event of an outbreak, changes may have to be made to the calendar. In this case, parents, students, and staff members will be notified.

C) Students will have their temperature taken every day before entering the school or exiting the vehicle at drop-off. Students must not have an elevated temperature in order to be admitted to school.

D) In an abundance of caution, any student showing signs of illness or who has been exposed to COVID-19 will be sent home. Parents will be contacted to pick up the student as soon as possible. The student will be isolated from the general population.

E) FDA will utilize hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes, and spray disinfectants. Sanitizing heavily used common areas will occur daily along with ongoing spot cleaning.

F) Hand washing will occur frequently throughout the day to help minimize the spread of germs. Proper hand washing techniques will be taught to students by faculty and staff. Emphasis will be placed on the high-risk times, such as before lunch, snacks, after PE, and restroom breaks.

G) Athletics will follow guidelines and requirements set by the AISA.

H) Parents and outside visitors will have limited access to the school and will have their temperature checked in the office in accordance with the same guidelines applicable to students.

Guidelines for Phases of COVID-19

Green Phase

Full Capacity Engagement // Risk: Low

All students (not on the virtual option) and faculty will be on campus daily with protocols in place to allow for appropriate social distancing.

Yellow Phase

Partial Closure/Positive COVID-19 Test // Risk: Medium

Faculty, staff and students are all required to wear masks.

Red Phase

Total Distance Learning/Fully On-line // Risk: High

All students will move to distance learning.

Protocol for exposure to a COVID-19 carrier

No Symptoms

- A) Stay home and notify the FDA office.
- B) Parents monitor for COVID symptoms.
- C) Determine the last day of known contact.
- D) If no COVID symptoms develop, wait 14 days after the last known contact before returning to school OR go to the doctor 4 days after the date of exposure for COVID-19 testing. For students to return to school, they must have a doctor's clearance with a written proof of a negative test result.
- E) Continue academic progress through virtual learning while quarantined.

With COVID Symptoms

- A) Stay home and notify the FDA office immediately.
- B) FDA will notify all parents of students in the class.
- C) Consult with your child's physician and follow their recommendations.
- D) Note the first day of being symptom free. Wait 10 days from the last day of symptoms. The student must have a doctor's release and written proof of a negative test result to return to school.
- E) Continue academic progress through virtual learning while quarantined.

Protocol for a positive COVID-19 test

- A) Stay home and notify the FDA office immediately.
- B) FDA will notify all parents of students in the class.
- C) Consult with your child's physician and follow their recommendations.
- D) Note the day of your positive test results.
- E) Wait 14 days from the date of your positive test. The student must have a doctor's release and written proof of a negative test result to return to school.
- F) If the student with a positive test has a sibling in the school, the sibling must follow this procedure because of the high-risk of spreading the virus.
- G) Continue academic progress through virtual learning while quarantined.

Parent Guidelines for COVID-19

Parents should do a wellness check on their children every day. They should check for the following symptoms of COVID-19:

- Fever or chills
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Sore throat
- Loss of taste or smell
- Congestion or runny nose
- Cough
- Muscle or Body Ache
- Headache

Parents should keep their child home if they have an elevated temperature **(usually 99.4 degrees or higher)**.

For tracking purposes of the potential spread, parents are required to notify the school of their child's illness and absences as soon as symptoms become evident.

If someone in family household has been tested for COVID-19, all students in household must remain at home until negative test results are received.

Any student exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms or a fever will be isolated from other students, and parents will be contacted to pick them up from school.

In-Take

Students will have their temperatures taken every day before entering the school or exiting the vehicle. Students must not have an elevated temperature in order to be admitted to school.

Faculty and staff will be stationed in high traffic areas to ensure students' temperatures are checked before entering the school. Students will be directed where to go in order to be checked. Upon clearance he or she will be given a sticker to place on their shirt signifying acceptable clearance from the staff checking temperatures. This will allow them admittance into the student's classroom.

Parents will not be allowed to walk their children to class because of the need for appropriate distancing. **Please note, this does not apply to K-3 and K-4 students because the parents are required to walk them to the classroom and sign them in. Parents should not remain in the building after signing in the student. A mask must be worn to enter the building.**

Break Procedures

Students will be allowed to have a break time every day. In order to limit exposure to large groups, we will go to break one grade level at a time. It will be a "grab and go" style break with the students returning to their classroom to eat. Vending machines will not be used during break. Drinks will be available for purchase, or students may bring one from home. **Students will be required to wear masks in the line to pick up break because of the inability to appropriately distance themselves from other students.**

Lunch Procedures

Lunch will be available to each student every day. Students will go to the cafeteria by grade levels to minimize the exposure to large groups of students. It will be a "grab and go" style lunch with the students returning to their classroom to eat. Vending machines will not be used during lunch. Drinks will be available for purchase, or student may bring one from home. **Students will be required to wear masks in the line to pick up lunch because of the inability to appropriately distance themselves from other students.**

- The "grab and go" plan will be made available as soon as plans are finalized.
- Seniors will not be allowed to leave campus for lunch while we are under COVID-19 protocols.

"Please be reminded the above plan is a fluid document and is subject to change during the course of the school year. The FDA administrative team will remain flexible, transparent, and forthcoming with information as it applies to the school and the procedures."

-David Sikes, Head of School