Parent Forum # 2
COVID 19 Symptomatic
and Positive Cases
Guidelines For Parents and
Guardians



October 27, 2020

References

Centers for Disease Control

NH Department of Health and Human Services

NH Department of Education

NH School Nurse Association



Planning for a Safe Return to School



The Department of Health and Human Services along with the NH Department of Education recently released several documents to help guide schools and families on steps that should be taken when someone with COVID-19 is discovered to have been in school while they were infectious (contagious).

We have crafted four scenarios using this information to help families get a better sense of what symptoms to be looking for, how long to stay home, and when to contact your doctor.

It is important to note that documents like this are a helpful tool but are subject to change as we continue to learning more about the virus.

Positive Cases

There are many illnesses that can have symptoms like COVID-19, but only people who test positive on a lab test are considered to have COVID-19.

The "infectious period" starts two days before any symptoms be for people without symptoms, two days before testing) and continues until they recover.

More Information: nh.gov/COVID19

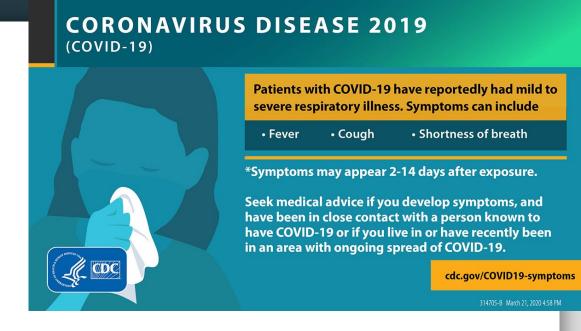
If you send your student to school, we assume...

By sending your student to school, you are certifying that they are well. As a district, we will assume that every child who boards a bus or enters a school building is feeling well and not displaying any symptoms of illness.



We will also assume that they have not traveled to an area requiring quarantine or have been knowingly exposed to a person who has tested positive for COVID-19.

Symptoms of COVID-19



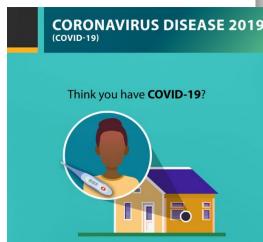
Fever, chills, cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, sore throat, runny nose, nasal congestion, loss of taste or smell, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, fatigue, muscle aches, or headache.

When to Stay Home...

If your student is showing any signs of illness, please keep them home. If our schools are to remain open for in-person instruction, it is critical for everyone to monitor their health and remain home if they feel unwell.

Thank you for doing your part in keeping our community healthy!

Think you have COVID-19?



What If a Student Has Symptoms While At School?

A student feels unwell in a classroom.



The student is assessed by the school nurse.



If the student is experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, they are brought to the school's medical waiting room to isolate until a parent/guardian can pick up the student.



The family will isolate their child for a period of 10 days or seek testing at an area clinic site.







TEST IS NEGATIVE

If the test is negative and there has been no exposure to a known COVID-19 positive patient or highrisk travel, the student can return to school when their symptoms have improved and they have been fever-free for at least 24



TEST IS POSITIVE

If the test is positive, please notify the school nurse. The student can return to school after 10 days have passed since the symptoms first appeared and they have been fever-free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication.

What If a Family Member Tests Positive?

A student in class says one of their family members at home has COVID-19 and the teacher and other students overhear.



The teacher notifies the school nurse.



The school nurse will take the student from class, assess them for any possible symptoms, and bring them to the medical waiting room.



The school nurse contacts the student's guardian. The nurse tells them that their student shared that someone in their home is COVID-19 positive and reminds the parent/guardian that the NH DHHS guidelines state that if a child lives in a home with a family member that is positive they must guarantine and cannot be in school.



ISOLATION IS POSSIBLE

If the student can isolate away from the family member, either separating themselves within the home or leaving the home, they can return to school after they have quarantined away from the family member for 14 days.





ISOLATION IS NOT POSSIBLE

If the student cannot isolate away from the infected family member, the child must stay home from school. Once the COVID positive family member has cleared their infection, the child will then begin a 14-day quarantine and can return to school after they have completed their quarantine.

What if a Staff Member Tests Positive?



A staff member tests positive for COVID-19.



The staff member alerts school administration.



NH DHHS conducts contact tracing regarding quarantine



The Superintendent consults with NH DHHS re possible closure.



The Superintendent sends message to families and employees and shares next steps.

What If a Student Has COVID-19 Symptoms?

If they have	Then they should	They can return when
COVID symptoms	Stay home, notify the school nurse, consult primary care physician.	Test is negative and fever free for 24 hours.
		Test is positive after 10 days since symptoms started and fever free for 24 hours.
		If not tested, return when symptoms have improved, 10 days since symptoms started and fever free for 24 hours.

Communication of COVID-19 Positive Cases

School Notification by Health Department

Schools will only be informed by the Health Department about an individual with COVID-19 if they were believed to be in school while infectious. If someone tests positive for COVID-19 but was not in school while they were infectious, no additional steps are necessary because others at school are not at risk for COVID-19 exposure.

Communication of COVID-19 Positive Cases

If an individual with COVID-19 is identified to have been at a school, the district will notify families and employees via email. District notification is part of a student's educational record and is protected by FERPA. Staff medical information is protected by HIPPA.

Communication of COVID-19 Positive Cases

Contact Tracing

When someone tests positive for COVID - 19, a trained public health worker, called a contact tracer, will identify any close contacts of the individual. The contact tracer will then call the close contacts and give them instructions.

Safe and Healthy Practices

- Do not travel outside of New England (requires 14 day quarantine)
- Wash your hands regularly and thoroughly
- Continue social distancing
- Continue to wear masks
- Complete daily screening survey

Questions?



Happy Halloween!

