

# Returning to School

Social Story  
Early Childhood



**VANDERBILT KENNEDY CENTER**  
TREATMENT & RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS



The coronavirus can make people sick. To help keep everyone healthy, school might be different. When school starts again some things will be the same. Some things might be different. This is okay.



There are some things we always do to keep people healthy. Washing my hands helps keeps people healthy. Covering coughs and sneezes with my elbow can help, too. I will try to wash my hands regularly and cover my mouth to keep people safe and healthy.



Masks are another way to keep people healthy. Teachers and students might be wearing masks. I might wear a mask. People might wear masks on the playground, or in the hallway, or even in our classroom. I will try to keep my mask on when I need to. This will help keep everyone healthy.



**I might have to sit with some space between me and my friends. I can still wave to my friends, even if I can't get close to them.**



Some parts of my day might be different. I might eat in my classroom instead of the cafeteria. I might play inside instead of playing outside on the playground. I might not be able to play with some toys. My school day might be shorter. I might not go to school every day of the week. My teachers will help me by telling me what my schedule will look like.



I might have school on the computer instead of in my classroom. Some people might be in the classroom, or everyone might be doing school on their computer at their houses.



If people get sick they might have to stay home for a while. School might even be cancelled if some people get sick. I might have to stay home even if I am not sick. This is okay.



If I get anxious or upset when I am at school, or start to feel sick, I can ask my teacher for help.



My family, friends, and teachers will be proud of me when I try to keep everyone safe and healthy at school.