

Tips for Teachers on Child Welfare and Online Safety during COVID-19

	Food	Physical Safety	Online Safety
Elementary	<p>Questions to ask: What did everyone have for breakfast today? Send me an emoji of what you had for breakfast!</p> <p>What to look for: -Kids who don't enthusiastically share out what they had, or kids who state they had nothing. Keep an eye on these kids for other signs of abuse or neglect.</p>	<p>Questions to ask: Ask students to provide you a hand signal (maybe on a scale of 1-5, they can do this on one hand, they can send a different color heart that means a different level of safety) of how safe they are feeling during this crisis. This can be under the guise of the illness while you are looking for other signs of physical safety. Ask if they have had any fun visitors or any strangers in their house since they've been home.</p> <p>Ex: of system to use</p> <p style="text-align: center;">  </p> <p>What to look for: -Kids who express they don't feel safe, kids who look physically malnourished or have injuries you can see. . Keep an eye on these kids for other signs of abuse or neglect.</p>	<p>Questions to ask: Is there always an adult helping you when you're online? Are you ever talking to someone you don't know online?</p> <p>What to look for: -Kids who say no one is helping them online or that they are talking to someone they don't know. . Keep an eye on these kids for other signs of abuse or neglect.</p>



<p>Middle</p>	<p>Questions to ask: What did everyone have for breakfast today? Send me an emoji of what you had for breakfast!</p> <p>What to look for: -Kids who don't enthusiastically share out what they had, or kids who state they had nothing. Keep an eye on these kids for other signs of abuse or neglect.</p>	<p>Questions to ask: Ask students to provide you a hand signal (maybe on a scale of 1-5, they can do this on one hand, they can send a different color heart that means a different level of safety) of how safe they are feeling during this crisis. This can be under the guise of the illness while you are looking for other signs of physical safety. Ask if they have had any fun visitors or any strangers in their house since they've been home.</p> <p>Ex of system to use:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">— SOCIAL DISTANCING MENTAL HEALTH CHECK-IN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  I'm doing great  I am okay  I'm okay-ish  Things are tough  I'm struggling  I'm having a hard time and wouldn't mind if someone reached out to me  I'm in a bad place right now <p style="text-align: center;">Drop your heart color and let each other know how we are doing!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Let's keep checking in on our family and friends.</p> <p>What to look for: -Kids who express they don't feel safe, kids who look physically malnourished or have injuries you can see. Keep an eye on these kids for other signs of abuse or neglect.</p>	<p>Questions to ask: Is there always an adult helping you when you're online? Are you ever talking to someone you don't know online? Are you ever using technology when you're getting dressed or going to the bathroom? Also educate students about online safety, don't talk to strangers and don't undress in front of the camera.</p> <p>What to look for: -Kids who say no one is helping them online or that they are talking to someone they don't know. Kids that share they are using technology in private places. . Keep an eye on these kids for other signs of abuse or neglect.</p>
<p>High</p>	<p>Questions to ask: Is everyone getting enough food? Do you know where to access food if you aren't?</p> <p>What to look for: Students who share they aren't eating</p>	<p>Questions to ask: How is everyone feeling during the epidemic? Is everyone safe at home? (Have students respond with a hand signal or emoji code you set up to express their level of safety). Remind students that if they are feeling unsafe, they can reach out to you and you can contact someone.</p>	<p>Questions to ask: Here you more want to educate your students about online safety. Tell them not to talk to strangers online, not to get undressed in front of a camera, not to send pictures to strangers,</p>

	<p>enough or who look malnourished. Make sure they know where they can get food resources from the school and/or food banks.</p>	<p>Ex of system to use:</p> <p>SOCIAL DISTANCING MENTAL HEALTH CHECK-IN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  I'm doing great  I am okay  I'm okay-ish  Things are tough  I'm struggling  I'm having a hard time and wouldn't mind if someone reached out to me  I'm in a bad place right now <p>Drop your heart color and let each other know how we are doing!</p> <p>Let's keep checking in on our family and friends.</p> <p>What to look for: Hopefully students will share with you if they feel unsafe however, if they don't, look for students with any visible marks or in an unsafe environment.</p>	<p>not to share their location online, etc...Also share with them how to share online tips with crimestoppers and other help lines they can contact.</p> <p>What to look for: Students looking for more information on help lines, students who share they are talking to strangers.</p>
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**For High school and Middle school students, if they are submitting work to your email or an online tool like schoology (and you aren't getting a lot of video access of them), it could be a good idea to make one of the "Do Firsts" or warm-up activities questions to check in on them during the forced time at home. Example below:

<p>DO FIRST!</p>	
<p>1. This is a weird and sometimes scary time to be stuck at home hearing about all the dangerous events happening because of coronavirus. So, we want to make sure that we are staying happy and healthy by staying in touch with each other! Every time you submit your work to me I want to hear about your time at home because I miss having you in my class every day! Please answer the questions below:</p>	
<p>A. What was something that happened today or yesterday that put you in a bad mood or annoyed you?</p>	<p>Teacher Answer:</p> <p>My Netflix account got cancelled and I lost all my streaming history ☹️</p>

B. What was something fun you did today or yesterday that put you in a good mood?	Teacher Answer: I got to facetime with my nephew to see how he was doing and watched him play with trucks!
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****Key Items to Pay Attention to when you see your students online**

- The physical appearance of your student, do they look malnourished? Overly tired? Dirty?
- The physical area around them, is it dirty? Is it safe? Are there illicit drugs or alcohol out in the room?
- Conversations between students that raise red flags. This could be anything from talking about partying happening in their house, strangers coming over, someone in the house being ill, having to take care of a sibling full time, having to cook their own dinner, etc...
- Pay particular attention to your students with IEP's, 504's, disabilities, etc.. as they are more vulnerable to abuse and neglect in this time
- Keep in mind which students have people at home with mental illness, substance abuse, or domestic violence