



DURHAM
PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Reopening of Durham PreK Programs for the 2020-2021 School Year

The Durham County School Readiness/NCPK Committee met Thursday, July 30th, 2020, to craft reopening guidance for the Durham County PreK Program. At this time, the NC Division of Child Development and Early Education (DCDEE) is finalizing child care guidance for the 2020-2021 program year.

There are two program start dates for the 2020-2021 school year:

- Durham Public Schools' (DPS) PreK classrooms will start **Monday, August 17th, 2020**, and all students will attend virtually for the first nine weeks of the school year.
- Private childcare PreK classrooms will begin **Tuesday, September 8th, 2020**. All private PreK programs will use a hybrid model to serve children in-person and virtually. The hybrid model will allow sites to limit the number of children in the classroom and meet all families' needs.
- Durham Head Start classrooms will begin **Tuesday, September 8th, 2020** and all students will attend virtually. In October, families can choose in-person instruction for students.

Seat offers for DPS began Monday, July 27, 2020, and following parent surveys regarding the hybrid model, private site seat offers will begin the week of August 3, 2020. Offers will continue until seats are filled. Families offered seats with parent fees who have questions about their fees or have had major changes in income to report can email PreK.DPFC@gmail.com.

There will be a reassessment of all PreK delivery models following the start of school, and we will continue to be in close communication with families about program changes.

These decisions were made in alignment with the directors' reopening capacity feedback; the parent needs survey feedback, Durham Public Schools' re-entry plan, and Interim Child Care Reopening Guidance. The Committee understands the seriousness and gravity of the situation currently in Durham and our state. Durham PreK Partners' number one priority is to ensure the children's and staff's health and safety.

We welcome any questions you may have but note that we may not have all the answers immediately. Please contact the PreK Information Desk at 833-773-5338 or email PreK@childcareservices.org.

Thank you for support and for your flexibility and resilience during these unique and challenging times. We look forward to serving Durham's Pre-Kindergarten students.

Sincerely,
Durham PreK Partners

To learn more about North Carolina's reopening guidance or health and safety requirements for childcare facilities, please visit <https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/guidance#child-care>.

