

Preparing for Safe Return to School

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COVID 19

While some children and infants have been sick with COVID 19, adults make up most of the known cases to date.

Early research suggests that fewer children than adults with COVID 19 get a fever, cough, or shortness of breath.

According to the CDC, children do not seem to be at higher risk for getting COVID 19, however some people, including children with special needs, may be at higher risk.

CDC (2020)

COVID 19

Those at Increased Risk

- Older Adults
 - People who have serious chronic medical conditions like:
 - Cancer
 - Chronic Kidney Disease
 - COPD
 - Immunocompromised State
 - Obesity (BMI of 30 or higher)
 - Serious heart conditions, such as Heart Failure, Coronary Artery Disease, or Cardiomyopathy
 - Sickle Cell Disease
 - Type 2 Diabetes
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COVID 19 SYMPTOMS

- FEVER OR CHILLS
- COUGH
- SHORTNESS OF BREATH OR DIFFICULTY BREATHING
- FATIGUE
- NEW ONSET HEADACHE
- MUSCLE OR BODY ACHES
- NEW LOSS OF TASTE OR SMELL
- SORE THROAT
- CONGESTION OR RUNNY NOSE
- NAUSEA OR VOMITING
- DIARRHEA



COVID 19

Transmission Between People

COVID 19 is spread mainly through close contact from person to person via mouth and nose secretions which include saliva, respiratory secretions, or respiratory droplets.

To avoid contact with these droplets, it is important to physical distance, clean hands frequently, do not touch face, and proper respiratory hygiene.

Some people without symptoms may be able to spread the virus.

WHO (2020)

COVID 19

Other Ways of Transmission

People with the virus in their noses and throats may leave infected droplets on objects and surfaces such as tables, doorknobs and handrails.

WHO (2020)

HAND HYGIENE AND RESPIRATORY ETIQUETTE

- Teach and reinforce handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
- Encourage students and staff to cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue if not wearing a face covering/mask
- Have adequate supplies including soap, hand sanitizer, paper towels, tissues, and no-touch trash cans
- **HAND HYGIENE SHOULD TAKE PLACE:**
 - UPON ARRIVAL TO SCHOOL
 - BEFORE AND AFTER MEALS AND SNACKS
 - AFTER GOING TO THE BATHROOM
 - BEFORE LEAVING FOR THE DAY
 - AFTER BLOWING NOSE, SNEEZING, OR COUGHING
 - WHEN HANDS ARE VISIBLY SOILED
 - BEFORE AND AFTER PUTTING MASK ON OR TAKING MASK OFF



REMEMBER! HAND WASHING IS THE SINGLE MOST EFFECTIVE WAY TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF INFECTIONS AND GERMS!

NJDOH (2020)



FACE COVERINGS



The CDC recommends that students and staff wear face coverings in school. While some may wear cloth masks others may wear disposable masks and the following principles should apply to all face coverings.

- Schools should teach and reinforce the use of face coverings and should be worn by staff and students
- Face coverings are not a substitute for social distancing. Information should be provided to staff and students on proper use, removal, and washing of cloth masks
- Appropriate and consistent use of face coverings may be challenging for some students, teachers, and staff

Uses of Symptom Screening

Screening students and employees for symptoms of COVID19 and history of exposure

Screening will be done by parents before 8:00 am each morning using the OnCourse Portal Screening tool.

The school ensures that procedures are in place to identify and respond to when a student or staff member becomes ill with COVID19 symptoms.

Daily Home Screening for Students

According to the CDC, schools should encourage parents, guardians, and caregivers to conduct daily home screenings and should ask parents to report their answers on two topics:

- SYMPTOMS
- CLOSE CONTACT/POTENTIAL EXPOSURE

CDC (2020)

West Cape May School District

Please fill out the following form and indicate if you have had any of the following symptoms or exposures.

Symptoms

- Temperature 100 degrees Fahrenheit or higher when taken by mouth.
 - Sore Throat.
 - New uncontrolled cough that causes difficulty breathing (for students with chronic allergic/asthmatic cough, a change in their cough from baseline)
 - Diarrhea, vomiting, or abdominal pain.
 - New onset of severe headache, especially with a fever.
 - New loss of taste or smell.
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Exposure

- Had close contact (within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes) with a person with confirmed COVID-19.
 - Had close contact (within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes) with person under quarantine for possible exposure to SARS-CoV-2
 - Traveled to or lived in an area where the local, Tribal, territorial, or state health department is reporting large numbers of COVID-19 cases as described in the Community Mitigation Framework
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- I confirm that my answers to all of the above are true and accurate (required).

PREPARING FOR ILLNESS

What do we do if we suspect if a child or staff member becomes ill with COVID19 symptoms?

The school ensures that procedures and policies are in place to identify and respond to when a student or staff member become ill with COVID19 symptoms.

- Designated isolation room away from others to isolate while at school separate from the nurse's office so the nurse's office can still be used for routine visits such as medication administration, injuries, and non-COVID19 related visits
- School Nurse will stay with isolated student or staff member until they can leave the building
- Teacher will inform Nurse by telephone prior to sending student to Health Office
- Student will be escorted by an adult to the Health Room or isolation room

PREPARING FOR ILLNESS (cont)

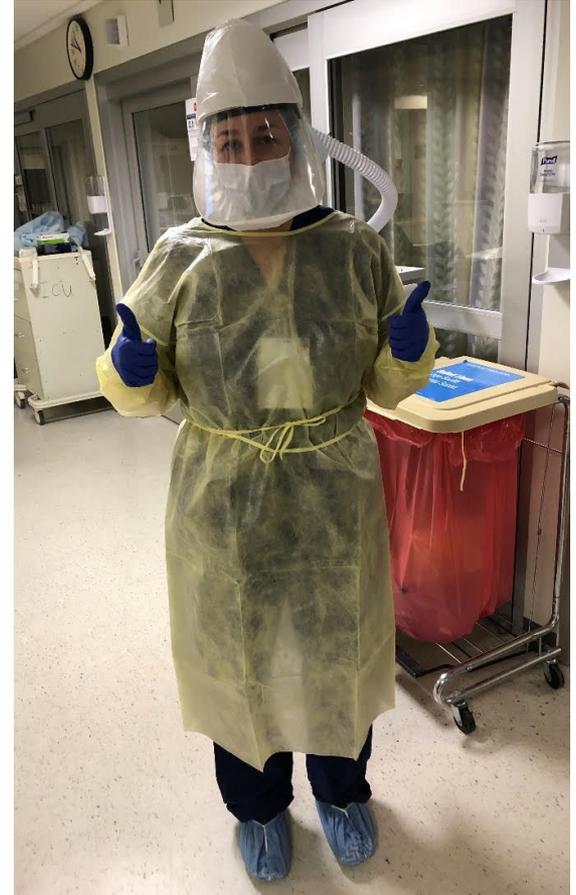
- Parent or guardian will be notified to pick up student and the student will be escorted to designated entrance to meet parent/guardian
- Parents/guardians will be given instructions to contact their medical provider for evaluation on whether testing is needed
- If an employee develops any identified COVID19 symptoms while at work they will be sent home immediately.
- Immediately close off areas used by the person who is sick, open windows and outside doors to increase air circulation in the area and wait 24 hrs before you clean and disinfect
 - If the number of ill students exceeds the number of isolation areas and these areas cannot be closed for 24 hrs, clean and disinfect between ill persons
 - As long as routine cleaning and disinfecting have been done regularly (at least daily), additional cleaning measures are not necessary unless the COVID19 positive person is in school on the day school officials are notified of the positive test

PPE or Personal Protective Equipment

School Nurses should adhere to the CDC guidance regarding personal protective equipment for healthcare professionals. While schools are not identified as “healthcare settings”, the school nurse is designated to cover duties work in schools to provide healthcare services. During the performance of those services, there is risk of infection due to contact with students and/or staff members or contaminated environmental surfaces.

Types of PPE utilized:

- Gloves
- Gowns
- Face masks and face shields
- Goggles
- Respirators
- Shoe Coverings



When Someone Tests Positive for COVID19

- Parents and staff shall notify school authorities if they test positive for COVID19
- Contact information for the person(s) who tested positive
- The date the COVID19 positive person developed symptoms (if applicable), tested positive (if known), and was last in the building
- Types of interactions (close contacts, length of contact) the person may have had with other people in the building or other locations
- Names, addresses, and phone numbers for ill persons close contacts in the school
- Any other information to assist with the determination of next steps.
- Notify the school community as per school policy maintaining confidentiality
- School Nurse will notify local health officials
- Contact Tracing will be initiated by the Department of Health guidelines

OUTBREAKS

Within the School

While schools must report single cases to the local Health Department, local Health Departments should work with schools to determine if there is an outbreak. An outbreak in school settings is defined as two or more laboratory confirmed COVID19 cases among students or staff with onsets within a 14-day period, who are epidemiologically linked, do not share a household, and were not identified as close contacts of each other in another setting during standard case investigation or contact tracing.

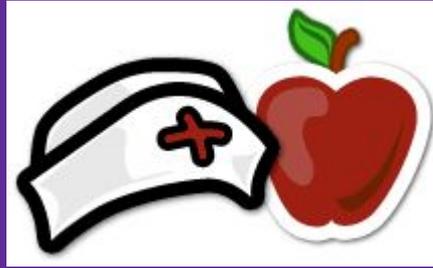
NJDOH (2020)

RETURN TO WORK OR SCHOOL GUIDELINES

Persons who test positive for COVID 19 but who are asymptomatic should stay home for 10 days from the positive test result

Ill individuals with suspected or known COVID19 should stay home until at least 10 days have passed since symptom onset and at least 3 days have passed after resolution of fever without fever reducing medication and improvement in respiratory symptoms i.e cough and shortness of breath

The district requires the certification of a physician that the staff member is contagion free before returning to work. When tested and determined to be COVID 19 negative, the staff member shall return to work.



From a Nurse to a Teacher

I am with you, I feel for you, and I know that you are facing a mess of a situation. You can DO IT and you can do it better than most! Some days will be hard. You'll miss how things used to be and you'll be upset with the new "normal." Things will seem impossible at times but the one thing that will not change is that YOU ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE!



References

NJDOH COVID 19 Information for Communities and the General Public:

https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/covid19_community.shtml

Get the Facts about Coronavirus:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

Symptoms of COVID-19:

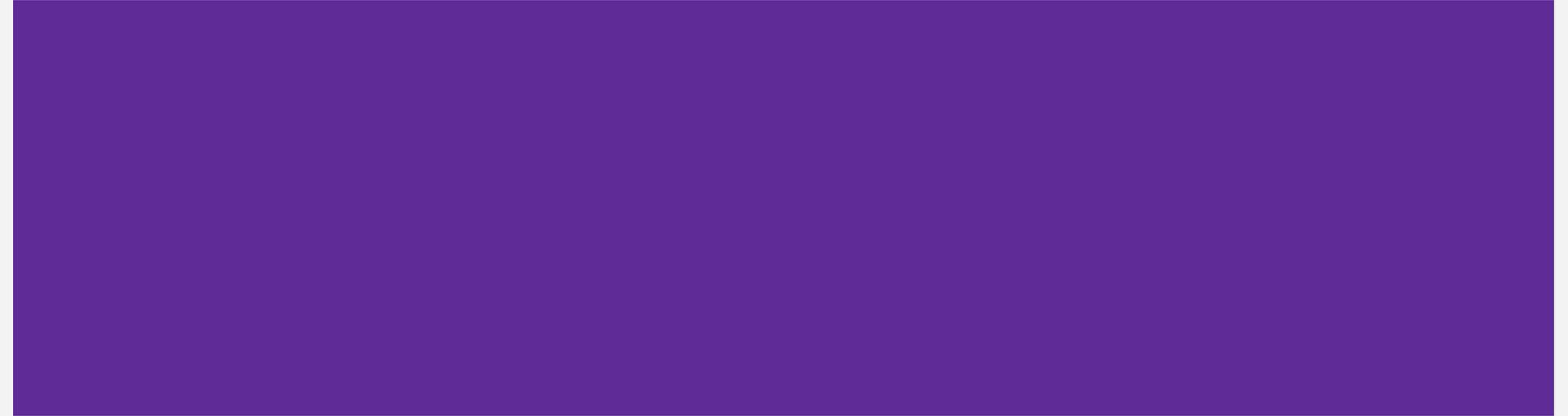
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>

What to do if You Are Sick:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/steps-when-sick.html>

Protocols for Parents

A guide to sending your child to school



In the morning

1. Use the Oncourse Portal Screening tool before 8:00 am There is a video on our web site on how to use the OnCourse Portal tool
2. Be sure your child is prepared with:
 - a. Multiple supply of masks in a brown paper bag
 - b. Water bottle, snack
 - c. Drop off will begin a 8:25 Procedure as prior year.

**** Parents should be practicing using the masks prior to the first day of school**

While at School

1. Student will be social distanced 6 foot while in classroom
2. Students will wear masks at all times other than mask breaks, outside for lessons, PE and recess.
3. Each staff member will determine the amount of mask break time based on the age of students.
4. If a child ordered breakfast it will be delivered to classroom. Lunch will be grab and go at the end of the day.
5. Dismissal will be at 1:00. Procedures will be same as prior year.

After Care Program

1. After Care Program will be held from 1:00-4:30
2. The fee will be:
3. \$100.00 per week per child

\$90.00 for siblings

10% discount if paid for the month \$90.00

10% discount per sibling if paid for the month \$80.00

Same pricing as last year

\$5.71/hour

4. The program will need at least 5 students for the program to operate.
5. Forms are on our website.