



RETURN + LEARN PHASE II



Dear Families and Caregivers,

In an effort to mitigate COVID-19 in our schools and community, Atlanta Public Schools (APS) has adopted a Comprehensive COVID-19 Testing Strategy in collaboration with public health officials, community partners, universities, and healthcare organizations.

This strategy works with our school-based APS Care Centers and community resources to provide testing for the following groups: 1. students, teachers, and staff with symptoms identified through the health screening protocols. 2. students, teachers, and staff who have had contact with someone with COVID-19 in the school or workplace. 3. all students, faculty, and staff with possible exposure in the context of outbreak settings. 4. surveillance testing for individuals who are asymptomatic.

There are four testing options currently available in our comprehensive testing strategy:

Surveillance testing – This test detects the presence of COVID-19 even in individuals who may be asymptomatic. The benefits of surveillance testing include allowing APS to test, receive test results (within 24 hours) and notify individuals of a clinically significant reading before coming to school or work. APS has begun the process of rolling out surveillance testing as grade bands return to in-person learning.

School-based health clinics – As part of our testing strategy, we have developed cluster-based testing options (Jackson, South Atlanta, Washington, and Mays) at our APS Health Clinics for students and staff. Click [here](#) for school-based locations and times or visit <http://bit.ly/APSCoVIDTesting>.

APS COVID-19 Drive-Up & Walk-Up Testing at Douglass High School – Held in partnership with Viral Solutions, LLC., and Pediatric Researchers from Emory University, testing is open to **ALL** students, staff, and families five days per week. It will launch on Feb. 22, 2021.

Community Organized Relief Effort (CORE) Response – Community-based testing options are available to APS students, staff, and families within the city of Atlanta. In-home, at school and worksite testing options are available on demand.

Keeping our students and staff safe is our top priority. Implementing comprehensive testing strategies is one way we minimize any exposure to COVID-19 in our schools.

For more information and updates on the District's health and mitigation strategies, visit www.atlantapublicschools.us/APSProtects. For more details on our return to in-person learning, visit www.atlantapublicschools.us/reopen.

Sincerely,
Brown Middle School

