



REVISED SEPTEMBER 2021

**ORANGE COUNTY CEREBRAL PALSY ASSOCIATION, INC. DBA INSPIRE / INSPIRE KIDS
("UCP OF ORANGE COUNTY" BEDS CODE 440601880084)**

INTRODUCTION

Inspire Kids (identified in BEDS as "UCP Orange County") has developed this plan to assist our staff, students, families and partner Counties and School Districts as we prepare for the 2020-2021 school year within the currently declared public health emergency.

Inspire Kids is an approved 4410 preschool program. Preschool programming is provided in both self-contained and integrated classes for children, ages three to five years, with various developmental needs. We are also licensed by the New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS).

This document reflects our current plan, as revised as of the date above. We will continue to update, modify, and amend this plan to reflect additional guidance that we receive from New York State regulators, changing public health conditions, and to reflect our ongoing assessment of the plan as we implement it.

The purpose of this plan is to keep our students and staff as safe as possible as we reopen our programs, and continue to provide the critical educational and therapeutic supports required for our students' progress and educational development.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

We educate approximately 202 students in our special education preschool program across five locations in Orange County, identified below.

LOCATION	NUMBER of CLASSES	RATIO	CLASS TYPE
2 Fletcher Street	2	8:1:2 half-day	Self-contained
Goshen, NY	3	8:1:2 full-day	Self-contained
	2	12:1:2 half-day	Self-contained
	2	12:1:3 full day	Self-contained
	1	12:1: (3:1)	Self-contained
	1	6:1:1	Integrated
344 Gidney Avenue	1	8:1:2 half day	Self-contained
Newburgh, NY	3	8:1:2 full day	Self-contained
	1	12:1:2 half day	Self-contained
	1	12:1:3 full day	Self-contained
49 Gidney Avenue	1	8:1:2 full day	Integrated*
Newburgh, NY			*hosted by Head Start
One Washington Center	1	6:1:2 full day	Integrated*
Newburgh, NY			*hosted by SUNY Orange
45 Gilbert St Ext.	1	8:1:2 full day	Self-contained
Monroe, NY	1	12:1:3 full day	Self-contained
	1	6:1:1 full day	Integrated

This plan as written will apply to each location. For those integrated classes that are embedded with hosts other than Inspire Kids, we will follow our hosts' plans to the extent it meets or exceeds our own. For model of instruction, these embedded classes will follow the hosts' decisions (in-person, hybrid, or remote).

Within all classrooms, curriculum and instruction are based on the developmental levels of the children, and are guided by the NYS Learning Standards.

A. COMMUNICATION

In preparing this plan, we received input from Inspire Kids program administrators, providers, instructional and facilities staff, parents, school districts, counties, peer agencies, consultants, and our Health & Safety Committee and our Board of Directors.

1. Parents and Guardians

The classroom teacher, or designated classroom staff member, performs regular outreach to students' families. This communication may be conducted through phone calls, text messaging, video conferencing, mailed communications, or any combination of these methods, depending on family preference. Parents/guardians will be provided contact information for staff working with their child, including teachers, therapists, social workers, and program directors and will be encouraged to communicate with the education team with any questions, comments, or concerns. The Education Director will contact families directly for input and responses to this Plan.

2. Social Media and News Outlets

Inspire Kids may choose to share non-child specific program information with families by Facebook and Instagram. Family participation in these media platforms is optional. Communication through Facebook and Instagram may include:

- Announcements regarding program events or closures
- Details regarding health and safety procedures
- Guidelines from the CDC and DOH
- Resources for families regarding general activities for children's developmental, physical and mental health, and community events of interest

Information on closures and emergency notices are shared on local news media including the radio and online media outlets.

3. Agency Website

Information on closures and emergency notices are posted on our website. This Reopening Plan will be available on the Inspire website.

4. Translation / Interpreting Services

In the event parent/guardians require translation or interpreting services, Inspire Kids staff works with the families to provide this support.

5. Staff

Inspire Kids staff members will be assigned an email account that can be accessed through any internet connection. This is available to communicate with staff. In addition, announcements and information regarding this Plan and school openings/closings, as well as vaccination opportunities, will be posted on the Community link of the time and attendance program ("Paylocity"), which is accessed daily by all employees. Faculty and Staff have also been instructed to send any COVID-19 related questions, comments, concerns to a dedicated COVID-19 email address at reopeningIK@inspirecp.org, so that timely responses can be prepared.

B. HEALTH & SAFETY

Inspire Kids is committed to ensuring the health and safety of all students and staff enrolled in our education programs, and recognizes and accepts its responsibility as an employer and provider of services. Inspire Kids has implemented the following health and safety protocols, in accordance with guidance from the New York State DOH, NYSED, OCFS, OSHA, and CDC.

1. COVID-19 Safety Coordinator

The COVID-19 Safety Coordinator is Annieka Mangum, Corporate Compliance Officer. All stakeholders are encouraged to contact Annieka Mangum or her designee should questions, comments, or concerns arise. Annieka can be contacted via email at amangum@inspirecp.org.

2. Signage

All Inspire Kids education program locations will have signage prominently displayed in areas such as bulletin boards, school entrance doors, bathrooms, school offices, lobbies, and janitorial areas. These signs will include information on:

- To stay home if sick
- Hand washing
- Cough hygiene
- Physical distancing protocols
- Face covering use
- CDC signs and symptoms related to COVID-19 illness
- Reporting of signs and symptoms of COVID-19
- Cleaning and disinfecting guidelines

3. Hand Washing & Hand Sanitizer

All employees are required to wash their hands upon arrival at work. Hand washing stations are available in all buildings and in most classrooms. Hand washing is expected upon arrival in the building, whenever hands are soiled, before and after eating, after toileting, after personal care of the students, and after removing gloves and facemasks.

Hand sanitizer will be available for instances when hand washing cannot be done, and in common areas such as copiers, and at entrances to the buildings for visitor use. Use of hand sanitizer is not a substitute for hand washing upon arrival at work, nor for when hands are visibly soiled. Hand sanitizer is not to be used with young children, including our students.

Students will be taught to wash their hands upon arrival to school, before and after eating, after toileting, and when their hands are soiled.

4. Face Masks

- All Inspire Kids staff will be required to wear a face mask at all times while in the school building, regardless of vaccination status, except when eating (with 6 foot distancing). Vaccinated staff may remove the mask when alone in an office.

- Surgical/procedure and KN95 masks will be provided by Inspire Kids. Staff may choose to wear their own face masks only when not providing services, if it has two layers of material. Bandanas or gaiters are not acceptable. Staff must wear the mask appropriately, covering the entire mouth and nose. Cloth masks must be washed daily, and changed if soiled within the day.

Staff will be trained on the proper use of face masks. Failure to follow the Agency face covering policy can lead to disciplinary action.

- For in-person instruction and in-person therapies, including for non-providing employees who are proximate to the service delivery for more than 10 minutes (physically within classrooms, treatment rooms or playgrounds, or less than 6 feet away from students): surgical masks are required to be worn by vaccinated staff and KN95 masks are required to be worn by unvaccinated staff. For clarification, this includes during classroom teaching both inside and outside the building, childcare activities, and therapy sessions. Cloth mask cannot substitute for the surgical or KN95 mask.

Students will be asked to wear their own masks to attend in-person instruction. Inspire Kids will provide masks for students who forget to bring their own. It is expected that many of our students may not tolerate face masks because of their age and developmental level. Therefore, staff are required to wear face masks at all times regardless of physical distancing. Sharing of materials will be limited with students who will not or cannot wear masks.

The educational and clinical teams will develop goals based on each student's development and physical/medical ability to wear a face mask. Strategies will be developed to teach wearing a face mask, increasing the amount of time that a mask is tolerated and for wearing the face mask for extended periods of time.

Some instructional and/or therapy activities may require that students remove their masks (for example, some speech therapy strategies), and may require that students be able to see the adult's mouth (for example, in speech therapy or for students with hearing impairment). In these instances, the adults will wear a clear mask that doesn't block a view of the adult's mouth and/or use a clear barrier between student and adult.

5. Daily Health Checks for Staff

Inspire Kids has implemented daily COVID-19 screenings for ALL staff prior to reporting to work at the start of the workday.

- Screenings are attested electronically when the employee logs in to the time and attendance system. Employees who fail the screening cannot clock in for the day.
- Employees are expected to complete temperature checks prior to logging-in (it is part of their daily attestation). Non-contact, thermal scanners are available in the buildings if needed.

- Screening questions include whether the individual has:
 - a temperature or any symptoms of COVID-19
 - has been in close or proximate contact in the past 10 days with anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19 or who had symptoms of COVID-19;
 - has tested positive through a diagnostic test for COVID-19 in the past 10 days or is waiting for test results;
 - has experienced any symptoms of COVID-19 in the past 10 days: or
 - has traveled inconsistently with latest travel advisories

NOTE: Asymptomatic, fully vaccinated individuals (more than 2 weeks from final dose and not past vaccine expiration date) do not need to quarantine following an exposure to COVID-19.

The completed screenings are retained electronically in the time and attendance system and are reviewed by Human Resources or a designated supervisor.

Any staff who is ill, running a temperature $\geq 100.0^{\circ}\text{F}$ or who fails the COVID-19 screening questions will be required to remain home until they meet all required criteria to return. All symptomatic staff will be required to follow up with their health care provider prior to their return. Prior to return, staff must be symptom free and must have been fever-free for at least 72 hours without the use of fever reducing medication. Guidance of the Orange County Department of Health will be followed in release from quarantine.

6. Daily Health Checks for Students

Parents/Guardians are critical in protecting the health and safety of students. Pre-screening students at home, before their arrival to school, is a required part of our plan. Printed information packets will be provided to families with instructions on screening their children each morning before in-person school.

Families will be instructed to:

- Check the temperature of the child/student before placing them on the bus or transporting them to school;
- Look for and monitor the child/student for any signs or symptoms of COVID-19.

Families will also be asked the following:

1. Has the student knowingly been in close or proximate contact in the past 10 days with anyone who has tested positive through a diagnostic test for COVID-19 or who has had symptoms of COVID-19;
2. Has the student been tested for COVID-19, and/or has tested positive through a diagnostic test for COVID-19 in the past 10 days;
3. Has the student experienced any symptoms of COVID-19, including a temperature of greater than 100.0°F in the past 10 days: and/or
4. Has the student travelled in the past 10 days inconsistently with travel advisories.

Parents will be asked to send the completed checklist to school each day of in-person instruction. If they fail to do so, the parents will be called to confirm that the screening was completed before the child may enter the classroom.

7. Physical Distancing

Physical distancing is required to contain any spread of COVID-19 and to help protect people who are at higher risk of getting sick. Staff and students are expected to follow these protocols:

- Keep students at least 3 feet apart from each other, particularly indoors and within group instruction (circle time, tabletop activities, etc.)
- Adults keep at least 6 feet apart from other adults and from students, unless the core activity (instruction, personal care, therapy, etc.) requires them to be closer to students
- Not gather in groups
- Stay out of crowded places and avoid large gatherings, including holding meetings virtually
- Engage in non-contact methods of greetings
- Adhere to a staggered schedule of meal breaks
- Maintain separation of students during meal times
- Keep students cohorted within the same class each day, to the extent feasible
- Stagger the use of restrooms
- Limit playground use to one class at a time. Children and staff will wash their hands before and after using the playground and will maintain 3 feet physical distancing between students to the maximum extent possible.
- Within classrooms, tables will be separated and children working at tables will face in the same direction instead of facing each other.
- While not required, given the nature of early childhood special education supports, barriers may be used within student activities if 3 feet of distancing is not possible. Such barriers include “sneeze guard” type of clear non-plexiglass material (such as polycarbonate).

NOTE: the core function of our schools is to provide special education services to students with complex behavioral needs, and delayed physical and cognitive development. Adaptation of instruction frequently requires physical prompts, physical supports, and hand-over-hand guidance. In addition, a core part of the early childhood/special education instruction is personal care and activities of daily living, which require the adults to provide personal and hygiene support of the students. Maintaining physical distancing may not be able to be maintained within the interventions that are necessary for the instruction, health and safety of the students. Therefore, staff will be masking must be maintained at all times during instructional and childcare activities, or when proximate to the students.

8. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Inspire Kids will provide PPE as needed to all employees, including custodial staff for cleaning. Inspire Kids has identified the PPE required for anticipated tasks, and will supply this PPE to employees engaged in these tasks. PPE includes disposable (surgical) masks, KN95 and N95 respirators, gloves, face shields, and gowns. Please see Attachment to this Plan. Hand sanitizer, hand soap and cleaning supplies will be maintained by Facilities in coordination with the COVID Coordinator.

PPE supplies will be centrally stored and inventoried; managers and directors will request PPE for their units as needed and as consistent with the completed OSHA risk assessment for the task. Central inventory will be used to monitor supplies and ensure timely reorders.

Staff may choose to wear their own PPE that exceeds the equipment identified as needed by Inspire's risk assessment. Staff may not choose to wear their own PPE if it does not meet the equipment identified by Inspire's risk assessment.

9. Vaccination

Recognizing that our students are not yet eligible for vaccination due to their ages, Inspire Kids strongly encourages all staff to be vaccinated for COVID-19. We recognize vaccination as the most important safety measure we can implement to reduce the incidence of symptomatic disease and to keep our students safe. All staff who receive vaccination are asked to notify HR of their vaccinated status. Proof of vaccination is required in order to follow the mask protocols for vaccinated staff.

10. Cleaning & Disinfection

Education staff, administration and custodial crews will be trained on proper cleaning and disinfecting procedures related to COVID-19. A cleaning checklist will be utilized to ensure continuity and compliance with NYS DOH, NYSED and CDC guidelines. This checklist must be completed throughout the day, and submitted daily to Facilities.

Several times throughout the day, non-custodial staff will provide additional cleaning of high touch points such as:

- Electronic devices
- Tables
- Surfaces in classrooms
- Instructional and therapy materials before returning to use
- Adaptive equipment will be cleaned between children
- Restroom fixtures (handles) - as needed

Non-custodial staff will clean an area they use after each use, including treatment rooms between students. They will be expected to clean all areas in their personal workspace as needed, but at least once a day.

Facilities/custodial staff will regularly clean high touch surfaces at intervals during the day, including

- Door handles

- Light switches
- Restrooms

Facilities/custodial staff will follow a revised schedule of daily/nightly cleaning and disinfection of floors, shared surfaces, and common areas.

➤ Cleaning and Disinfecting Following Exposure

In the event of a suspected exposure, that area of the building will be closed off for cleaning and disinfection. In the event of a confirmed exposure, that area of the building will be closed off for 24 hours. Following 24 hours, the area will be cleaned and disinfected according to CDC and DOH protocols. Following cleaning and disinfecting, the area will be reopened.

If the area subject to exposure cannot be closed off, that building or portion of the building will be closed until these procedures are completed. Student sessions will be transferred to other areas of the building if possible, or will move to virtual/remote schedules until the building or portion is reopened.

Cleaning and disinfection following an exposure may be done by Facilities staff wearing appropriate PPE, or may be done by contracted services. Facilities employees who are doing a post-exposure cleaning must wear a face shield + surgical mask (or respirator) + gown or coverall appropriate for the cleaning product + gloves appropriate for the cleaning product.

11. Visitors

Inspire Kids will actively limit the number of visitors allowed in school buildings depending on the nature of the visit. Aside from regulatory and “official” visitors, every attempt will be made to exclude visitors in the school buildings, especially while students are present. The intent is to reduce introducing non-cohorted individuals in the buildings. All essential visits, or work to be performed that must be done in person, will be subject to the following guidelines:

- Visitors may only enter the building through a designated door
- Visitors will be subject to health screenings;
- Visitors will be required to wear a mask through the duration of their stay regardless of vaccination status;
- Visitors will be asked to provide basic contact information to assist with contact tracing efforts,;
- Physical distancing protocols will be enforced.

If a visitor or vendor fails the COVID-19 screening, they will not be permitted to proceed beyond the entry to the buildings.

12. Instructing Staff on Signs and Symptoms of COVID-19

All Education division staff will receive training in accordance with the NYS Department of Health, NYSED, NYDOL and CDC guidelines. The following trainings will be offered prior to resumption on in-person instruction:

- Signs and symptoms of COVID-19
- Hand Hygiene and appropriate use of hand sanitizer,
- When to call the School Nurse (RN) and what to do if the Nurse is not available
- When and where to isolate a child until they can be picked up;
- How to complete necessary reporting - reporting sick children to the building administrator, and sick staff to Human Resources;
- Agency policy for staff illness and COVID-19 return to work policies;
- Universal Precautions.

13. Assessing ill students

When a child develops symptom of illness while in school, the child is removed from the classroom. The School Nurse (RN) will assess the child's symptoms and temperature. For that assessment, the Nurse will wear appropriate PPE. If the nurse is unavailable, the ill child will be assigned to the isolation room under the supervision of a familiar staff person, such as a classroom paraprofessional. This staff person will wear appropriate PPE. Appropriate PPE includes:

- A KN95 respirator with a face shield
- A Level 1 gown
- Gloves
- Disposable health office supplies (as needed)

A separate room will be utilized for isolation of sick children, separate from the nurse's office. After use, Facilities will be notified to clean the isolation room according to CDC guidelines.

14. Returning to School after a Positive Case

Understanding that all Inspire Kids students are unvaccinated, all students with a confirmed "close contact" with someone with COVID (laboratory confirmed or clinically diagnosed) or who test positive for COVID must:

- Provide documentation of release of isolation/quarantine from DOH or primary care provider;
- Have been 10 days since first having symptoms, or be asymptomatic;
- Be three days since symptoms have improved including cough and/or shortness of breath;
- Be fever free for at least 72 hours without the use of medication.

Unvaccinated staff who have COVID symptoms, who test positive for COVID, or who have close contact with an infected person (laboratory confirmed or clinically diagnosed) must immediately notify their supervisor and HR. They must:

- Provide documentation of release of isolation/quarantine from DOH or primary care provider;

- Have been 10 days since first having symptoms or been exposed;
- Be three days since symptoms have improved including cough and/or shortness of breath;
- Be fever free for at least 72 hours without the use of medication.

Unvaccinated staff who have been exposed to COVID cannot test out of quarantine through a negative COVID test.

Vaccinated staff who have COVID symptoms or who test positive for COVID must immediately notify their supervisor and HR. They may return to work after 5-day isolation (with day zero being the day symptoms appeared or test date if asymptomatic), if they have:

- No fever for at least 72 hours without use of medication
- Have resolution of symptoms or symptoms are improving
- Do not have a runny nose
- Do not have a disruptive cough that interferes with working, wearing a mask consistently, or brings up phlegm.

Testing is not required for vaccinated staff to return to work.

Vaccinated staff with close contact with someone with COVID must remain masked and are advised to get tested 3-5 days after exposure; they are not required to quarantine during this time unless otherwise advised by a their primary care provider.

For the purposes of this section, “close contact” or “exposed” is anyone within 6 feet of an infected person (laboratory confirmed or clinically diagnosed) for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period. Students within 3-6 feet of an infected student (laboratory confirmed or clinically diagnosed) while correctly wearing masks are not considered close contacts. Contact with someone who had contact with an infected person, is not considered a close contact.

15. Safety Drills:

NYSED and OCFS mandate the number and type of emergency drills that must be conducted each school year. Emergency drills include fire/evacuation drills, shelter-in-place drills, and lockdown drills. Drills will continue during all scheduled in-person instruction times. Physical distancing must be maintained during drills.

Fire/evacuation drill routes have been modified to permit physical distancing. Congregation points have been modified to maintain student cohorts. Partial building drills may be employed to ensure distancing and cohorting. Shelter in Place drills will be modified to practice moving to the shelter location but with reduced numbers and time in shelter to maintain physical distancing.

In the case of a drill, physical distancing will take priority. In a real emergency, getting children to safety immediately will take priority over physical distancing guidelines.

C. FACILITIES

During this interval of remote instruction, adjustments have been made to physical spaces to maximize distancing and minimize exposure risks of COVID-19.

1. Ventilation

Inspire Kids has worked with its vendor to ensure that the fresh air ventilation rate and filtration is functioning a maximum efficiency according to the systems' specification in buildings owned by the Agency.

- System filters are currently at MERV-13.
- HVAC vents in every room will be kept at maximum openings.
- Staff will be encouraged to increase ventilation by opening external windows when it is comfortable to do so.
- HVAC and window AC units will be set to continuous "fan" settings (not "auto" settings) to maintain continual air exchange.
- HVAC systems will run 24 hours/day.
- AHAM and CARB certified air cleaners will be placed in windowless, interior rooms to increase air exchange [NOTE: all school rooms are supported by HVAC systems]
- Non-ducted hearing systems will be maintained, including filter replacements, consistently with seasonal needs and vendor recommendations.

2. Code Review

Any physical changes to use of space, alterations or additions to the physical space and/or facilities will be submitted to the Office of Facilities Planning (OFP), local municipalities and/or codes enforcement officials to ensure review, approval and/or compliance with applicable codes. At this writing, Inspire Kids does not anticipate physical changes requiring review.

3. Public Access to Facilities

Inspire Kids school buildings, or the portions of buildings designated for school use in Inspire buildings with multiple service areas, are not open to the public and contain no functional areas (such as libraries, recreational facilities, etc.) of use to the general public. Regular or routine access by individuals who are not Inspire students or staff is not anticipated. Student family members may access the buildings specifically in support of student instruction. Other visitors to the buildings including vendors must be approved by Inspire management. All visitors including families, official visitors, vendors, and non-school assigned Inspire employees must follow the screening, hygiene, masking, and contact tracing requirements in place at the time.

D. NUTRITION

Inspire Kids is not a School Food Authority and is not a participant in the Child Nutrition Program.

As of this writing, there is no student use of shared food, drink or cooking appliances, including microwaves, toasters, ovens, coffee makers, water coolers. Filters have been installed on all classroom and kitchen faucets to facilitate use of tap water. All tap water is from municipal sources and meets municipal requirements for use. Staff and parents will be encouraged to bring bottled water from home if tap water is not preferred.

There is no communal or “family style” food service. Children’s snacks will be provided in individual portions, individually plated. There will be no communal food preparation. Preparation of food for feeding therapy may be done as individual portions and with appropriate PPE (gloves and masks).

1. Meals

Parents will be required to send lunches for students that are ready to eat without additional preparation. Staff will not heat or otherwise prepare meals for students. Staff will be required to bring their lunches ready to eat. There will be no use of kitchen/breakroom food preparation appliances except microwaves, which must be cleaned between each use. Refrigerators may be used to store lunches in separate containers/lunchbags.

2. Hygiene

All students will wash their hands with soap and water prior to eating and again after they eat. If necessary, staff will assist students with this task.

3. Location

Children’s lunches will be stored in individual cubbies and served by Inspire Kids Staff. Students will have meals in their classrooms, with required physical distancing. Allergy sensitive foods are not permitted in the school buildings.

E. TRANSPORTATION

Inspire Kids is not responsible for the transport of students attending our program. Inspire Kids works with County Department of Health officials to facilitate parent communication for preschool student transport. Inspire Kids has communicated with parents on their interest in transportation services.

Parents who choose to transport their children to school will report to a separate entrance from the buses. Parents must wear a face covering to enter the school building, and may not move beyond the designated entry points. Parents will need to document the screening of their children before the children may enter their classrooms.

F. SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING

Recognizing the stresses, anxieties, and potential trauma in the context of COVID-19, for staff and for students, we will introduce monitoring of well-being, with training and strategies. This does not replace or substitute for IEP mandated Counseling Services for students.

1. Environment and Support

Each student's education team will work toward maintaining a calm and predictive environment to provide support and a "safety zone" for students and staff. Care will be taken to identify and monitor new or extraordinary responses to the pandemic environment. Recommendations may be made regarding modifications in programming or the introduction of individual or classroom supports to help better meet student's needs relative to COVID-19. Staff will be encouraged to continue to show positive regard toward students, invite students to participate in activities, minimize non-essential demands, enrich the environment, provide choices in activities and preferred items, follow the students' leads, and thoughtfully respond to challenging behavior.

2. Staff

Inspire Kids has an Employee Assistance Program (EAP), which all staff can access. Staff who are experiencing concerns with their own social and emotional well-being are encouraged to reach out to the EAP program, or, seek help from an outside provider. The Agency EAP can be accessed at www.theeap.com

G. SCHOOL SCHEDULE

Inspire Kids remains fully committed to providing full, in-person instruction for all enrolled students. Our students are young and require additional supports for learning. These supports are most effective when provided in-person.

Recognizing the importance of maintaining instruction and supports within the volatility of the pandemic, Inspire Kids has prepared each of three scheduling models: full-time in-person sessions, virtual or remote learning, and a hybrid model that combines partial in-person with partial remote learning. The same models will apply to each location fully owned or operated by Inspire Kids. Classes embedded in host programs will follow the model of the host program (remote, hybrid or in-person). Program models may change across the school year in response to changing conditions or municipal direction. Individual classes may change instructional model to accommodate need for quarantine.

Parents preferring a different model from that provided by Inspire Kids will be directed to contact their School District.

- Unless otherwise identified under (M) below, the following schedule applies to all Inspire Kids locations.

1. In-Person Model: Currently being followed

All students will be in program, receiving in-person instruction, at the same time, consistently with IEPs. Exceptions to this model require district direction

For in-person classes, we expect the following:

- Screening of both students and staff;
- Face masks and PPE available and used in accordance with Inspire Kids' protocols ;
- Physical distancing of 3 feet among students and 6 feet among adults ;
- Cohorting of students consistently with identified community risks of transmission (Please see "Cohorts" under "J. Teaching and Learning", below) ;
- Limitations on non-essential visitors in the building while students are present;
- Separate arrival/departure locations for parent transported and bussed students to limit the number of students congregating in the same space.

2. Virtual / Remote Model

Virtual or "remote" instruction may be utilized for individual students who are in quarantine, for specific classes that are in quarantine, or for partial or whole buildings that are in quarantine. It is expected that this model will be accessed flexibly to maintain instruction and therapies during times when in-person instruction is interrupted. This model may also be used to maintain instruction during periods of inclement weather or non-COVID emergencies.

When implemented, remote instruction will use virtual mediums, such as Google Classroom, Zoom video-conferencing, Face Time/Skype, telephonic contact, and postal delivered packets and instruction. In this remote model, instructional, classroom and therapy staff will have a scheduled presence on-site but may also work remotely. School offices will be open.

Depending on district direction, Inspire may support parents who opt to keep their child in full virtual/remote instruction during periods when Inspire is providing full in-person instruction.

Within a virtual or remote model, we expect the following:

- Coordination with the child's school district to support student with devices and high speed internet;
- A schedule of live, remote instruction with parental support at minimum of one instructional contact per day, per student;
- Instructional activities aligned with IEP goals;
- "Family friendly" activities that facilitate each parent's understanding of strategy and expected outcome,

- Regular, meaningful communication with the parent/guardian to assess engagement and progress;
- Telehealth delivery of related services

3. Hybrid Model

In this model, students attend in-person instruction on a schedule of assigned days; on-site attendance may be below normal student enrollment on any given day.

Within a hybrid model, we expect all the elements listed above for both “In-Person” and remote models, in addition to the following

- Students will be grouped into one of three groupings, “A”, “B” or “C”.
- Group “A” students will attend program in person two days weekly with remaining days assigned to a Virtual / Remote Model as described above.
- Group “B” students will attend program in person two days weekly that do not overlap Group “A” students, with remaining days assigned to a Virtual / Remote Model.
- Group “C” students will attend three days weekly, with one day that overlaps Groups A and B; and with the remaining two days assigned to a Virtual / Remote Model as described above. Group C students will be a fixed group drawn from Groups A or B, and reflect students whose progress within the hybrid model most suggests the need for increased in-person instruction.
- On-going communication with the parent/guardian will be maintained to assess progress and the modifications/accommodations needed in order to better facilitate student learning.

Student progress, status of the public health emergency, and considerations of safety protocols and supplies, will continue to be actively monitored with adjustments identified as needed to respond to changing conditions.

4. Accommodations for High Risk Students

Inspire Kids recognizes that our students frequently require more intensive care or medical supports. If a student requires medical care and supports that cannot be provided within physical distancing, the parent should work with their child's medical provider to make a decision as to whether in-person instruction is appropriate, or whether it is more appropriate for the student to participate in a virtual/remote learning or other instructional model.

H. ATTENDANCE

Student participation and attendance will be tracked regardless of the school schedule.

1. Tracking

Inspire Kids will track and monitor attendance records throughout the program, regardless of school schedule. Teachers, or designees will enter classroom attendance records that reflect both in-person attendance, and teacher-student engagement in

virtual/remote services. Therapists will use K-Systems to record attendance in IEP mandated therapeutic services, both in-person and through telehealth (McGuinness for Ulster County students). Attendance information will be available to the Counties and to the students' school districts.

The education team will use this information to monitor and assess student/family engagement, attendance, communication, and outreach. Progress monitoring and responses to goals will also be recorded.

2. Absenteeism

Within virtual/remote schedule or the remote component of a hybrid school schedule, the teacher or a designated staff member will be responsible for contacting parents on a daily basis via phone call, text message, email or other means of communication.

To support those students with extended periods of absences, or those that have failed to maintain contact with us, Inspire Kids will communicate with the student's School District to discuss next steps/additional efforts that should be attempted. During this time, educational content and curricular goals will still be made readily available through virtual instruction, packets mailed to the home, or a combination of the two.

A known or excused absence will not be penalized as chronic absenteeism.

I. TECHNOLOGY

1. Student Access to Technology

Understanding that the use of technology for classroom instruction is not the same as individualized need for assistive technology, Inspire Kids will coordinate with the School Districts to support technology usage in the home as may be needed to access virtual/remote instruction.

As students are enrolled in Inspire Kids education programs for the 2020-21 school year, designated staff members will ask parents and/or legal guardians about student access to technological devices and internet connectivity. This survey can be conducted via phone call, text, email or other means of communication. If it is determined that the student is in need of a device to use for virtual learning, their contact information will be sent to the student's school district with an indication of what the family needs.

Training regarding the use of technology will be provided as needed and requested by a student/parent/guardian.

In the event that parents/guardians decline the use of technological equipment, or if internet connectivity is not provided in the area, the classroom teacher and school district will be notified. Teachers, therapists and other education team members would

create low-tech or no-tech solutions for delivering course instruction and curricular materials such as mailed packets, including regular telephonic contact.

2. Staff Access to Technology

Teachers, therapists, counselors, and any other faculty that need to provide direct services to students remotely will report to their direct supervisor if they do not have access to a device. Supervisors and/or the staff member will report technology needs to the IT Manager. Inspire Kids will utilize and arrange available technology resources as necessary to accommodate the staff member.

Trainings will be held to support staff members as they create content for the distance learning. These trainings will also allow time for specific, real time questions about the tools being utilized.

3. Student Privacy

Parents have been asked for authorization to share information within the teleconference and virtual classroom and telehealth platforms. Parents have the option to rescind the authorization at any time.

J. TEACHING AND LEARNING

A combination of in-person, remote, and hybrid instructional models will be developed to support student learning, skill attainment, and goal achievement. Students will be provided with daily instructional opportunities regardless of model, through activities and instruction which align to the NYS Learning Standards and the student's individual IEP goals. Instructional activities will be differentiated based on student needs and interest, and family resources and engagement.

1. COVID-19 Driven Instruction

Students enrolled in an Inspire Kids program are young and have developmental and medical needs that may make it difficult for them to fully understand or fully comply with COVID-19 safety protocols. Staff will create opportunities for our students to practice these safety behaviors, including wearing a mask, washing their hands, cough hygiene, physical distancing. Visual cues, icons, schedule boards, and structured learning activities will be used to help the children understand and cooperate in these safety behaviors.

2. Cohorts

Students will be cohorted by classroom to limit potential exposure to the COVID-19 virus. Within their cohorts, students will access their classes and the playgrounds, without intermingling among rooms. Teachers and classroom staff will remain static in classrooms to the maximum extent possible while maintaining classroom ratios. Maintaining classroom ratios will take precedence over maintaining cohorts. Therapists will move across a limited number of classrooms to the extent feasible while meeting

IEP mandates. Please note that classroom cohorts may not align with bussing cohorts, and Inspire Kids does not control or influence how students are grouped for transportation.

- During periods of low and moderate transmissions with positivity rates under 5% (low) or no higher than 7% (moderate), classes will not be blended for communal activities such as playground access, but students may move to therapy rooms and participate in group therapy sessions outside a classroom cohort if necessary to meet the IEP goal.
- During periods of substantial risk of transmission, with positivity rates higher than 7% but less than 10%, student cohorts by classroom will be maintained to the extent feasible to meet IEP mandates, where teachers/adults move from class to class and students remain together throughout the day except when taken into therapy treatment spaces where physical distancing between students will be maintained;
- During periods with high risk of transmission with positivity rates 10% or higher, student cohorts will be required, and participation in group therapy sessions is limited to the classroom cohort.

3. Assessment

IEP goals will be used as the measure to monitor student growth and progress. Data will be collected on goals when students are participating in the in-person school schedule. During virtual/remote schedule, staff will work with parents to monitor goals and growth.

4. Parents / Guardians

Parents are our partners in limiting the spread of COVID-19 within school. Parents will be asked to sign and return an agreement to comply with the expectations for screening their children, keeping them home when ill, picking up their children when ill at school in addition to limiting the items they send with their child, and adhering to the schedule of in-person attendance.

All parents will be given teacher and therapists contact information. Parents will have access to teacher's/therapist's phone numbers and email addresses. Teachers will be regularly available to communicate about student progress and to answer any questions. The school social worker will also assist families with community supports when necessary.

K. SPECIAL EDUCATION

Inspire Kids will operate in partnership with the student's home school districts for technology needs required by families. Inspire Kids will provide the proper documentation of programs, services and communications utilizing resources currently available and provide such documentation to parents and school districts as

appropriate. Inspire Kids will utilize in-person, virtual/remote learning and a hybrid models to ensure effective implementation of a student's IEP.

Inspire Kids will continue to provide mandated special education and related service therapies consistently with the IEP within whichever model is appropriate and available at the time of instruction. Our goal is to maintain in-person instruction for the 2021-2022 school year to the fullest extent possible. As may be required, we are prepared with contingency plans to modify to hybrid or remote learning in the event of intermittent or extended issues due to COVID-19. When providing in-person sessions at daily or near daily schedules, truncated sessions may be required under certain risk conditions to maintain safety in distancing and capacity.

L. STAFFING

1. Certification

Teachers will hold appropriate certification or be qualified to function as substitute teachers consistently with the Commissioners Regulations. Student teachers and student therapists, if in attendance, must be fully vaccinated and follow all Inspire Kids COVID-19 protocols.

2. Professional Development

Professional Development will be provided to staff on reopening procedures and protocols prior to school resuming. The first day of school will be used as a professional development day for all staff. The procedures outlined in this plan will be reviewed with education staff. Teachers and therapists will be encouraged to meet to share practices and strategies for these models. On-going professional development will occur on functional skill development, language acquisition, and best practices with virtual learning.

As appropriate trainings are developed within the LITMOS system, they will be assigned to specific employee groups. Completion of assigned trainings will be monitored and program administrators will follow up with any staff that fail to complete the assigned trainings.

3. Accommodations for High Risk Staff

Staff who consider themselves at medical high risk for exposure to COVID-19, or due to personal circumstances will be directed to meet with Steve Peach, Director of Human Relations for discussion and review.

M. REVIEW, AMENDMENT, AND TEMPORARY SCHOOL CLOSURES

This document reflects current planning based on available guidance, current experience, and anticipated conditions. Both external and internal factors may require amendment of the plan. Should circumstances dictate, instruction will shift across the available instructional models, including remote, hybrid, and fully in-person. The model or combination of models described in (G) above reflect the schedules in place at this writing. Shifts in models may be specific to a single location, or apply across all Inspire Kids locations. Changes to specific locations will be identified below.

As we implement the plan, we will maintain ongoing assessment of its efficacy, its safety, and its feasibility. This assessment will include enrollment and student/family engagement, staff participation, availability of necessary supplies including PPE and cleaning agents, and overall safety. Changes in the public health emergency, municipal and state directives, and changes in guidance may also require amendments to this Plan. At all times, we will prioritize the education and health of our students, and the health and safety of our staff and community.

APPENDIX 1

COVID-19 protocols and status update JANUARY 2022 IN EFFECT UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

This is a summary of the most current protocols for COVID-19. These protocols are consistent with the “Health and Safety Guide for the 2021-2022 School Year” issued by NYSED, the NY Hero Act, and the NYS DOH Advisory 12/24/21. Please see the Model Airborne Infectious Disease Exposure Plan for engineering and administrative controls

As of this writing, COVID-19 cases in Orange County continue to increase. It is important that we continue to keep each other safe. **The most important things you can do to help the students, your coworkers, and yourself is to get vaccinated, wear a mask, and respect distancing.**

You are required to follow the following protocols.

Daily Health Screenings:

- All preschool students and program participants must continue to complete a daily health screening before start of services, including before entering an Inspire vehicle.
- All employees must continue to complete a daily health screening before logging in Paylocity.
- All visitors must continue to respond to screening questions upon entry to an Inspire site.

Employee Entrances: It is no longer necessary for employees to use a separate entrance to the Fletcher Street or Gidney Avenue locations.

Masks: Except where specified here, “masks” means a surgical/procedure mask or a KN95 mas. Face coverings such as cloth masks are not acceptable within instructional or therapy spaces; bandanas or gaiters are not acceptable at all.

- Masks are required by all unvaccinated employees and program participants (as tolerated), at all times in any Inspire location, and while providing services and supports at any community or residential location. Unvaccinated employees providing services must wear a KN95 mask.
- Masks are required by all vaccinated employees inside any Inspire location when within 6 feet of an unvaccinated person or a person of unknown vaccination status, and are recommended to be worn by vaccinated employees inside any Inspire location occupied by more than one person.
- Masks are required in all school buildings at all times by employees, visitors, and students (as tolerated), regardless of vaccination status.

- KN95 masks are required to be worn by all unvaccinated employees in any Inspire school location, and distributed to all school-based employees.
- Masks are required in all Inspire vehicles while transporting individuals, regardless of vaccination status.
- Masks are required by visitors to all Inspire locations.

Face Shields:

- Face shields are required for all employees accompanying an isolated ill student or participant awaiting travel home.
- Face shields are required when there is risk of exposure to aerosolized particles or to splashes, such as during nebulizer treatments, suctioning, etc.

Hand Hygiene:

- All employees must wash hands upon entering any Inspire location; use of hand sanitizer is not sufficient.
- All visitors must wash hands or use hand sanitizer upon entering any Inspire location.
- All employees must wash hands or use hand sanitizer between sessions with students/participants, and frequently throughout the day.

Daily Cleaning:

- All employees must clean their work surfaces, including desktops and activity tables, and frequently touched items such as keyboards and phones at least once per shift.
- Facilities must continue cleaning of restrooms in school buildings and program areas at least 2 times daily.

Contact Tracing:

- Contact logs for each room must continue to be maintained.

Vehicles:

- Vehicles used to transport individuals, including personal vehicles, are to be cleaned with disinfecting wipes or spray at least once per trip.
- Individuals in vehicles must be masked regardless of vaccination status.
- Vaccinated individuals in vehicles do not need to maintain distancing; unvaccinated individuals in vehicles must maintain distancing equivalent to 50% of vehicle capacity.

Ventilation:

- HVAC units must operate 24/7 (this does not apply to unducted heating).
- Air filters as provided should be run in all interior, windowless rooms during occupancy
- Exterior windows should be opened as feasible during the attended day.
- Vehicle windows should be opened enough to maximize venting of the vehicle during occupancy.