

SY 20-21 COVID-19 Reopening

08.14.20

Exploration Elementary Charter School for Science & Technology

1001 Lake Ave.

Rochester, NY 14613

Overview

The purpose of this document is to outline Exploration's Remote plan that will be followed upon SY 20-21 reopening while adhering to State Ed, DOH, CDC, and Governor requirements. This plan is subject to change depending on Governor orders.

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Survey Results (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/stories/SM-FNHRHB3D/>)

Introduction

Based on survey results from our families, Exploration will be offering a remote model to it's families for Quarter 1. Quarter 1 will start Wednesday September 9, 2020 and run through Friday, November 6, 2020 (ten weeks).

Option A ***Full Virtual***

- Learning Devices Provided (electronic & workbooks) through an on-boarding visit at school or at home (parent choice)
- Each class will have a google classroom
- Wednesdays - student work only half day 9-12:30
- Meals offered in various community locations
- Attendance is MANDATORY (any and all absences will be recorded)
 - Excuses are MANDATORY
- Daily Student Schedule to start 9/9/20
 - 1 and half hours Morning Meeting & ELA (Teacher Designed & Led meeting state standards)
 - 1 hour Math (Teacher Designed & Led meeting state standards)
 - 30 minutes daily for i-Ready Reading
 - 30 minutes daily for i-Ready Math
 - Additional small group or 1:1 tutoring option as needed
 - More detailed schedules to be sent

Reopening of In-Person Instruction Safety Requirements

To be followed whenever students and staff are on site, located at 1001 Lake Ave. Rochester, NY 14613

A. Overall Preventative Measures	
ALL Exploration Staff will participate in health and safety protocol training specific to each area of safety requirements referenced below.	
Social Distancing	<p>Exploration staff will maintain appropriate social distancing while in the building to ensure protection against the transmission of the COVID-19 virus when on school grounds and in school facilities. Appropriate social distancing means six feet of space in all directions between individuals or use of appropriate physical barriers between individuals that do not adversely affect air flow, heating, cooling, or ventilation, or otherwise present a health or safety risk.</p> <p>If Exploration requires the use of physical barriers, the physical barriers will be put in place in accordance with United States Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) guidelines, and may include strip curtains, cubicle walls, plexiglass or similar materials, or other impermeable divider or partition.</p> <p>Exploration will have posted social distance signage throughout the building including, but not limited to classrooms, hallways, bathrooms, vestibules, bus loops, and common areas.</p> <p>Signage:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay Home if they feel sick • Cover their nose and mouth with an acceptable face covering when unable to maintain social distance from others or in accordance with any stricter policy implemented by the school • Properly store and, when necessary, discard PPE • Adhere to social distancing instructions • Report symptoms of, or exposure to, COVID-19, and how they should do so • Follow hand hygiene, and cleaning and disinfection guidelines • Follow respiratory hygiene and cough etiquette
PPE & Face Coverings	<p>Exploration will ensure that all staff and visitors will have PPE and face coverings. Exploration will make sure to adhere to the following:</p>

OSHA COVID-19 guidance for information on how to protect staff from potential exposures, according to their exposure risk pursuant to their Exposure Control Plan. The OSHA guidance also sets forth when PPE is needed by staff pursuant to the OSHA standards. The CDC recommends that school-based health personnel use Healthcare Facilities: Managing Operations During COVID19 Pandemic Updated June 29, 2020 guidance when providing care to ill persons as part of infection control protocols:

- Licensed healthcare professionals must utilize standard precautions at all times
- Transmission- based precautions should be used when assessing persons suspected of having COVID-19
- Schools should ensure they have adequate supplies of PPE for use by school health professionals to assess and care for ill students and staff members
- Such PPE includes, but is not limited to:
 - face masks (disposable surgical masks)
 - respirators (N95) masks that are fit tested
 - eye protection or face shields
 - gloves
 - disposable gowns

For optimal protection, when worn, the face shield must be used with a face mask and:

- Extend below the chin anteriorly
- To the ears laterally
- There should be no exposed gap between the forehead and the shield's headpiece
- Only be worn one person per shield
- Be cleaned between use
- The wearer should wash their hands after removing the shield and before putting it on.

Obtaining PPE may be difficult due to high demand. If needed, Exploration will consult Monroe County Department of Health and use a tool to calculate how much PPE is needed.

Operational Activity

Exploration staff and visitors will follow adhere to the following:

Hand Sanitizing:

- No-touch hand sanitizing stations will be strategically placed around the building to minimize transition to classroom based hand sanitizing stations
- Hand sanitizing stations present in all learning spaces as well as offices.

	<p>Main Office:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff will receive a link to complete the health screener via email and/or text message. • After screening completion, staff will receive notification if they can or can not report to the building. • Main Office staff will then be alerted if the person has been cleared to enter the building • Upon entering the building the person will walk through the temperature scanner, if cleared they will sanitize, mask, and sign in at the main office <p>*Exploration will hold as many virtual meetings as possible to limit the number of people in the building</p> <p>Building Entry Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Door 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Visitors and Staff ○ Symptoms Tracker(Complete prior to arrival), Temp check, Sanitize, and Mask <p>School safety drills: Exploration will conduct fire (evacuation) drills and lockdown drills as required by New York State and the first code without exception. Schools must continue to conduct mandatory fire and lockdown drills according to the existing statutory schedule. Drills will be conducted in a manner that maintains social distancing at exits and gathering points outside the building, while still preparing students to respond in emergencies.</p>
Restart Operations	<p>Exploration will adhere to the following for intensified cleaning, disinfection, and ventilation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces within the school (door handles, sink handles, drinking fountains) as well as shared objects (toys, games, art supplies) between uses. Bathrooms will be cleaned 2x during the school day • Ensuring safe and correct application of disinfectants and keeping products away from children. • Ensuring ventilation systems operate properly and increase circulation of outdoor air as much as possible such as opening windows and doors • Taking steps to ensure that all water systems and features (for example, drinking fountains, decorative fountains) are safe to use after a prolonged facility shutdown • Fogging the entire building at the end of each day with Zero Hazard products and Electrostatic Sprayer
Hygiene, Cleaning, and Disinfection	<p>Exploration will Promote healthy hygiene practices by: https://www.hillyard.com/Pages/COVID19.aspx</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reinforcing the frequency of washing and sanitizing hands, covering coughs and sneezes among staff and visitors • Teaching and reinforcing use of face coverings among all staff. Face coverings should be worn by staff and

	<p>encouraged in students (particularly older students)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing information to staff and students on proper use, removal, and washing of cloth face coverings • Having adequate supplies to support healthy hygiene behaviors, including soap, hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol, paper towels, tissues, and no-touch trash cans. • Posting signs on how to stop the spread of COVID-19 and how to properly wash hands
Vulnerable Populations	<p>Exploration will make accommodations and accommodate the needs of staff and students in the school community.</p> <p>Persons in these groups will consult with their healthcare provider regarding prevention:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individuals age 65 or older; • Pregnant individuals; • Individuals with underlying health conditions including, but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma ◦ serious heart conditions ◦ Immunocompromised ◦ severe obesity (body mass index [BMI] of 30 or higher) ◦ Diabetes ◦ chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis ◦ liver disease ◦ sickle cell anemia ◦ children who are medically complex, who have neurologic, genetic, metabolic conditions, or who have congenital heart disease
Food Services	<p>Meals are available for our families at the following sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • East High • Douglass Campus • Franklin High • Monroe High • Marshall Campus • School of the Arts • All City High on Austin Street • Wilson Commencement • Charlotte High

Mental Health, Behavioral, and Emotional Support Services and Programs	<i>See outline below under Social-Emotional Well-Being</i>
Communication	<p>Exploration will use its existing communication channels to notify staff, students, and families about in-person, remote, and hybrid school schedules, with as much advance notice as possible. Exploration will provide multiple ways to contact the school and teachers during remote instruction, including email, phone numbers, and Google Classroom.</p> <p>Exploration is committed to ensuring that all staff, students, and their families learn and understand new expectations related to all public health policies and protocols. As part of this continuous training, Exploration will assess the best approach to communicating the information for each student's age group and will provide frequent opportunities for staff and students to review these policies and protocols. This targeted education will help to ensure that all staff and students, and their families know what is expected of them as they successfully return to the school setting. These trainings will cover hand hygiene, proper face covering procedures, social distancing, respiratory hygiene, cleaning/disinfecting and identifying symptoms. Exploration will create and deploy signage throughout the building to address public health protections surrounding COVID-19.</p> <p>Exploration will inform families and staff that daily health screenings are required. Exploration will utilize an app which will alert parents/guardians to complete a daily health screening prior to a staff and student arrival at school. For more information about health screenings, refer to the screenings section.</p> <p><i>See attached flow charts.</i></p>

B. Monitoring

ALL Exploration Staff will participate in health and safety protocol training specific to each area of safety requirements referenced below.

Screening	<p>Exploration will provide staff with a daily screening questionnaire. Staff need to complete this screening before 8:30 a.m. This screener will be sent electronically and need to be completed prior to arrival.</p> <p>If a staff member has a temperature of 100°F or higher or has a positive response to a screening question, that staff member must remain home and contact their supervisor immediately. If a staff member shows COVID-19 symptoms during the day, they must notify their supervisor and either report to the isolation area or leave the building. If a staff member develops symptoms outside of school hours, then it is that staff member's duty to inform their immediate supervisor. For more information on COVID-19 protocols, refer to the flow charts.</p> <p>This screening questionnaire determines whether the individual has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● knowingly been in close or proximate contact in the past 14 days with anyone who has tested positive through a diagnostic test for COVID-19 or who has or had symptoms of COVID-19; ● tested positive through a diagnostic test for COVID-19 in the past 14 days; ● has experienced any symptoms of COVID-19, including a temperature of greater than 100.0°F in the past 14 days: and/or ● has traveled internationally or from a state with widespread community transmission of COVID-19 per the New York State Travel Advisory in the past 14 days.
Testing Protocols	<p>Temperature: All Exploration staff and visitors will have their temperature checked upon entry into the building, Temperatures of >100.0 degree F, entrance into the building will be denied.</p> <p>Temperature screening will be conducted by the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Trained staff members to perform temperature screenings; ● Sufficient supplies for taking temperatures such as disposable thermometer probes; and ● PPE or barriers for staff members conducting the screening. Depending on the availability of trained staff and supplies, the following methods are recommended by the CDC3 for conducting temperature screenings <p>COVID-19 Testing: Staff with illness should stay home in accordance with Education Law § 906(1): "Whenever, upon investigation and evaluation by the director of school health services or other health professionals acting</p>

	<p>upon direction or referral of such director for care and treatment, a student in the public schools shows symptoms of any communicable or infectious disease reportable under the public health law that imposes a significant risk of infection of others in the school, he or she shall be excluded from the school and sent home immediately, in a safe and proper conveyance. The director of school health services shall immediately notify a local public health agency of any disease reportable under the public health law."</p> <p>Decisions about the need for exclusion and the length of the exclusion period for students and staff exposed to or with confirmed cases of COVID-19 will be made by local health departments according to the guidance from New York State Department of Health.</p> <p>Sick staff should be excluded from school and all school-related activities.</p> <p>If a patient who tests positive for COVID-19 is currently attending or working in a school, state, and local health officials, will help identify those individuals and will follow up with the school on next steps for those who may have had close or proximate contact with that person.</p> <p>In the event that a large-scale testing will need to be conducted as the school, Exploration leadership will work with the following providers:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">New York State Health Department (585) 423-8042 Monroe County Health Department (585) 753-2991</p>
Testing Responsibility	<p>Operations Manager will designate staff to review the incoming reports of screenings completed by staff and parents/guardians and attest that they are completed. The Operations Manager will also be the contact for staff or students to inform if they later experience COVID-19 symptoms. Procedures which require the parent/guardian to report the results of such screening and will rely on the parent/guardian to complete the report.</p> <p>If the parent/guardian symptom screen evaluation is not done at home, Exploration will complete upon arrival.</p>
Early Warning Signs	<p>Exploration staff members will be provided resources to educate them regarding the careful observation of symptoms of COVID-19 and health screening that must be conducted each morning before coming to school.</p> <p>Exploration school staff will be instructed that any staff member with a fever of 100°F or greater and/or symptoms of possible COVID-19 virus Stay Home When You Are Sick.</p> <p>The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) keep an up to date list of symptoms of Coronavirus on its website.</p>

This list is not all inclusive as some individuals may display other symptoms or none at all.

As of 7/13/2020, the following are listed as the most common symptoms of COVID-19:

- Fever or chills (100°F or greater)
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting; and/or
- Diarrhea

All Exploration staff will be educated to observe other staff members for signs of any type of illness such as:

- Flushed cheeks
- Rapid or difficulty breathing (without recent physical activity)
- Fatigue, and/or irritability
- Frequent use of the bathroom.

Exploration staff exhibiting these signs with no other explanation for them will be sent home and will follow the flow chart protocol.

Health screenings including daily temperature checks and completion of a screening questionnaire are required for staff, contractors, vendors, and visitors.

Anyone who has a temperature of 100°F or greater or has a positive response on the screening questionnaire will be isolated from others and sent home immediately. We will refer such persons to a healthcare provider and provide resources on COVID-19 testing.

C. Containment

ALL Exploration Staff will participate in health and safety protocol training specific to each area of safety requirements referenced below.

Infected Individuals

Exploration staff with symptoms of illness will be sent home and prompted to follow the "Employee with Symptoms" flow chart.

Should Exploration have a confirmed COVID-19 case, the Operations Manager will contact the MCDOH immediately and follow their advised next steps.

Hygiene, Cleaning and Disinfection

Exploration will adhere to the following CDC and NYSDOH recommendations:

- Closing off areas used by a sick person and not using these areas until after cleaning and disinfection has occurred
- Opening outside doors and windows to increase air circulation in the area
- Waiting at least 24 hours before cleaning and disinfection. If waiting 24 hours is not feasible, wait as long as possible
- Cleaning and disinfecting all areas used by the person suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19, such as offices, classrooms, bathrooms, lockers, and common areas.
- Cleaning and disinfecting logs will be maintained that include the date, time, and scope of cleaning and disinfections

Hand Hygiene:

Staff must carry out the following hand hygiene practices.

- Wash hand routinely with soap and water for a least 20 seconds
- Dry hand completely after washing
- If soap and water are not available, use hand sanitizer

Hand-washing should occur:

- Before and after eating
- After going to the restroom or after assisting a student with toileting
- After using a tissue
- Before and after using shared materials
- Before and after putting on or taking off face masks
- After coming in from the outdoors
- Anytime hands are visibly soiled

Respiratory Hygiene:

	<p>The Covid-19 virus may spread from person to person in droplets produced by coughs and sneezes. Therefore, Exploration will emphasize the importance of respiratory hygiene. Students and staff must carry out the following respiratory hygiene practices:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cover a cough or sneeze using a tissue. If a tissue is used, it should be thrown away immediately. • If you don't have a tissue when sneezing and coughing, sneeze into your elbow. • Wash your hands after sneezing or coughing • Face coverings are protective. Wearing a face covering will keep the respiratory droplets and aerosols from being widely dispersed into the air. <p>Once the area has been appropriately cleaned and disinfected it can be reopened for use. Individuals without close or proximate contact with the person suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19 can return to the area and resume school activities immediately after cleaning and disinfection. If more than seven days have passed since the person who is suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19 visited or used the facility, additional cleaning and disinfection is not necessary, but routine cleaning and disinfection will continue.</p>
Contact Tracing	<p>Exploration will assist with contact tracing by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Keeping accurate attendance records of staff members 2. Ensuring student schedules are up to date 3. Keeping a log of any visitor which includes date and time,, and where n the school they visited 4. Assisting the local health departments in tracing all contacts of the individual in accordance with the protocol, training, and tools provided through the NYS Contact Tracing Program <p>Exploration Operations Manager will report to the Monroe County Department of Health.</p>
Communication	<i>See attached flow charts.</i>

D. Closure

ALL Exploration Staff will participate in health and safety protocol training specific to each area of safety requirements referenced below.

Closure Triggers	<p>Exploration leadership will communicate regularly and, if needed, will consider closing school if the absentee rates impact the ability of the school to operate safely.</p> <p>If/when, COVID-19 cases are discovered in the school the district will consult with the Monroe County Department of Health. A single case of COVID-19 in a school would not warrant closing the entire school. Community spread and how much contact the person with COVID-19 had with others, as well as when such contact took place, need to be considered. These variables should also be considered when determining how long a school, or part of the school, stays closed. If the spread of COVID-19 within a school is higher than in the community, or if the school is the source of an outbreak, the Operations Manager will work with local health officials to determine if temporarily closing the school building is necessary. Students and/or staff who test positive or had close contact with anyone who tested positive will be provided with guidance for when it is safe to discontinue self-isolation or end quarantine.</p> <p>Confidentiality must be maintained as required by federal and state laws and regulations. Staff should not try to determine who is to be excluded from school based on contact without guidance and direction from the leadership team and local health department</p> <p>Exploration will collaborate with the Monroe County Department of Health and will determine the parameters, conditions, or metrics that will serve as early warning signs that positive COVID-19 cases may be increasing beyond an acceptable level.</p> <p>At a minimum, the plan will incorporate the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School will close if the seven-day rolling average of the infection rate is greater than 9% • Schools in regions in Phase 4 can reopen if the daily infection rate remains less than 5% using a 14-day average, unless otherwise directed from the Monroe County Health Department • Once schools open at Phase 4 with a regional infection rate of less than 5% for a 14-day rolling average, schools can remain open even if the rate continues to rise above 5% until it reaches 9% for the 7-day average <p>Schools may choose to modify operations prior to closing to help mitigate a rise in cases. If infection rates are rising about 5%, schools may consider modifying school operations for medically-vulnerable students and staff if they are participating in in-person activities.</p>
Operational	School shut down for 24 hours to be sanitized effectively



Activity	<p>Reopening after a closure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Guidance will be followed in accordance with Monroe County Department of Health and CDC guidelines. <p>Infected staff and students to return after clearance from a physician or DOH.</p>
Communication	<i>See attached flow charts.</i>

Social-Emotional Well-Being

Social emotional well-being is Exploration's top priority in supporting school transitions. This is not at the expense of academics, but in order to create the mental, social, and emotional space for academic learning to occur.

Emotional Check-Up

Facilitated by Teachers, as a whole class activity - Students will have an **emotional check-up** three times per day (upon arrival into the classroom, before lunch, and before dismissal). Using an emoji board in the classroom, Students will rate their feelings in the moment. Based on responses, Teachers will provide Students with the skills needed to regulate their emotions.

Students with 504/IEP

School Counselor will conduct weekly counseling meetings for mandated **504/IEP Students** to provide support, encouragement, and connect caregivers with resources as needed.

Behavior Intervention Plans

Behavior Specialist, with the involvement of other key staff members will develop **Behavior Intervention Plans** for Tier 2-3 students. The behavior specialist reaches out to families weekly to provide information regarding their child's intervention plan, progress and set weekly behavior goals.

Wellness Center Google Classroom

The following information will be provided:

- List of community resources for families (food, shelter, clothing)
- Mental Health Round Table Discussions (schedule/registration)
- Family Night schedule/registration
- Tier 1 supports for home
- 5 day Spirit week schedule
- Grief Program information
- Family visit sign-up

Lunch Bunches

The School Social Worker will host daily **lunch bunches** as a tier 1 support, separated by grade level per day. This time provides students in the

same grade level an opportunity to socialize and strengthen relationships with their peers and Social Worker.

“In Touch”

The school counselor holds office hours to host **“In Touch”** Lessons 2-3 times per week, per grade level, to engage with students and facilitate a social emotional learning activity, such as anxiety management techniques like grounding, deep breathing, and mindfulness.

SEL Curriculum

Wellness Intervention Specialists will facilitate **SEL Curriculum** (2nd Step and Superflex) at least twice a week, for tier 2 and tier 3 students. The research-based social-emotional learning curriculum teaches critical social competencies necessary for academic and life success such as: resiliency, self-management, and responsible decision-making skills. KaleidoscopeMe will be embedded within the academic curriculum in the classrooms and facilitated by Teachers.

Classroom Push-in Support

Campus Mentors will provide tier 1 and tier 2 **Classroom Push-in Support**. Attending virtual classes to provide teachers with feedback on how to engage students in completing tasks, behavior management, and innovative ways students can earn dojo points online.

Family Visit

Overseen by the School Social Worker, Teachers and Staff offer and conduct at least one virtual **Family Visit** for all students and their families. Doing so helps to build relationships, skills, and engagement for students, families and educators.


Family Nights

Overseen by the Wellness Coordinator, Exploration will host quarterly **Family Nights**. Our goal is to bring the community into the school (brick-and mortar or virtual)and strengthen our relationship with students and families.

Mentorship Check-ins

Through our RESTORE Mentoring Program, for tier 2 and tier 3 students, mentors will conduct ongoing weekly **Mentorship Check-ins** with their mentees. These meetings consist of skill development, team building and social activities.

Grief Program



Exploration's **Grief Program**, overseen by the School Social Worker, will offer support to students who have experienced the death of an immediate family member.

PBIS Assemblies

Students will be recognized during **PBIS Assemblies** for their accomplishments in articulating and demonstrating the school-wide attributes.



Teaching and Learning

Exploration will meet mandatory teaching and learning requirements including, but not limited to clear opportunities for equitable instruction for all students; continuity of learning when using any instructional model; standards-based instruction; and substantive daily interaction between teachers.

Overall, Exploration will:

- Remain connected with our Explorers and their families
- Remain committed and engaged in the learning process
- Provide consistent experiences for Explorers from week to week
- Focus on only essential learning & knowledge

School-wide Guidelines:


- Learning objectives will be clearly posted and communicated.
- Essential knowledge and skills will be introduced, and learning will be facilitated in a variety of ways.
- Teachers will monitor student participation, assess their progress, and provide timely feedback.
- Teachers will be connected to their students through written feedback, virtual office hours, emails, or phone calls.

Exploration's Explorers will:

- Achieve their learning goals in any instructional model
- Have opportunities to collaborate online, be risk takers and persevere through challenges on or offsite
- Be supported through modeling, differentiation, individual feedback, and have opportunities for reflection and revision through e-learning tools and online platforms

Exploration's Teaching staff will:

- Inspire students to meet their learning objectives and targets
- Provide Explorers with regular work that can be done in-person or virtually, which will keep them focused on the essential areas of study and course work they would otherwise be learning about in school.
- Engage in careful planning, maintain an online presence during virtual work hours, and provide regular guidance, feedback, and support through this hybrid learning experience.

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- Follow a consistent timeline
 - Think differently about how to support Explorers, maintain structures and routines, and allow Explorers to be successful
 - Be evaluated using the Danielson Rubric as approved in the Charter

*All teachers will hold a valid teaching certificate except where allowable by the Commissioner's regulations and school law

Exploration's Curriculum will:

- be clearly defined by subject area
- use common assessments
- have embedded digital citizenship
- have teachers giving qualitative feedback
- allow teachers to collectively determine learning goals for each grade level
- have pacing guides keeping teachers on the same pace as best as possible
- provide consistency
- have expectations for evidence of learning on key standards

Homework Expectations:

Homework will be clear and consistent with weekly due dates. Explorers are expected to complete homework assignments for all subjects. Google Classroom will be the method of assigning homework as well as for students to turn in assignments.

The facilitation of new learning will be primarily accomplished in an "asynchronous" manner. This means students are not expected to sit live with a teacher for instruction. Learning objectives are posted with a variety of self-paced media and a reasonable amount of time is given to complete assignments. Feedback may not be immediate, but usually within a 24-hour period. This means students DO NOT have to be online at the same time as their teacher or each other for the delivery of new instruction.

Students will begin SY 20-21 Curriculum upon virtual arrival back to school. All grade levels, K-4 will be following CKLA 2.0 for ELA and Eureka Math, aligned to meet Next Generation Learning Standards. Students will be given their workbooks for both the ELA and Math curriculum to use to supplement their instruction through Google Classroom.

Instruction of new material will be provided with direct support from the teacher. In addition, all learning will be supported by clear and posted learning objectives. Assignments and assessments will be able to be completed independently.

Special areas will be integrated into the core instruction whenever possible. Instructional schedules will be consistent across grade levels. Teachers will flex their time to support families and their work schedules as needed. New assignments will be posted at the same time each day. Office hours will be provided for small group instruction or 1:1 support for students to ask questions.

Exploration will offer instruction for parents/guardians and students on their Chromebook. These instructional opportunities will be provided in person and/or virtually following appropriate CDC and DOH guidelines for in-person professional development opportunities.

- Opportunities will be given in a quarterly check-in approach
- Curriculum Based Assessment data and checkpoints will be provided so that the parent/guardian can measure their child's progress

Teaching and Learning-Flexibility

To adapt to complications caused by the pandemic, Exploration will adhere to the following flexibilities that have been authorized including: extended time for kindergarten screening to be completed; flexibility with the 180 minutes per week Unit of Study requirement; flexibility in the delivery of physical education; and if needed, an allowance for a blend of hands-on and virtual science laboratory experiences.

Instructional Platform

Technology used to achieve Exploration's objectives will be School sanctioned programs and applications only. These will include any programs available within the Google Classroom platform.

Google Classroom will be the primary platform Exploration will use to facilitate remote learning for Explorers. Instruction will be delivered through Google meets.

Exploration will:

- Provide teachers and families with computer based training
- Provide students with take home supply kits for remote learning
- Record lessons whenever possible
- Provide Professional development regarding different ways to deliver instruction that meet the needs of all learners

- Use online curriculum subscriptions
- Provide clear and established times to meet for lessons

Attendance

In an effort to minimize chronic absenteeism, Exploration's policies and procedures focus on the academic consequences of lost instructional time and address absences before students fall behind in school. Exploration will use a variety of creative methods to reach out to students and their families who have not engaged in distance learning.

Classroom Teachers, Special Education, & Intervention teachers will contact students and families directly if there is a concern. If attendance concerns continue, the lead classroom teacher will notify the Principal and Social Worker to provide additional support following Exploration's attendance policy. (see attached attendance policy)

Grading

eachers will use the standards based report card to guide their data collection process to maintain grades. Google Classroom grade collection will be used for virtual learners.


Teachers will use a variety of data collection measures to show and accurate reflection of each student's progress including, but not limited to:

- Progress Monitoring Data
- CKLA assessments
- Math quizzes and module assessments
- i-Ready reports
- Grade Level Curriculum Based Assessments
- Student Participation
- Rubrics

Exploration's teaching staff will give qualitative feedback, provide students time to resubmit and make up assignments, and give clear expectations from the start.

Special Education, ELL/MLL, & Related Services

Exploration will put forth its best efforts to provide all students with a "Free and Appropriate Public Education" (FAPE) during the time of closure. Exploration is committed to providing students access to educational opportunities to the same extent as their peers. To the extent



possible, Exploration will provide services that approximate those on students' IEPs. Collaboration will continue between all educational team members. Exploration will continue to follow the guidance from the New York State Department of Education (NYSED) and the U.S. Department of Education and will adjust as additional guidance is made available.

Exploration Elementary Charter School will provide students with disabilities, small group instruction via Google Meets. Our Tier 1 instruction will follow the NY state standards as well as providing those students who have IEPs the necessary accommodations. Speech, OT as well as counseling services will be provided virtually as well.

Exploration Elementary will also continue to offer necessary Tier 2 and Tier 3 programs to help close the gap in reading and math using Google Classroom and Google Meets.

Through a virtual model Exploration will continue to work closely with our home district to collaborate between Committee on Preschool Special Education/Committee on Special Education (CPSE/CSE) and program providers representing the variety of settings where students are served and access to the necessary instructional and technological supports to meet the unique needs of students.

Each student is provided access to Google Classroom and a technology device that enables them to engage in virtual learning. The different platforms and programs used for students help to differentiate student learning.

In the virtual setting Exploration will continue to use the whole child approach to learning to the best of their ability and develop necessary positive healthy relationships with students to help with their social emotional needs.

Each teacher as well as specialized service providers will keep a data notebook and documentation of programs and services and growth progress monitoring as well as documentation of contacts with parents.

Students will complete alternate assignments through Google Classroom/Google Meets for Education. Students will continue to have access to technology and access to student support services in accordance with their IEP or 504 plan.

Bilingual Education and World Languages

Exploration follows the guidelines from the Blueprint. For progress monitoring students, Exploration will use a core curriculum and keep data on each ELL student with the resources found here: <https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oela/english-learner-toolkit/chap8.pdf>.

Exploration uses CKLA for Core Curriculum. CKLA was created from a thorough study of validated and high-quality research in English Language Arts instruction including but not limited to print and phonological awareness, phonics and word recognition, reading fluency, prosody, vocabulary, and background knowledge. Each lesson gives a Universal Access piece which is geared to ELL students. It also gives specific to students' mastery of the primary focus objectives and are aligned to the standards. Another component that would support ELL students are Support and Challenge suggestions that provide assistance or opportunities for **more advanced work** toward the goal of the segment.


Virtual lessons for CKLA will be provided by the teacher via Google meets and Google Classroom.

Technology and Connectivity

Exploration recognizes that in this ever-changing work, all Explorers need sufficient access to a computing device and high-speed broadband to ensure educational equity. Exploration has completed multiple surveys to gain knowledge of the level of access all students and teachers have in their places of residence. To the best extent practicable, Exploration has addressed the need to provide devices and internet access to students and teachers who currently do not have sufficient access. Exploration will continue to provide multiple ways for students to participate in learning and demonstrate mastery of learning standards in remote/blended models.

In addition, Exploration will provide instruction on using technology and IT support for students, teachers and families and provide professional development for teachers and leaders on designing effective online/remote learning experiences. On-going technical support will be provided to staff, students, and parents/guardians through an internal ticket system and telephone hotline.

Each Exploration student will receive their 1:1 Chromebook at the start of the 2020-2021 school year. Students will come on site or participate in a family visit with an Exploration staff member, following the appropriate CDC and DOH guidelines to receive their device.



Exploration will offer instruction for parents/guardians and/or students to successfully use their device or the programs on their device. These instructional opportunities will be provided in person and/or virtually following appropriate CDC and DOH guidelines for in-person professional instructional opportunities.

Opportunities will be given in a phased approach

- Basic
- Application
- Advanced