



## **Ember Charter School New York State Department of Health Reopening Plan-Nutrition**

Operations of cafeterias and other food services will operate in accordance with “Interim Guidance for Food Services during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency” with additional precautions for students that are contained herein, such as social distancing between students or cohorts of students.

Breakfast, lunch and snack will likely be served in classrooms, to support social distancing and minimize interaction between groups of students. If the cafeteria must be used, students must maintain appropriate physical distancing. During meals and snacks, students will be directed to not share food or beverages. Meals will be available for breakfast and lunch each day, though students will also be permitted to bring their own lunch if preferred. School meals will be delivered to students in classrooms and will continue to be provided by our school foods vendor.

Students who are not receiving in person instruction can pick up a lunch from school or any identified DOE school building near their home. These families may also sign up for at-home delivery of meals from our school foods vendor.

After eating, staff will wipe down the area where they ate their meal with disinfectant wipes. Every evening, our the DOE Division of School Facilities will be cleaning the entire building with COVID 19 approved disinfectant. Students will be expected to clean their hands repeatedly throughout the day, including before and after meals/snacks.

To reinforce students’ learning from the aforementioned health lessons, NYCDOE will provide PDFs of posters to each school to remind students of these important hygiene protocols and to not share food or beverages. NYCDOE will also provide additional PDFs of posters for schools to use as is appropriate for individual spaces, including directional signs.

We take allergies, food safety, and student health very seriously. We cannot guarantee a nut, milk or “allergen-free” environment, but we do have an “allergen aware” policy. Children with allergies become aware of what they can and cannot eat, and school staff members are alert and careful about each student’s allergies. If a child has severe allergies, we request that parents have health care providers complete the Medical Review for Severe Allergies form and complete an Allergy Response Plan. In the case of a severe allergic reaction, the affected child is immediately given his/her prescribed medicine by trained school staff or a nurse, and school staff call 911 and contact the child’s parent and health care provider.

All meals served to students will comply with the relevant Child Nutrition programs, including the School Breakfast Program and National School Lunch Program. All meals, as well as any meals served in classrooms, will follow all relevant USDA nutritional and meal pattern requirements. We are working closely with our school foods vendor to ensure full adherence to USDA program accountability requirements, ensuring appropriate measures are in place to guarantee that only meals served to enrolled students are claimed for reimbursement.