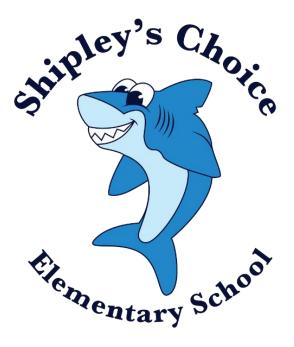
2020-2021



Hybrid Learning Family Handbook

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Shipley's Choice Elementary School

310 Governor Stone Parkway

Millersville, MD 21108

shipleyschoiceschool.org/

✓@ShipChoiceAACPS

Phone: 410-222-3851 / Fax: 410-222-3885

Health Room: 410-222-3809

Principal Dr. Beth Anne Burke baburke@aacps.org

> Secretaries Debbie West Noelle Eisele

PTO President Jon Calvert

School Hours 9:00AM-3:25PM

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SCHEDULE

Learning times are the same for hybrid or virtual students. Note that students who are virtual may not come on school property during the learning day except to pick up their meals mid-day. All outdoor spaces will be utilized for socially distant recess during the mid-day block.

8:40AM	Arrival time begins for students	
9:00AM	Instruction begins	
12:00PM	Lunch Pick-up for Virtual Students	
3:25PM	Instruction time ends	
3:25PM	Students dismissed* in following order:	
	Bus Riders	
	Walkers, Bike Riders	

Car Riders

*Due to social distancing rules, arrival and dismissal may take significantly longer than usual. Last call for early dismissals will be at 2:45PM. No students will be called for early dismissal after 2:45PM.



WHAT DOES LEARNING LOOK LIKE?

Learning While in the Building



Students who are hybrid will interact with their classroom teacher "live"—that is, they will watch as the teacher uses the SmartBoard, doc cam, or other materials in the classroom. Students will remain in their learning stations (at or near their desks) throughout the day.

For some classes, including Cultural Arts, speech sessions, or some reading interventions, students will attend virtually. This includes using Chromebooks and headphones to interact directly with their teacher and classmates.

Just as they typically do, students will complete assignments in a variety of ways in the building. This will likely include completing assignments on Chromebooks (such as in Google Classroom). It may also include doing work in journals, on papers such as graphic organizers, or on the clear communicator sleeves.

Learning Virtually



Teachers will have a technology set-up that allows them to see and interact with virtual students as well as those in the classroom. There will be times when virtual students are assigned activities to do independently while working with students in the classroom, and there will be times when they work with students who are virtual while students in the classroom complete assignments.

The midday break of 90-110 minutes continues to be unscheduled for students who are virtual. *Friends, Fun, & Flourish* will still be open to them to join and socialize with their classmates or to meet virtually with a teacher for a bit of extra help.

Virtual students may not remain on school grounds at all (on fields, blacktop areas, or playground equipment) during the student day. Only hybrid students in the building may use school grounds.

Since this is new to all of us, we are continuing to work out the kinks and plan on how to implement successfully. Shipley's Teachers will make it AWESOME, as usual!

Midday Block Schedule

Grades K, 1, 2

11:00-11:25 (Friends, Fun, & Flourish*) 11:30-12:50 (Lunch, Recess, & Literacy: Engage!)

Grades 3, 4, 5 12:00-1:25 Lunch, Recess, & Literacy: Engage! 1:25-1:50 (Friends, Fun, & Flourish*)

*Friends, Fun, & Flourish is for ALL students (hybrid & virtual)

Students have a midday break that includes lunch, recess, *Friends, Fun, & Flourish* and *Literacy: Engage*. This block of time will be supervised by a monitor. Lunch visitors are not permitted during Hybrid learning.

AACPS will continue to provide daily meals for students, including breakfast and lunch. Students may eat the provided breakfast upon arrival; however, they may not bring their own breakfast. Students may pack a lunch or may eat the lunch provided by the school system each day. The only time that students may remove masks during the day is while eating. Masks are required during recess and all other times.

For recess, cohorts (groups of students) will rotate among designated areas (weather permitting) to allow for socially distant play and use of playground areas. Students will be offered sanitizer before and after recess and will have liberal access to hand-washing throughout the day. Indoor recess will include playing with personal toys brought from home, coloring, drawing, or playing board games (virtually).

FOOD ALLERGIES

To ensure safety while eating lunches in the classroom, the following protocols will be in place:

- All students must remain socially distanced at their own learning stations throughout lunch.
- Preferential seating will be provided for students with allergies (away from high traffic areas.)
- All students eat at their personal learning stations (desks).
- Students with allergies will be the only ones seated at their assigned desks (learning stations). Therefore, these desks will be nut-free.
- Classrooms will be deep cleaned between cohorts.
- Teachers and lunch monitors will be advised of students with food allergies and trained in the use of an epi-pen and the symptoms of anaphylaxis.

Lunch & Learn

During the midday block, students will also participate in *Friends, Fun, & Flourish* and *Literacy: Engage. Friends, Fun, & Flourish* will continue in the same format as in February. Each grade level teacher and a cultural arts teacher will take turns engaging students in a variety of fun activities. Teachers may also invite students to meet with them for academic support.

Literacy: Engage will be a thirty-minute block for literacy-focused activities that are led by the monitor. It is only for students in the building, and not for virtual students. One day of Literacy: Engage will include activities from a menu designed by AACPS. The other day will offer an opportunity for parents to be guest readers (virtually, of course). More information about guest readers will be shared soon.

VISITING THE SCHOOL

While we love and welcome visitors and volunteers, current restrictions due to COVID necessitate limitations.

- All visitors are by <u>verified appointment only</u> as per AACPS directive. If you need to visit, please schedule in advance with the staff member you need to see.
- All visitors will be asked to answer health questions as directed by AACPS and the AAC Department of Health before entering the building. Also, visitors will sign a logbook for contact tracing.
- All visitors to our school must enter via the <u>FRONT</u> door. To enter, press the call button and wait for a staff member to greet you and open the door. Visitors must report directly to the school secretaries and provide picture identification.

VISITING SCHOOL GROUNDS

While school is in session and in the building, note that school grounds are closed to visitors. The only exception is meal pick-up at noon.

Students who are participating in virtual learning may not come to the school during the school day to play on the grounds or playground.

- In most instances, visitors will be greeted at the main door and we will make every effort to assist you outside the main doors.
- All exterior doors are locked during the regular school hours.
- Updated Emergency cards are extremely important. We need information about how to contact parents or others in the event that your child is ill or needs to be picked up. Only people listed on the emergency card may pick up your child.
- Bring your driver's license to the school the first time you visit or volunteer so we can scan it through our Raptor system.
- Enter through the school's **FRONT** doors, even during arrival and dismissal times.

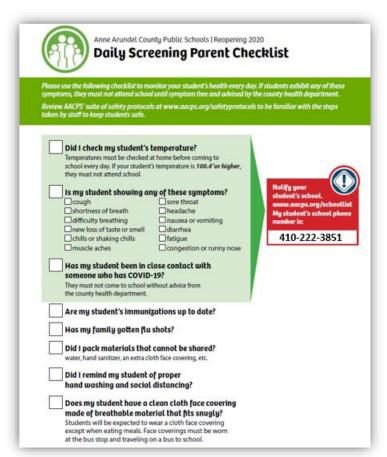
SAFETY PROTOCOLS

AACPS has implemented safety protocols based on guidance from the health department. For a detailed explanation of the protocols, visit <u>https://www.aacps.org/safetyprotocols</u>. Students are expected to wear a mask throughout the day, with the exception of eating meals. Rooms have been arranged to ensure social distancing but offer students an easy view of the teaching area. Also, in addition to the regular daily cleaning, the custodial team will deep clean all areas twice per week (between cohorts of students). If there is a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the school, we will follow AACPS and health department guidelines for notification of the community and cleaning.

Families are expected to screen students for symptoms each day before sending them to school, including a temperature check. Your child must stay home from

school or be picked up immediately if he/she:

- has a fever of 100.4° or higher.
- has symptoms associated with COVID-19 (cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, new loss of taste or smell, chills or shaking chills, muscle aches, sore throat, headache, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, fatigue, and congestion or runny nose), please keep him/her home from school to contain germs.
- has been in close contact with someone who has contracted COVID-19 (e.g. someone in the household or sports team).



STUDENTS WITH COVID-LIKE ILLNESSES

Students who display COVID-like illnesses in school will be evaluated by the health room and possibly sent home. If your child is sent home with symptoms, the health room will inform you of the appropriate protocol, which may include quarantining your student or getting a COVID-19 test.

ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL PROCEDURES (HYBRID)

We have developed procedures for arrival and dismissal to ensure the safety of <u>all</u> students. Students arrive at school by bus, car, bike, or foot and enter school property from various pathways. Often children (and drivers) do not pay close attention to their surroundings. Please pay attention to the procedures. We want all our children to arrive safely at school and at home! Cars are not permitted to enter the bus lane at any time during arrival and dismissal.

ARRIVAL

All students and adults must be masked at all times on school grounds. The arrival time for students is 8:40-9:00AM. Parents are strongly encouraged to remain in cars if driving to drop off students at school. Instruction begins at 9:00AM. Please do not allow your child to arrive before 8:40 because teachers are not available to supervise until then. Any child who arrives to school after 9:00 AM bell will be considered <u>tardy</u>.

Walkers & Bike Riders

- Walkers or bikers should report to the blacktop behind the school **no sooner than 8:40**.
- Teachers will line students up by grade/cohort to enter the building through the door near the art room door.
- To minimize the number of people at arrival, parents should drop students off at 8:40 and leave. Doors will not be opened to admit students until all adults have left school grounds.

Car Riders

- Car Riders may only be dropped off in the car rider loop.
- Pull all the way forward as far as you can in the car loop.
- Remain in your car and have your child enter and exit through the passenger door.
- Students may not be dropped off in either parking lot. If you go to the parking lot, park and escort your child to the school.
- Cars may not be left running on school property (this is a law!).
- Students must be prepared to exit the car independently once in the car loop.
- Pack your patience on rainy and snowy days! Students will not be marked tardy due to a long line in the car loop on inclement weather days.
- No supervision is available for students who arrive before <u>8:40AM</u>.

DISMISSAL

- 1. To ensure social distancing, students will be dismissed by cohort groups. This will take longer than a typical dismissal.
- Walkers will be dismissed through the back door near the **blacktop**. On your student dismissal form, please indicate whether your child has permission to walk home alone or is to wait for a parent, sibling, or identified adult.
- Car riders will be dismissed last and will be lined up by grade to wait for cars. Students will remain in their homerooms and called to the car loop. This is necessary to ensure social distancing.
- 4. Walkers, bike riders and families must exit school grounds immediately.
- The playground is closed after school for disinfecting. Do not linger on school grounds at dismissal.
- Do not tell your child to meet you in the parking lot! Students may not walk in the parking lot alone at any time.

EARLY DISMISSAL

If you need to pick up your student for early dismissal, <u>arrive by</u> <u>2:45PM</u>.

After 2:45PM, you will not be able to pick up your student early and will need to wait until the regularly scheduled dismissal. This change was made under the direction of the AACPS Security Office and is necessary due to the complicated logistics of dismissing and adhering to CDC guidelines.

We strongly encourage parents to NOT meet their children along the paths or in alternate locations. If you are late, your child will be waiting alone without supervision.

Playdates & Changing Dismissal Arrangements

On the return to learn survey, parents were asked to select their student's transportation arrangements. Families should stick with the selection, and only make changes in the event of an emergency. If an emergency arises and you must change dismissal arrangements, **call the school before 2:45PM and follow up with an email**. While this procedure seems redundant, it is necessary to ensure that the message is delivered to your child and your child safely follows your wishes. By calling the school, you guarantee that we got the information about the change. The email is for our records to verify that the change is at your request.

Note that making changes in the Parent Portal are not live. If you make a change, you must wait for a confirmation email from the school office that your changes are updated.

AA County Dog Policy



Please remember, no dogs are allowed on school property at any time. This is according to Anne Arundel County Code of Law and is a safety and health issue. Walking dogs on school property is not allowed. Please do not bring dogs with you when you are walking to or picking up children from school. We have had a number of complaints because of dog waste as well as children who have allergies or are afraid of dogs. Thank you for your assistance.

PERSONAL BELONGINGS

All student belongings will be kept in their personal learning stations (desk areas) in the classroom and are to be removed at the end of each day to allow for cleaning. Lockers will not be used during hybrid learning.

Students are permitted by AACPS to bring a small item to school for Quiet Time during Lunch & Learn (game, toy, etc.). These toys or items may not be shared with other students. Personal belongings are not insured by the Board of Education's policy. We cannot, therefore, be responsible for broken, lost or stolen personal belongings.

Communication Devices

If a student brings a cell phone to school, it should be off and out of sight during the school day. Similarly, smart watches may not be used for communication (texting or calling) during the school day. This includes during the twohour mid-day break.

WATER BOTTLES

Students may keep a <u>water</u> <u>bottle with a straw</u> next to their desks during the day. They may refill it using the sink in the classroom. A water bottle with a straw is strongly recommended to allow for easier drinking while masked.

BEHAVIOR

One of our goals as a school is to develop our students into good citizens. This includes behaving respectfully and being responsible. To foster positive behaviors, we have developed the Shark Code. The Shark Code encourages students to be self-reflective, to be considerate of others, and to demonstrate growth mindset.

We believe that student mistakes are opportunities for them to learn—this includes behavior mistakes. If students misbehave, they receive consequences according to the <u>AACPS Student Code of Conduct</u>. Our goal is always on changing and guiding behavior.

Note that proper use of the chat in Google Meets, wearing masks, and staying socially distant are required by the AACPS Student Code of Conduct. We will work with students to help them understand and follow rules as we transition to hybrid.



COMMUNICATION

Automated Messages

AACPS and Shipley's Choice utilize Blackboard Connect, automated notification system, to communicate quickly and efficiently with parents. These notifications may alert you to emergencies as well as other important information or events. Parents will also receive an automated notification for a child's absence. These messages are sent via phone call, email, and/or text. If you have questions about these notifications and wish to edit how you receive your notices, contact the school's front office.

Contacting School

If you have general questions about the school, here are some great resources:

	ShipleysChoiceSchool.org school website that includes an online copy of the handbook, school calendar of events, and more.
COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS	AACPS.org district website that includes information about curriculum, the AACPS family handbook, guidelines, etc.

Still have questions? Call the school at 410-222-3851.

Contacting Teachers

You may email the teacher directly via email links on the school <u>website</u> or call and leave a message in the office. Remember that teachers are instructing their students during the day and can only return calls and emails during their planning time, office hours, or scheduled breaks. Teachers typically return emails within 48 hours.

SCES Newsletter



Our school newsletter is published on Friday afternoon. News from the school and the Board of Education is included. Only news relative to the school community may be considered for publication. The newsletter is sent out electronically by our school office using the automated Blackboard Connect system.

Social Media

Shipley's Choice Elementary School <u>does not</u> have a certified Facebook account; we do not use Facebook as a tool to communicate with you. Please be very cautious about information that is posted on Facebook about the school. Well-meaning parents often post incorrect times or information. When in doubt, contact the school directly.



Do you want to see the great things that are happening at school? Follow us on Twitter <u>@ShipChoiceAACPS</u>. We are tweeting out pictures of learning, bucket-filling, and much more.

Many families have not granted permission for their children's pictures to be shared via social media. School staff knows which students have permission when we post pictures via Twitter or other media. We ask parents to use great caution and always be respectful of others as they use the social media (Facebook, YouTube, etc.) as it relates to Shipley's Choice Elementary School. This includes taking pictures of your child and friends at school, at lunch, etc. **Be mindful that social media posts may be permanent, even after they are deleted.**

Grade Level Communication

Each grade level has developed a Google Site as well as Google Classrooms that they use for regular communication with families. Use the links below to access grade level sites.







School Nurse: Patty Bellotte

Health Assistant: Rachael Penner

Health Room Phone Number

410-222-3809

The Health Room has a quarantine/isolation room for students with suspected COVID-19 symptoms as well as a separate room in which they attend to the needs of other students (minor injuries such as cuts or scrapes, distributing medications, etc.). When students bring it to our attention that they are feeling ill, teachers will contact the health room to verify that they may send the student for assessment.

STUDENTS WITH COVID-LIKE ILLNESSES

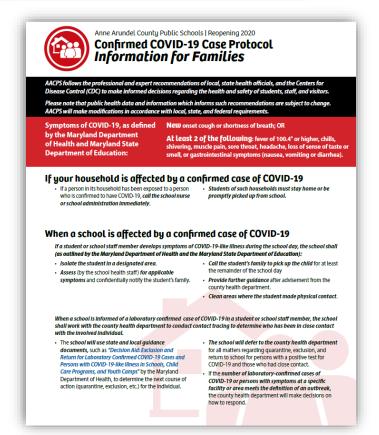
Students who display COVID-like illnesses in school will be evaluated by the health room and possibly sent home. If your child is sent home with symptoms, the health room will inform you of the appropriate protocol, which may include quarantining your student or getting a COVID-19 test.

COVID-19

See the <u>Safety Protocols</u> for details on the AACPS and school protocols for COVID-19. If a student or someone in the household has or suspected of having COVID-19, please call the Health Room right away.

Students who are exhibiting symptoms associated with COVID-19 will be assessed in the Health Room and possibly sent home. Students who are sent home for suspected COVID-19 symptoms will be required to provide a negative COVID-19 test and/or documentation from your health professional.

> SCES Absence Reporting Form



Picking up a Student from the Health Room

A student who is symptomatic and/or suspected of having COVID will be quarantined in the health room and should be picked up right away. Parents should have someone available who is able to pick up a sick child within an hour of being contacted by the health room. When picking up a child, someone will escort the student to the front door.

Illnesses & Accidents

- For minor complaints, students are encouraged to return to class as soon as possible.
- If the student seems unable to return to class, or if s/he has a rash or fever, parents will be contacted.
- When a student is injured at school, first aid will be administered.
- If the injury is more than superficial, parents will be contacted immediately. In some cases, this will only be done to make you aware, so that you can examine your child when s/he arrives home. In other cases, of course, more immediate care may be needed.
- If we are unable to contact a parent, persons listed on the emergency card will be called. It is essential that your emergency card is accurate and updated as needed.
- If we are unable to reach you or your emergency contacts, your child will be taken to the nearest hospital and we will use our best judgment in caring for them.

Medication Policy

Policy from the Anne Arundel County Department of Health concerning medication administration at school:

Students are permitted to take medication at school or a school-sponsored activity ONLY when it is deemed medically necessary and only under the supervision of school personnel. A form, <u>Parent's Request to Administer Medication at School</u>, must be on file for each medication. The school system reserves the right to refuse to accept, administer, or supervise self-administration of any medication if these procedures are not followed.

This policy applies to both prescription and over-the-counter medications. For the safety of the children and the school at large, it is imperative that these policies be followed correctly. If there are any questions, please feel free to call the Health Room at 410-222-3809.

Allergies/Contagious Diseases

Please inform the School Nurse of any allergies that your child may have that could affect their well-being while at school (bee stings, food allergies, etc.).

Keep our health staff informed of any contagious diseases (Influenza, COVID-19, measles, chicken pox, pertussis, etc.) your child is treated for so that we can be alert to the risks to other students or staff in our school.

ATTENDANCE

Regular attendance is important to your child's success. Please try to schedule appointments outside the school day. **If your child is absent**, you will automatically receive a phone call from Blackboard Connect (formerly Connect-ED).

SCES Absence Reporting Form

Beginning March, 1, Shipley's Choice will accept an <u>online form</u> as a report of student absences. Whenever your child is absent, you must provide a note of explanation to the school within three days of your child's return to school. Absences due to illness in excess of five consecutive days require a physician's note. For a full list of excused absences, see the <u>AACPS family handbook</u>.

Students who selected HYBRID are expected to attend school in the building on their assigned days. However, students who are symptomatic, suspected of having COVID-19 or a contagious illness, or quarantined may occasionally attend class virtually. Prolonged or frequent absences from in-person learning may necessitate a change in a student's learning selection to virtual only.

Use this form to report your child's absence: https://forms.gle/hd8hzJwAmUDNuPKNA

PRIVACY

Shipley's Choice staff and AACPS take privacy very seriously. We take every precaution to guard our students' personal information. This includes (but isn't limited to) pictures, contact information, data, or health information. We ask for your help with this. Please refrain from taking and/or posting pictures inside the school that include other children. Also, do not talk about things you observe with other children in school (e.g. "I saw Johnny in the health room again" or "When I was volunteering in the classroom, Sally couldn't read at all"). If you have a concern about something you observed with another child, talk to a staff member.

The school is not permitted to give out phone numbers or addresses of other students. All information given to us about students is confidential and will not be shared with others unless permission is granted in writing. PTO members have access to a directory with this information and members grant permission to the PTO to publish their information.

SECURITY & SAFETY

AACPS and the school have put security protocols are in place to keep everyone safe. It is easy for us to become lax about security because Shipley's Choice is a close community, but safety is everyone's business! We encourage you to call the police and/or to notify the school if they see anything that is suspicious or dangerous on our school grounds. Weekend vandalism can also be greatly reduced with the support of the residents in our community.

Emergency Drills

During each school year, various drills are conducted to ensure that staff and students are prepared in the event of an emergency. These drills include monthly fire/evacuation drills and must continue even during the pandemic or hybrid learning.

In addition, schools perform additional emergency exercises developed by the Office of School Security. These exercises include, but are not limited to evacuation, shelter, and potentially dangerous situations inside and outside the building. We do not share specifics about possible reasons for drills with students. We tell students that we are practicing ways to stay safe.

These drills are discussed with staff prior to the drill and evaluated once the drill is complete. In some cases, the drills may be discussed with students before they take place.