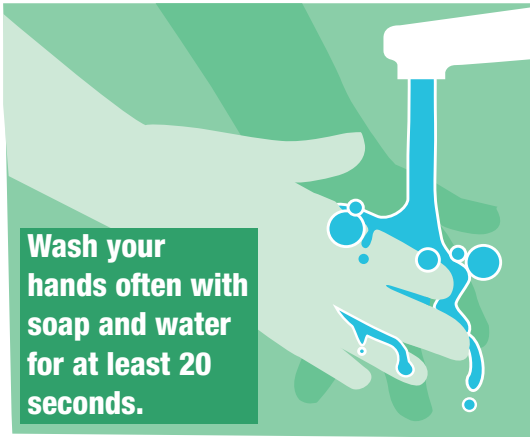


SafetyFirst

The health and safety of GCPS students and staff is our highest priority. Here are some tips you need to know and a few ways that you and your family can help.

Maintaining a healthy school environment

Everyone plays a part in maintaining a healthy school environment! Students can help by washing hands frequently, staying a safe physical distance from others, and staying home if sick. Masks are required in Gwinnett County Public Schools, with exceptions for documented reasons.



Responding to Lockdowns and Evacuation

If your student's school has been placed on lockdown or evacuated, please do not go to the school. Excessive traffic could interfere with law enforcement efforts or emergency response. The school will contact you to let you know how to proceed.

Schools go on **lockdown** when school officials and local law enforcement authorities determine that conditions outside or inside the school are unsafe.

Schools are **evacuated** when the school environment is unsafe for the students to stay in the building.

For more information about school safety, see the Safety and Security information on the GCPS website (www.gcpsk12.org).

Preparing for Inclement Weather

- If bad weather is forecast overnight, GCPS officials drive roads and bridges across the county to gauge conditions. In addition, the district assesses any power issues that might have an impact on schools and digital learning.
- During inclement weather, GCPS usually announces plans for a **Digital Learning Day** or **full-day cancellation by 6 a.m.** Once a decision is made, the district posts the announcement on the GCPS website, GCPS TV, the district's Facebook page, and Twitter and Instagram accounts. GCPS also notifies metro-Atlanta news outlets and alerts families with a phone call and optional text message via SchoolMessenger. (Families must request the text feature.)

When inclement weather is predicted, GCPS works with local authorities to monitor current and expected conditions in the area.

- When bad weather moves in during the school day, district leaders decide the safest and most efficient way to get students home. Should GCPS schools release early or cancel afternoon or evening activities, GCPS notifies parents and community members via local school communication vehicles and SchoolMessenger calls and texts, through reports to metro-Atlanta news media, and posts to the GCPS website, Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

The school system does not issue an announcement when school will be in session as scheduled.

Make sure your student's school has up-to-date contact information for you.