

SEMINOLE SCIENCE CHARTER SCHOOL

2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR REOPENING FAQ

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS REGARDING SSCS RE-OPENING FOR 2020-21 FALL SEMESTER

Can students take virtual classes and remain at school?

If students are to remain at SSCS, students must commit to either the Innovative Home Learning Model or the Face-to-Face model at school. If students choose a virtual option (FLVS or SCVS) they will be withdrawn from SSCS.

What is the first day of School?

Seminole Science Charter School will begin the 2020-2021 school year on August 17, 2020. We will continue to follow SCPS academic calendar.

<http://seminolescience.org/index.php/academics/academic-calendar>

Are we still able to order school supplies through Seminole Science Charter School?

EPI school supplies are no longer available for purchase. Families may still review the supply lists on our school website at http://seminolescience.org/images/media/sscs/pdf/SEM023_SUPPLY_LIST_2020.pdf

Will the children need the same supplies listed on the website for at home learning, or are there additional/less items needed?

School supplies are essential for students needed at home. Group supplies may not be needed until students return to campus. However, these items may become more essential later in the year. Supplies such as notebooks, pencils, and crayons/scissors, etc. will be needed for Innovative at Home Learning.

Will students be required to wear a mask all day?

SSCS students will abide by SCPS protocol stated in the SCPS Re-Opening Plan. Students are required to bring a mask and/or covering to school each day. Students must wear mask during all transitions and if unable to remain socially distanced in the classroom. For example, during small group work or one-on-one help. The goal is to wear a mask for the entirety of the school day excluding lunch, PE, and if remaining socially distanced at desk within the classroom.

Will middle schoolers still participate in the electives that they chose?

Electives will be postponed until further notice and re-evaluated at the end of the first semester. In accordance with CDC guidelines, classroom transitions are to be limited throughout the day. Some electives included competition club. Will that club still happen or not decided yet?

Clubs are postponed until further notice and will be re-evaluated at the end of the first semester.

Will middle schoolers change every day for PE?

Middle schoolers will not be required to change for PE.

Will middle schoolers complete all subject areas in one classroom or will they be transitioning as usual?

Transitions will be minimized throughout the day. We are planning to have teachers transition to students.

What will PE look like? Will it be live/recorded zoom lessons with teachers or a list of activities to complete a log each week?

Our goal is to have live/recorded lessons weekly. Distance learning feedback from parents will be taken into consideration when planning for the structure of specials classes in the fall semester.

Will children in the at home learning program be required to wear uniforms?

Innovative Learning At-Home students are encouraged to wear the school uniform during school hours. This enforces the learning culture and vision of our school to focus on student learning as a priority. Traditional On-campus Learners will be required to wear their uniform.

Will the children be participating in specials if they are working from home? Will a different teacher be teaching the specials like they do in school?

Students will be participating in specials when working from home. The goal is to have live sessions with our special teachers. They will be working with their Specials teachers during this time.

Will we get a chance to meet our child's teacher before they start the at home learning process?

Our meet the teacher event will be hosted via an online platform.

If I choose Face-to-Face learning and change my mind after school starts, can I transition my child to Innovative learning?

Please contact the administration and we will work closely with each family to address individual concerns.

What will the schedule look like for an Innovative Learning Model? Will students have to be online from 8:00 AM until 2:45 PM?

Our goal per the Governor's Executive Order is for students to follow a school day schedule using technology and other instructional resources to learn from their teachers presenting live in classrooms at school, to the extent practicable. There will have breaks/lunch times built into their schedules.

Will the same curriculum be required and will students have access to the textbooks and workbooks at home?

Students will be provided with workbooks (per the applicable class) and online textbook access to use at home. Teachers through both the Innovative Learning Model and Traditional will focus on the Florida State Standards when teaching. They will use a consistent method throughout the school year.

What cleaning procedures and other policies have been put in place?

SSCS will follow the SCPS and CDC Guidelines following Safeguards for Classrooms and Safeguards for Campus and School District Buildings referring to 5.1 and 5.2 of the SCPS Re-Opening plan (<https://www.scps.k12.fl.us/core/fileparse.php/1824/urlt/SCPS-Reopening-Plan.pdf>)

Do we have a date for Orientation to get middle school schedules yet? Will this be done in person or virtually?

Orientation/Meet the Teacher will be held virtually the week of August 12-14. You will receive an email from your student(s)' teachers.

Will middle school students have the same teacher for all subjects using Innovative Learning or will it be as in school where they have a different teacher for each class?

Middle school classes will be taught by each subject area teacher.

For Art class, will we get a list of materials needed to complete the projects so we can make sure we have them prepared?

Teachers will limit the need to purchase extra supplies to complete tasks and projects.

What happens if the child is experiencing technical issues during the school hours? Will this be counted as an absence?

Please contact your homeroom teacher if experiencing technical issues. We will work together to resolve the problem.

Are there any entrance exams for 5th graders entering middle school regarding classroom placement for Math and Language Arts?

Students are placed based upon the most recent I-Ready scores in ELA and Mathematics, Report Cards for the overall year, teacher feedback, and coursework taken over the summer. Students will be given a diagnostic exam in the fall which will also help rearrange placements if necessary.

If we choose one option for our student, is this choice for the entire year?

No. The initial choice will be for the first semester. Towards the end of the first semester, the school will assess its models and potentially allow more on campus learners. Conversely, if conditions worsened, add more students to the Innovative Learning program (Seminole Science Innovative Learning).

What will be different for the Innovative Learning program versus last year's Distance Learning program?

Based upon parent feedback, you can expect more teacher lead activities and virtual interaction with your child and their classmates. The school will continue to use iReady, Studyisland, etc, however teachers will meet with students daily. Classes online will follow the same grading expectations as on campus learning.

Is there a hybrid option currently?

No. Currently there is no hybrid option at this time (ie. Monday on campus, Tuesday with Innovative Learning)

How many students will be in classroom on campus?

This number varies based CDC guidelines and the number of students who choose the on-campus option. The size of the classroom may also affect this number. 30% of our population have opted for Traditional On-Campus Learning with the other 70% choosing the Innovative At-Home Learning.

When are the hours of Innovative Learning?

The hours of the program would range between the hours of the actual school bell, from approximately 8:00 a.m.-2:45 p.m. Each teacher will be provided a schedule to follow, to ensure all subjects are being addressed.

Will one teacher be responsible for both an Innovative Learning group and on campus group?

Teachers will be responsible for teaching both groups of students.

How will the online classes compare with the onsite classes?

Both learning models will provide standard based instruction that is both rigorous and interactive.

Will students be socially distanced while on campus?

Yes. Classrooms will be designed in manner that allows for appropriate social distancing. In addition, the hallways, cafeteria, and other locations where students are present. Also, transitions will be limited to lunch, recess, PE and some specials depending on number of students and room availability.

Will classes be leveled?

Yes. Classes will be continued to be leveled based upon assessments from the previous school year and that took place over the summer.

Will students in the Innovative Learning Model be provided with additional services?

Yes. Innovative Learning teachers will be required to provide any accommodation for students with special needs including 504, IEP, EP (Gifted), and students in the ESOL program.

What platforms will be used for the Innovative Learning model?

All teachers will be required to use Google Classroom/Clever as their platform. Innovative Learning teachers will be using the same curriculum as those teachers in a classroom-based model. Each teacher has the flexibility to incorporate technological tools that benefit their online class. Zoom will be the school sponsored videotelephony and online chat service.

Will clubs still be an option for students?

For safety purposes, clubs will not be held the first semester of the school year. Clubs require lots of movement and switching rooms. We will evaluate the situation and decide if we can start the clubs for

the second semester. We will send out more information regarding competition teams once the school year has begun.

What happens if a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19?

Our school will be following the expert guidance provided by SCPS and the Seminole County Health department regarding this topic.

Will temperatures be taken on campus?

Yes. Temperatures will be taken daily.

Where will students eat on campus?

Students will be eating in the cafeteria maintain social distance. All lunch tables will be separated, and students will face to same direction.

Is there a virtual school option?

Students who opt for a virtual option (ie. SCVS or FLVS) will have to withdraw from our school system. To re-enroll, you would need to reapply for to the school via the lottery system. Innovative Learning is our At-Home learning program.

Will after school care be offered for on campus students?

Yes, the registration is located on the SSCS website.

How will drop off and dismissal work?

All students will be dropped off and picked up per the usual carline routine. Please refer to the orientation PowerPoint located on the SSCS website.

Will attendance be taken for students in the Innovative Learning program?

Yes. Students will be held to the same expectations as students on campus.

Will visitors/volunteers be allowed on campus?

To minimize the number of people in the building other than employees and students, campus visitors will be limited to only essential activities and business for the duration of this crisis.