



COVID-19 PROTOCOL FOR SCHOOLYEAR 2023.24

1. **Vaccines and boosters** are STRONGLY RECOMMENDED for staff and students but are not mandatory at this time.
2. **Report All Positive Cases** (including household members not enrolled at the school). Please report the following as applicable:
 - a. Date that symptoms began.
 - b. Date that the positive test was taken.
 - c. The last day the child was in the school (and whether or not they were in before/after care or afterschool activities).
 - d. Whether the child has a sibling in our school (any program) and, if so, their vaccination/booster status.
 - e. Isolation procedures being followed at home for the positive case (if the positive case is a household member or sibling to a child in our school)
 - f. Whether the individual is at risk of severe illness due to their particular medical condition.

Report via email to-

- i. NY campus: the classroom teacher, adminny@hwis.org and bhicks@hwis.org
 - ii. NJ campus: the classroom teacher, adminnj@hwis.org and owashington@hwis.org
3. **Child with Covid-19 symptoms.** This child will be excluded from class and isolated under adult supervision until their parents or caregiver can pick them up. For everyone’s safety, we ask that pick-up take place as soon as possible. The asymptomatic child can return to school with either-
 - a. **One** negative rapid or PCR test if these tests are conducted at a commercial testing location, hospital, pharmacy, urgent care center or doctor’s office, or
 - b. **Two** negative rapid tests at least 48 hours apart if using at-home tests. The tests should be supplied by the parent and do not need to be reported to the school.
4. **Child with COVID-19.** The procedure to return to school is as follows:

Age/Grade of child	Isolation period	To return-
Preschool (below Kindergarten)	10 days (due to the difficulty of masking consistently) with Day 1 being the day after symptom onset or positive test, whichever comes first OR	-Fever free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medicine -No or improving symptoms -No test required for the 10-day quarantine



	7 days with a negative test the morning of Day 6 AND Day 8 (to return on Day 8). Masking is highly recommended during this period.	
Kindergarten and above	5 days with Day 1 being the day after symptom onset or positive test	-Fever free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medicine -No or improving symptoms -Must wear mask at all times on days 6-10. To remove mask (for snacks, lunch) during this period the child must be separated from others. Failure to consistently wear a mask will require following the preschool isolation period above. -No test required to return

5. **Quarantine protocol for Close Contacts.** A close contact to a positive case, regardless of age or vaccination status can remain in school as long as they-
 - Are asymptomatic (to include being fever free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medicine)
 - Test negative on Day 5 (Day 1 is the first day after the last exposure to the positive case), and
 - Wear a mask for 10 days after the last exposure to the positive case (and monitor for symptoms) even if the test was negative.
 - If the close contact is a member of a household with positive COVID-19 cases, depending on the contagiousness of the current variant the school may require this individual to quarantine for a period of time before returning to school.
6. As before, we will report to parents COVID-19 cases in the school by class when they occur.
7. The school reserves the right to reinstate mandatory masking at its discretion to minimize the transmission of COVID-19 or other communicable illnesses (e.g., seasonal flu)
8. There is no remote learning option available to children recovering from any illness including COVID-19. This is to ensure that the sick child is able to focus on their recovery and that the educational experience for the on-site children in that class is optimal.