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Key Considerations as You Plan to Reopen

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Our Approach

In April 2020, we surveyed schools in the U.S. and Canada to better understand their most pressing concerns.

- **39%** Do not have a school nurse on site every day.
- **82%** Are concerned about social distancing when schools reopen.
- **75%** Are concerned about providing social, emotional, or mental health support.



China

Students wear hats to promote distance

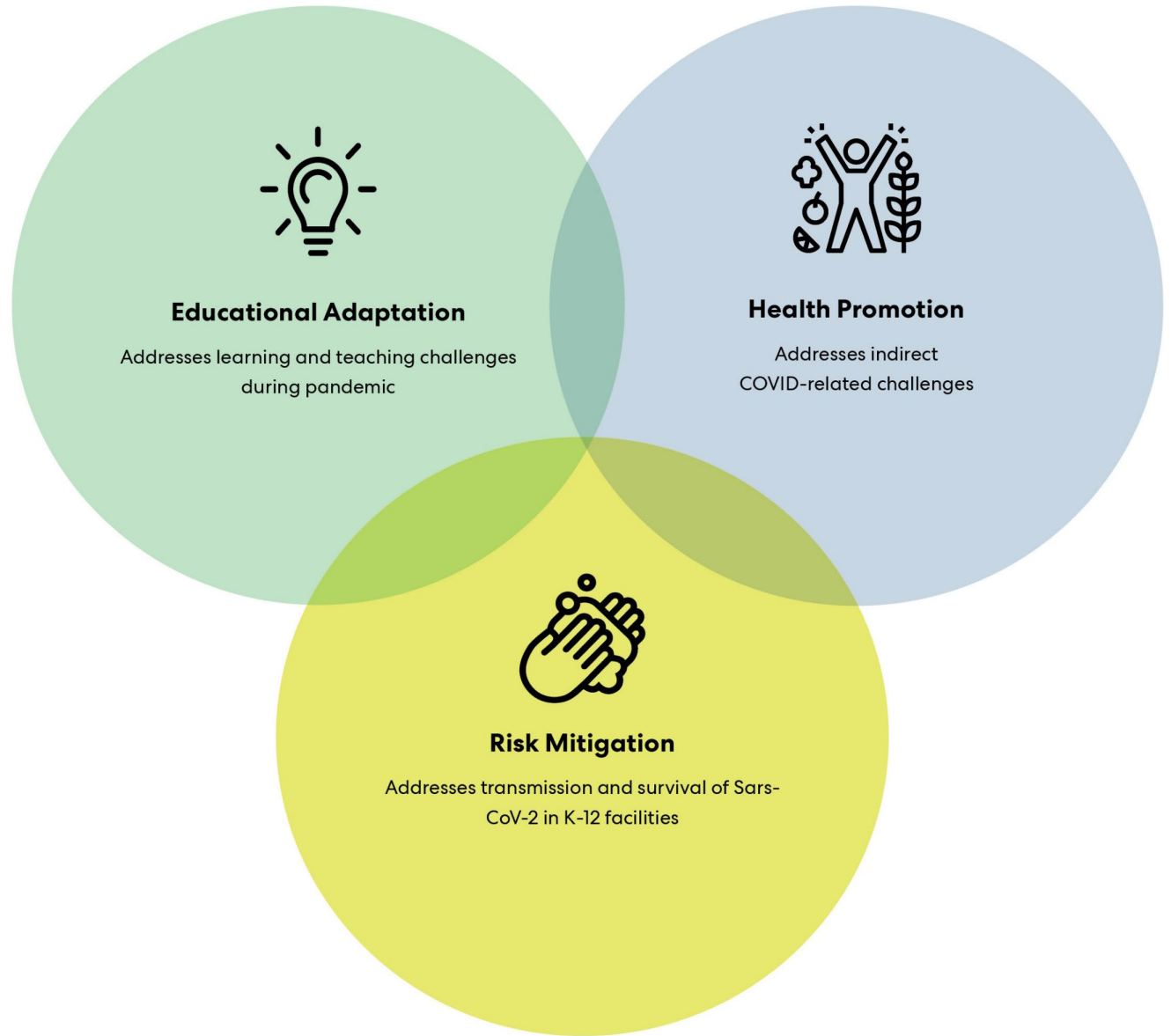


Copenhagen

Wide aisles and spaced out desks

Holistic Framework

To promote health & safety without compromising students' learning potential



Risk Mitigation



Strategies for reducing COVID-19 transmission and cross-contamination through design, disinfection and cleaning.

- **Personal protective equipment (PPE)** for school occupants
- **Enhanced natural ventilation and use operable windows** to dilute and remove contaminated air
- **Add hands-free entry** to reduce cross contamination
- **Provide frequent cleaning** and engage students in cleaning high touch areas



Student at Yangzheng Primary School in China



Educational Adaptation



These strategies promote effective learning and teaching in this new normal through behavioral, logistical, and technology changes.

- **Alter education scheduling** by staggering start times
- Promote **outdoor learning and physical education**
- **Integrated curriculum** with all classes focused on the history, math, and science of disease transmission
- **Behavior change** to promote social distance



South Korea Reopens Schools



Health Promotion



Strategies that promote physical and mental health, social cohesion, and a sense of belonging and safety.

- **Design spaces for different levels of interaction and privacy** to address differing comfort (acoustics) levels
- **Connect students and staff with resources** for food, housing, and job security
- **Continue physical education** throughout the day



Teacher holds a music lesson outdoors in Randers, Denmark



Our Response

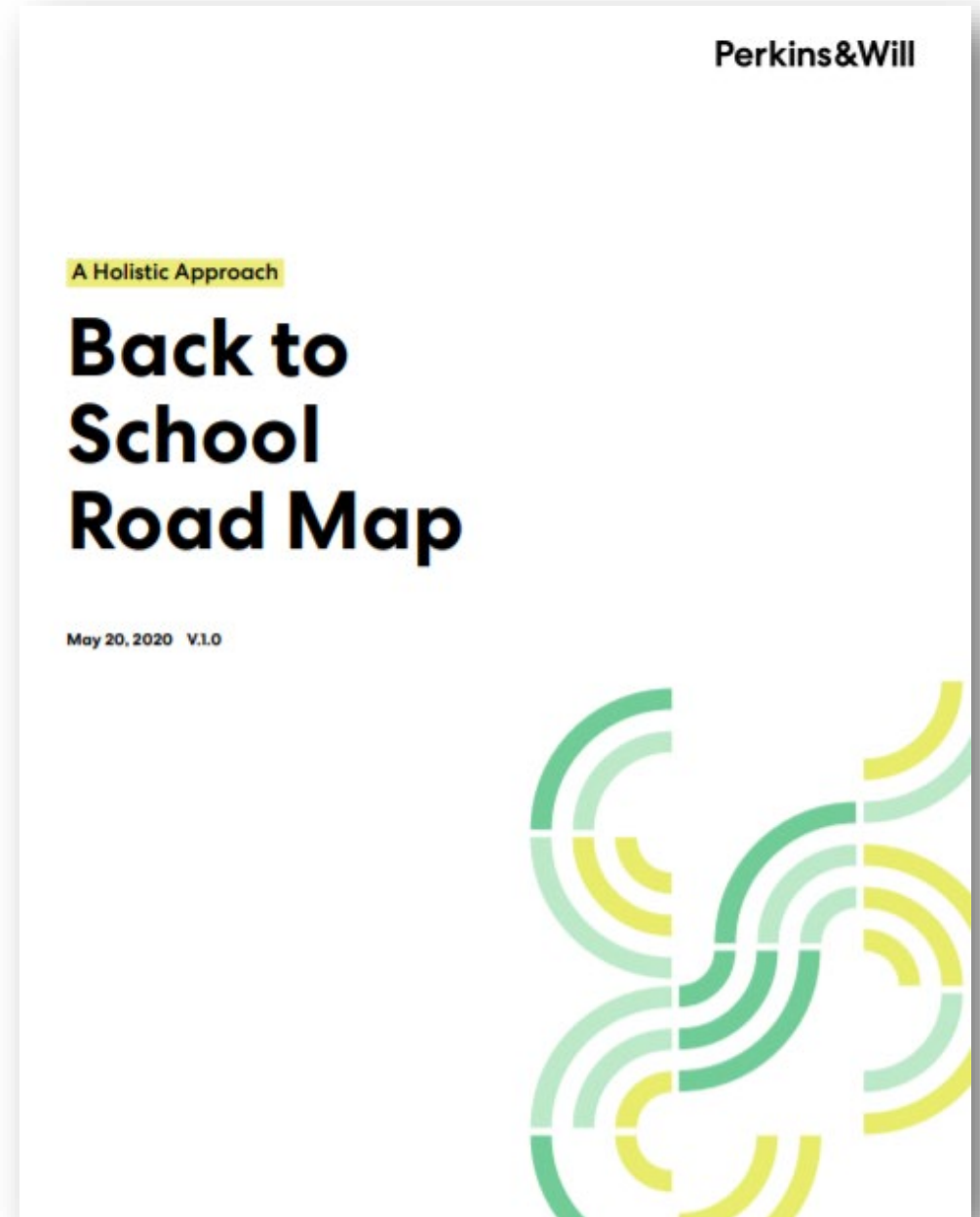
Strategies responding to school stakeholder concerns

Research-based

Actionable

Equity and health-focused

Responsive



Road Map Strategies



Air Quality



Capacity Guidelines



Cleaning and Disinfecting



De-Densification



Food Security



Personal Protective Equipment



Physical Education



Reducing Cross-Contamination



Social and Emotional Learning

Examples



HEPA Filtration

Air Quality



6' Distancing

Capacity Guidelines



Food-grade cleaners for desktops

Cleaning and Disinfecting



Social Distancing

De-Densification



Continued Meal Distribution

Food Security



Mask vs. Face Shield

Personal Protective Equipment



Outdoor PE

Physical Education



Touchless Features

Reducing Cross-Contamination



Outdoor Space

Social and Emotional Learning

Dive Deeper

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Road Map for K-12 Education

Nine Areas for Intervention in K-12 Schools

Summer, 2020 V.1.0

k12roadmap.perkinswill.com

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Strategies

06 — Specialty Classrooms (Art, Science)

- For items that cannot be washed between uses (e.g. paint brushes, eyedroppers, etc.), provide each student with an individual set. A plastic labeled bin for supplies works well.
- Move art and science outdoors when possible to free up classroom space.
- Provide individually package manipulatives like clay so students are not reaching into a shared resource.
- Clean shared equipment such as microscopes and scales between uses. If cleaning is not feasible, do not share equipment.
- For music classes, wind instruments should not be played indoors and instruments should not be shared.

07 — Bathroom

- **Post reminders** for basic hygiene tips, including 20-second hand washing. Tip: Help students measure 20-seconds by encouraging them to hum the "Happy Birthday" song twice while washing.
- **Use portable air purifiers.** Note that these may be more effective in restrooms than in other parts of school, because the volume of the space is relatively small and noise may not be a concern. Increasing the filtration of the air may help reduce the risk of transmission by bioaerosols.
- **Verify bathroom exhaust.** Viral particles can be shed in stool, so ensuring that exhaust ventilation is functioning properly in bathrooms is an important control strategy. Open windows when possible.
- **Provide sanitizing wipes** for individuals to wipe down doorknobs, toilet seats, and sinks prior to their own use, both for their comfort and to increase the frequency of cleaning.
- **Add physical barriers,** such as plastic flexible screens, between bathroom sinks, especially when they cannot be at least 6 feet apart.
- **Create Bathroom Scheduling**
 - Develop a specific schedule for hand washing and bathroom use so lines do not develop and bathrooms do not get crowded.
 - Avoid taking multiple classes to bathrooms at once (e.g., avoid having all classes use the bathroom right after lunch or recess).³



Areas of Intervention

08 — Outdoor Spaces

- **Green Schoolyards America** provides guidance on creating outdoor learning environments and the benefits of outdoor spaces when coping with stress.⁴
- Under physical distancing guidelines, most schools will only have capacity for 60% of students. Outdoor spaces will serve an important function as an area for safe socialization, physical education, and informal learning environments during good weather days.
- **Cleaning considerations:**
 - "Outdoor areas generally require normal routine cleaning and do not require disinfection. Spraying disinfectant on sidewalks and in parks is not an efficient use of disinfectant supplies and has not been proven to reduce the risk of COVID-19 to the public. You should maintain existing cleaning and hygiene practices for outdoor areas."⁵ —U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.



09 — Modular Classrooms

- When space and resources are available, modular buildings can provide additional workspaces for staff or classrooms for students.
- Modulars should be carefully selected to reduce adverse exposures such as formaldehyde, which can be found in wood paneling.



Roundtable Discussion

- What will be **recommended** and what will be **required** within your school's reopening plan?
- Which **team members** are positioned to enforce the plans your school devises?
- What are the **3 main reopening priorities** for your school and in what order?
- What can schools do to accommodate **high-risk teachers**?

3:15-3:55 Breakout Groups

4:00-4:15 Whole Group Reflection