

## Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan (ARP Act)



Entity ID	CTDS	LEA NAME
6357	058703000	Discovery Plus Academy

How the LEA will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff and the extent to which it has adopted policies, and a description of any such policies, on each of the following safety recommendations established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

CDC Safety Recommendations	Has the LEA Adopted a Policy? (Y/N)	Describe LEA Policy:
Universal and correct wearing of masks	Y	Per legislative action by the State of Arizona students and staff will not be required to wear face coverings. However, it is a personal choice. All staff and students are encouraged to follow CDC guidelines when social distancing cannot take place. Masks are provided and available in the school office as long as supplies are available.
Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)	Y	We are no longer using physical distancing in our classrooms; however, we are still having only one class at a time in the cafeteria for lunch instead of two.
Handwashing and respiratory etiquette	Y	Hand washing times are still built into daily schedules before eating times and after recess breaks. Hand sanitizer is available in classrooms. Every student K-5 participates in a handwashing education program presented by Graham County.
Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation	Y	Facilities are cleaned and disinfected on a daily basis when school is in session. High touch surfaces are cleaned throughout the day by students and staff. Some classrooms have air purifiers installed. All rooms have access to open window and door ventilation when appropriate. HVAC filters are checked and changed out monthly. All staff have adequate PPE equipment and have been trained how to effectively use the equipment if necessary.
Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments	Y	Isolation cubicles have been established on campus for individuals who may be positive with COVID-19 and we continue to work with local and state health departments as needed.
Diagnostic and screening testing	N	We do not provide testing on site, but we do provide information where testing can take place.
Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities	N	We do not provide vaccinations on site, but we do provide information where vaccinations can be administered.
Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies	Y	All student with disabilities receives accommodations specific to their health and safety policies.

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Coordination with State and local health officials	<b>N</b>	We work with local and state health officials as needed
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How the LEA will ensure **continuity of services**, including but not limited to services to address **students' academic needs and students' and staff social, emotional, mental health, and other needs**, which may include **student health and food services**

### How the LEA will Ensure Continuity of Services?

**Discovery Plus Academy will continue to ensure continuity by returning to in person learning for the 2023-2024 school year. If operations should halt due to illness, the LEA is prepared to offer services to families that best support their lifestyle of online or paper packets.**

### Students' Needs:

Academic Needs	Full time staff and paraprofessionals are available throughout the day to help students before or after school if needed. Every student has access to an online remediation program that can be done at school or at home. Our resource department is also working with students who show loss of learning through district assessments.
Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	We work closely with local county programs that provide students with free counselling sessions with licensed therapist. We have also contracted with a licensed therapist to provide on-site counseling services since December of 2022. We provide an emotional room for students who feel like they need a break or a time out to decompress if needed.
Other Needs (which may include student health and food services)	LEA will provide breakfast and lunch each day for students.

### Staff Needs:

Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	Administration meets with staff on a monthly basis to discuss needs. Needs are addressed as needed.
Other Needs	Administration meets with staff on a monthly basis to discuss needs. Needs are addressed as needed.

The LEA must **regularly, but no less frequently than every six months** (taking into consideration the timing of significant changes to CDC guidance on reopening schools), **review and, as appropriate, revise its plan** for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services **through September 30, 2023**

**Date of Revision: 08/14/2023**

### Public Input

Describe the process used to seek public input, and how that input was taken into account in the revision of the plan:	All enrolled students and parents have copies of the mitigation plan upon enrolling at the LEA. Board notices are posted monthly at local facilities that are frequently often by the public and on the LEA website. Parents have been given surveys in order to obtain input and have attended board meetings.
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## U.S. Department of Education Interim Final Rule (IFR)

### (1) LEA Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services

- (a) An LEA must describe in its plan under section 2001(i)(1) of the ARP Act for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services—
  - (i) how it will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff and the extent to which it has adopted policies, and a description of any such policies, on each of the following safety recommendations established by the CDC:
    - (A) Universal and correct wearing of masks.



- (B) Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (*e.g.*, use of cohorts/podding)
  - (C) Handwashing and respiratory etiquette.
  - (D) Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation.
  - (E) Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments.
  - (F) Diagnostic and screening testing.
  - (G) Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities.
  - (H) Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies.
  - (I) Coordination with State and local health officials.
- (ii) how it will ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to services to address students' academic needs and students' and staff social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which may include student health and food services.

(b)(i) During the period of the ARP ESSER award established in section Start Printed Page 212022001(a) of the ARP Act, an LEA must regularly, but no less frequently than every six months (taking into consideration the timing of significant changes to CDC guidance on reopening schools), review and, as appropriate, revise its plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services.

- (ii) In determining whether revisions are necessary, and in making any revisions, the LEA must seek public input and take such input into account
- (iii) If at the time the LEA revises its plan the CDC has updated its guidance on reopening schools, the revised plan must address the extent to which the LEA has adopted policies, and describe any such policies, for each of the updated safety recommendations.

(c) If an LEA developed a plan prior to enactment of the ARP Act that meets the statutory requirements of section 2001(i)(1) and (2) of the ARP Act but does not address all the requirements in paragraph (a), the LEA must, pursuant to paragraph (b), revise and post its plan no later than six months after receiving its ARP ESSER funds to meet the requirements in paragraph (a).

(d) An LEA's plan under section 2001(i)(1) of the ARP Act for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services must be—

- (i) In an understandable and uniform format;
- (ii) To the extent practicable, written in a language that parents can understand or, if it is not practicable to provide written translations to a parent with limited English proficiency, be orally translated for such parent; an
- (iii) Upon request by a parent who is an individual with a disability as defined by the ADA, provided in an alternative format accessible to that parent