



Litchfield Elementary School District
School Reopening: Frequently Asked Questions
Updated: 7-27-2020

When is the first day of school?

School starts in a distance learning format on August 5.

When will students return to classrooms?

The health and safety of our staff and students remain at the forefront of all conversations about when to resume in-person learning. We continue to closely monitor the data and work with health authorities with the commitment to welcome students back in classrooms when it is deemed safe. The definite start date for in-person learning is not yet known. Once it is deemed safe for our students to physically return to school, we will transition from Distance Learning to three Learning Models: In-Person Learning, Hybrid Learning, and our new Digital Learning Academy.

What will my child's day look like?

[Sample student schedules](#) are available on our website. Actual schedules vary by school and grade. District-wide lunch for all students and staff is 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM.

Are you offering Traditional Academy this year?

The Litchfield Elementary School District Governing Board voted on July 21, 2020 to provide flexibility to school administrators when determining Traditional Academy programming for the 2020-2021 school year in order to meet staffing and student ratios for the offered learning models. All current Traditional Academy students will keep their Traditional Academy place, including newly accepted students for the 2020-2021 school year. Final acceptance for the 2021-2022 school year will still be contingent on Open Enrollment approval. All LESD students can count on the high quality education for which our "A" rated district is widely recognized. Qualified gifted children will continue to receive reasonable accommodations through personalized instruction.

Will you offer the Middle School Honors program this year?

Honors programming is being offered in the middle schools and grades where it is feasible as determined by Learning Model Commitment Forms and staffing needs. Honors will not be available in the Digital Learning Academy.

What is my role in my child's distance learning experience?

We suggest caregivers embrace the role of a "learning coach" to: create a comfortable learning space, ensure proper sleep and nutrition, prioritize your child's emotional well-being, provide basic technology support to your child, discuss what is being taught, facilitate hands on learning, and communicate with the teacher.

Will transportation be available?

Transportation services will begin on the day we resume In-Person Learning.

Are your schools and offices open?

School offices are open during their regular business hours. Our departments and District Office are available by phone and email. Student Registration, Preschool, and Special Education are available by appointment. Face coverings and physical distancing are required in all LESD buildings.

Will you offer preschool in the 2020-2021 school year?

[Preschool](#) will begin once it is deemed safe for students to physically return to school. This will be the same day that In-Person Learning resumes for Kindergarten through 8th grades. Pricing depends on the day that preschool begins. Preschool tuition will initially be prorated at the daily rate, based on the number of days of in-person services offered in the month.

Do you offer child care?

Tuition-based [Extended Day](#) programs (before and after school care) will begin on August 17. We are currently exploring options to offer free child care services during school hours starting August 17 and continuing until In-Person Learning resumes. When In-Person Learning resumes, our child care options will include typical Extended Day (before and after school care), including a new 2-day child care option for Hybrid learners. Summer Camp is currently available for a fee through August 14.

Can my child get free lunch at school in the 2020-2021 school year?

Students who were eligible for Free and Reduced-Price Meals in the 2019-2020 school year will continue to receive those benefits through September 16. They must re-apply prior to September 16 to ensure continuity of service into the 2020-2021 school year prior to that date. Please apply for Free and Reduced-Price Meals online by using the TITAN Family Portal link in the "[Food Services Department](#)" on our new website or by requesting a printed application from the registrar at the school's office. The application process may take up to ten days.

Will you offer meals when school begins in the Distance Learning format?

Starting August 5, we will offer meals for all LESD students from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM at our school sites. Fees for these meals apply as they would during a typical school year based on the student's eligibility for Free, Reduced-Price, and Paid meals. Please fund your child's meal account by using the

TITAN Family Portal link in the "[Food Services Department](#)" on our new website. For updated information on distance meals including locations and menus please see the Food Service Department's page on the District's website.

What if I cannot help my child with distance learning during regular school hours?

The goal is to help children learn and thrive. Flexibility on the part of families and staff is especially important during this global pandemic. Teachers will work with families to accommodate schedules. Lessons will be offered live and recorded for your viewing convenience.

What type of technology does my child need?

Distance Learning (applies to all LESD students on August 5) and the Digital Learning Academy will require internet service and an internet-enabled device that can accommodate web-based programs and various apps (Google Classroom, Google Meet, Nearpod, Moby Max, etc.). Computers, laptops, and iPads are ideal; tablets are also acceptable. Some families find it helpful to provide headphones for their children to use with their devices.

What if my child does not have access to a computer at our house.

Please contact your child's school if your family is in need of technology for your child's education.

What school supplies does my child need?

Schools will post school supply lists on their website.

Is the Distance Learning that starts on August 5 the same thing we did last spring?

The enhanced Distance Learning model includes strong teacher training in a format that mimics the structure of our new Digital Learning Academy. It includes a grading process, daily attendance, recorded and live teaching lessons, and social emotional learning.

How will absences be handled?

This is the same as a typical year. Students will be expected to make up work and will be given appropriate time to do so. Teachers and families can work together to help the student learn and thrive.

What can I expect if there is a positive case of Coronavirus in my child's classroom or school?

Families will be notified if their child has been exposed to someone who is COVID-positive. All protocols, including quarantine requirements, will adhere to guidelines from the CDC and Maricopa County Department of Public Health (MCDPH). All personal information would be held in strict confidence. The MCDPH would provide guidance on whether classroom closure, grade level closure, or school closure would be necessary.

Will face masks/face coverings be required at school?

Yes. Please refer to page 3 of our Health and Safety Measures in the [COVID section](#) of our website. Masks/face coverings are required for appointments such as new student registration and preschool registration. Face shields are acceptable.

How do I register my kindergartener and/or my new student?

Kindergarten and new student registration is available by appointment only at our District Office. Current students do not need to re-register for next school year. Students awaiting Open Enrollment notification will be personally invited to registration by appointment only if their Open Enrollment application is approved. Please visit the "[Student Registration Department](#)" on our new website for more information.

How do I update my contact information?

Please email parentvue@lesd.k12.az.us to update your contact information. Include all children's names and whether or not you are adding new information or deleting old information. Address changes will not be accepted.