

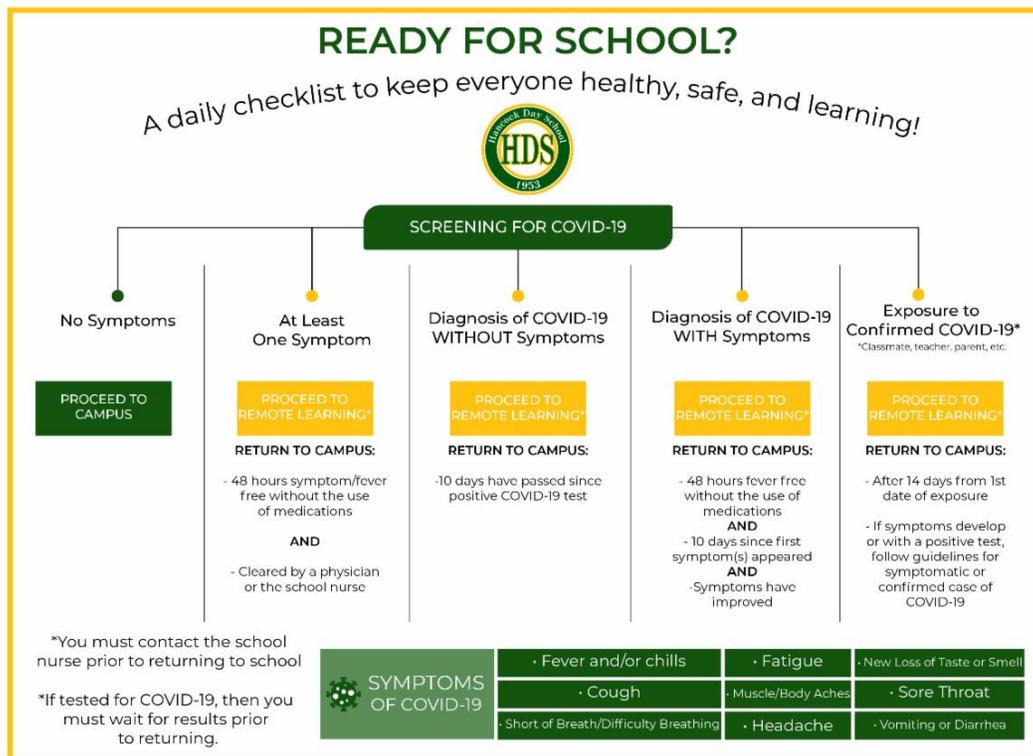


Dear Families,

As we prepare for the reopening physical campus, we wanted to clarify our health policies and provide some additional information. Please review the flow chart below as well as the frequently asked questions.

We look forward to seeing you soon!

Best,  
HDS Health and Education Advisory Committee



### Frequently Asked Questions regarding COVID-19

**Will my child be wearing a mask ALL day?**

Students and faculty will be wearing cloth masks/facial covering throughout the day to protect the HDS community. They can remove it at snack and lunch. If the teacher is having a hard time hearing them, then they can remove it to ask a question. **We encourage you and your child to practice putting on a mask and taking it off without assistance.**

**What type of mask should my child wear?**

Selecting a mask is a personal choice, and we recommend having your child try a

few different options at home before s/he arrives on campus for the first day of school. A mask that fits securely to cover both the nose and mouth and is made of multiple layers of fabric is a safe and effective option.

### **What if the mask breaks or gets dirty during the day?**

Please be sure that your child has an extra mask in their bag if needed.

### **What if my child goes home with a fever at carpool OR during the school day?**

If a child in a classroom (or at carpool) goes home with a fever, then he/she will have to be cleared by a physician (or the school nurse) and be fever free for 48 hours without the use of medications.

- If a child has a COVID test, then he/she may not return to school until the family has received the results.
- If the test results are COVID positive, then he/she can return to school when they complete the following criteria:
  - Fever free for 48 hours without medication
  - AND**
  - 10 days have passed since first symptoms appeared
  - AND**
  - Symptoms have improved

### **What if a child is diagnosed with COVID? Does the whole classroom have to go home?**

Yes, each classroom in Kindergarten-5th grade will be considered their own cohort/family. Due to the structure of our prekindergarten program, our entire prekindergarten will be treated as one cohort/family. The middle school is also considered one cohort/family since they will be sharing the hallway and changing classrooms.

- Scenario 1: If a child in “Mrs. Smith’s 2nd grade” class is COVID positive, then Mrs. Smith’s class will pivot to remote learning. The children in her class will be able to return to campus **after 14 days from the date of exposure.**
- Scenario 2: If a child in 7th grade is diagnosed with COVID then the whole middle school will start remote learning.
- Date of exposure clarification: If the sick child went home on Monday and the positive test results came back Friday, then the classroom would be sent home for remote learning. The date of exposure would be considered Monday so they would be on day 5 of the 14 days required quarantine.

### **What if a teacher has COVID?**

If a teacher is COVID positive and the class was exposed then they will begin remote learning. If a teacher is unable to teach then a substitute will be assigned until the teacher is able to return. If the teacher was exposed/diagnosed over a break or weekend then the children will be in the classroom with a substitute teacher.

### **What if my child has a headache or any other complaints at school? Will he/she be sent home?**

Unfortunately, we are going to have to be very strict. Community safety is our priority.

- Yes, if your child comes in and complains of any symptoms listed below, then they will be sent home.
- If a child has any of the following symptoms then they will need to get clearance from a doctor prior to returning to school:
  - Fever or chills
  - Aches and pains (excluding sports injuries)
  - Headache
  - Sore throat
  - Diarrhea, nausea and/or vomiting
  - Cough and/or shortness of breath
  - New loss of taste or smell
- If your child has a history of allergies or migraines, then we will need a note from the pediatrician or allergist.

**If one sibling gets sent home for one of the above symptoms, will all the siblings go home?**

As of right now, we will not be sending siblings home unless they are showing signs of illness or have a family member that is COVID positive. This could change as we get further along into the school year. We will need to make the best decisions for our community.

**Do I need to notify the school if my child is not feeling well?**

**Yes.** In order to protect our community, it is critical that we have the most accurate information about the health of our students. By signing the return to school documents you have agreed to be honest in reporting symptoms and possible COVID-19 exposure. We expect that the Hancock family will look out for each other, and swift action will be taken for individuals who violate our stated policies.

**Do I need to call or email the school before sending my child back to school after being ill?**

Yes, you will need to contact the school nurse prior to returning to campus. If the child has had one of the symptoms listed above he/she will need a clearance letter from a physician.

**I have three children in three different grades. Will all my children be sent home if only one classroom is exposed?**

No. We are hoping that by having each classroom act as a cohort, we will only have to send home the students in the classroom exposed. However, if the siblings are showing signs of symptoms, then they will be sent home.

**What if one of my children is home because his classroom was exposed during school. Do my other children have to stay home, too?**

No, your other children are fine to be in school since they were not the ones primarily exposed.

**What if a parent was exposed at work?**

If a parent or immediate family member is exposed to COVID while working, the child would be considered to have a secondary exposure. He/She CAN return to school UNLESS they are showing symptoms.

**What if a family member has COVID?**

If a sibling/family member is COVID positive, then all siblings will be sent home due to primary exposure. They will then quarantine for 14 days from their last exposure to the infectious person. They will resume remote learning.

If no symptoms arise, then they can return to campus after they completed the quarantine.

**When will we shut down?**

We will follow the current guidelines from the Department of Health and the CDC to make an informed decision.

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LET'S STAY CONNECTED

