The Kid Angle

Kid-focused news from First Focus on Children

Children are back in school. We need a COVID-19 plan for them NOW
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Anyone paying attention probably has a good case of COVID-19 whiplash.

Will someone in the Administration please, please, please articulate [a plan for vaccinating and protecting the children](?)?

We get that data changes and evolves. And that guidance changes with it. But children — as well as parents, teachers, school staff, child care providers and others who nurture our children on a daily basis — need [a comprehensive, clearly articulated plan that ensures easy, equitable access to vaccines](https://) for children who are eligible and for whom it is appropriate. And clear recommendations for those for whom it is not.

Back-to-school is no longer an event in the future. Students outside Phoenix and elsewhere began [returning to classrooms *last week.*](https://) The new backpacks and stiff Chuck Taylors coincide with record numbers of children around the country being hospitalized with COVID-19 ([Arkansas](), [Texas]()), driving home the fact that we are now experiencing a "pandemic of the unvaccinated," a group that includes a large percentage of children.

Given this environment, children, parents, teachers and school staff should not have to [read between the lines to determine appropriate safety measures](https://) as classrooms re-open.

We need a plan for ensuring easy, equitable access to vaccines for children who are eligible and for whom it is appropriate. And clear, reliable guidance about how to protect those for whom it's not. Ditto for children who are soon to become eligible, the 11-and-unders, who could have a vaccine in the coming months. [First Focus on Children has been calling for such a plan since April](https://).

Time is no longer running out. Time *is* out.

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