Help keep students, teachers, and local communities safe by identifying and responding to COVID-19 trends within schools.

WHO ARE WE?
We are pediatricians and pediatric specialists, experts in public health and epidemiology, and researchers from academic health centers across the U.S. We have dedicated our careers to learning about and caring for children and are deeply committed to their health and wellbeing. We firmly believe schools are among our strongest and most important partners in children’s health and have been privileged to work side-by-side our school colleagues over the course of the pandemic in the face of uncertainty and difficult decisions.

The ABC Science Collaborative is coordinated by the Duke Clinical Research Institute at the Duke University School of Medicine and is funded through grants from the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences, the National Institutes of Health, and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

What are the Benefits for Participating Schools?
In addition to making a meaningful contribution to the collective understanding of COVID-19 and schools, participating districts will be provided tools and reports that will help identify trends in your district’s data and learn how your data compares to that of other districts in the country or your region.

What Are We Asking Schools to Report and How Often?
We have streamlined an automated online data collection system to capture the most important elements in an ongoing way.

Once: Number of students and staff, policies related to masking, quarantine, close contacts, and lunch

Weekly: Primary and secondary cases, sports-associated secondary cases, lunch-associated cases, quarantines, approximate percent mask compliance (for both students and staff; with the option to report by school or grouped for all elementary, all middle, and all high school)

Monthly: Number of students and staff absences (for any reason) in the prior month

As needed: Dates of changes to policies

Why Do We Think the ABCs of COVID-19 Within Schools Initiative is Important?
As schools across the country make different decisions about policies and mitigating measures, collecting data from as many schools across the country as possible will give us the best opportunity to deepen our understanding of what policies are most effective and what types of circumstances are important as we travel through this next school year. This type of data will help inform local and national guidance, better delineate on- and off-ramps for various mitigation measures, and provide schools with additional tools to make well-informed, real-time policy decisions.

Ready to Join?
Use this QR code to complete a brief enrollment form.