

# PORTER-GAUD HEALTH & SAFETY GUIDELINES

## AS OF AUGUST 14, 2020

The health and safety of our students, faculty, staff and Porter-Gaud community is of utmost importance. The school will be following DHEC & CDC guidelines to reduce the risk of transmission on campus. These guidelines provide our best effort to decrease the spread of COVID-19 on our school campus. This information is evolving and may be updated as more information is available on COVID-19.

### STAY HOME WHEN SICK

Due to widespread community transmission of COVID-19, it is imperative that any student, faculty or staff member who feels unwell or has exhibited any symptoms of illness should stay home. Anyone who feels ill needs to stay home, thereby serving their community in the most responsible manner and helping keep our campus safe and open.

In addition to **DHEC's School Exclusion List**, please keep you or your children home if they have any of the following symptoms:



**FEVER (TEMPERATURE  $\geq$  100)**



**LOSS OF TASTE OR SMELL**



**DIARRHEA/VOMITING**



**SHORTNESS OF BREATH OR  
DIFFICULTY BREATHING**



**NEW OR WORSENING COUGH**



**SORE THROAT AND/OR BODY  
ACHES AND/OR CHILLS**

\*\*\*If these symptoms are explainable by an underlying condition (such as shortness of breath for an individual with asthma) exclusion may not be necessary. If, during the school day, a student develops COVID-19 symptoms, they will not return to class and will wait in the isolation room with the school nurse. **Parents will be contacted and the student must be picked up immediately.**

### ADDITIONAL EXCLUSIONS FROM CAMPUS



If any member of the household has symptoms of COVID-19 or tests positive for COVID-19, do not send your child to school. The student may return once cleared from quarantine.



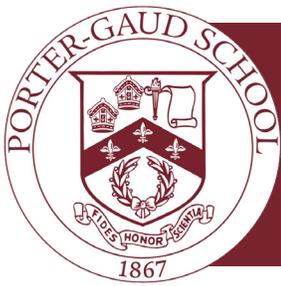
Faculty/Staff and students who test positive for COVID-19 must stay home until cleared from isolation.



Stay home if you are tested for COVID-19 and awaiting test results (unless this is a pre-op screening test).



Staff and students who have recently had close contact with a person with COVID-19 should stay home and self-monitor for 14 days from the date of last exposure to the person.



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### DAILY HEALTH SCREENINGS:

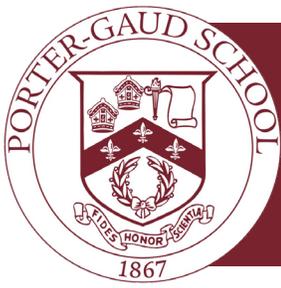
The goal of screening students and staff is to identify those that should not be on campus because they could potentially expose others. We will be using a screening platform called Ascend where you complete a quick, HIPAA-compliant self-screening form each morning. It will include three (3) key questions per CDC guidelines: symptoms, testing and exposure. As part of the symptom check, you will take and enter your child's temperature each morning. Please follow the directive it provides after completing the survey each morning.

### FACE COVERINGS ARE REQUIRED:

Scientific research demonstrates that an infected person wearing a face covering is less likely to spread the infection to those around them. While not a replacement for physical distancing, cloth face coverings/masks are a critical preventative measure and are essential at times when it is difficult to maintain physical distancing. Therefore, faculty, staff, and students will be required to wear a cloth face covering/mask that fits snugly over the nose and mouth and comfortable along the side of the face, made with two (2) layers of fabric. **Single-layer fabric masks, buffs, neck gaiters, and bandanas are prohibited as they do not provide adequate protection.** Face coverings with "valves, mesh material or holes of any kind" are not acceptable. Face coverings/masks may not contain messages or images that are inappropriate, offensive or political in nature. We ask that all face coverings meet CDC guidance. Masks should be cleaned daily. Extra masks should be stored in student's book bags. The school will have an emergency stock of masks in case some go missing during the school day.

### PHYSICAL DISTANCING:

Physical distancing is also an effective, proven measure to decrease the risk of transmission of COVID-19. Classroom space will be leveraged to accommodate physical distancing between students, faculty and staff. New signage will be posted throughout campus to support directional traffic patterns to maintain physical distancing, including max occupancy. While it will be hard to keep students distanced from each other, we will space students out and do our best to enforce this.



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### HAND HYGIENE:

Handwashing/hand sanitizing is the single most effective way to prevent the spread of infections. Hand hygiene will occur:



As soon as you arrive to campus and before leaving campus.



After blowing nose, coughing, or sneezing.



After using the restroom.



Before and after eating.



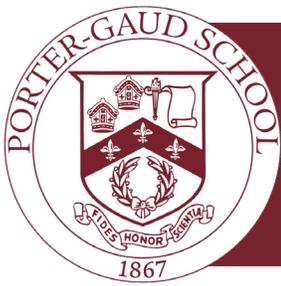
Before and after putting on, touching or removing face covering.



Any time the hands are visibly dirty (must wash not sanitize).

### CLEANING PROTOCOLS:

Cleaning and disinfecting commonly touched surfaces will occur throughout the school day. Our facilities team will perform a deep cleaning at the end of each school day.



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### PROTOCOLS FOR RETURN TO SCHOOL AFTER COVID-19 ILLNESS:

Any Faculty/staff/student who tests positive may return to campus after all three of the following are met:



Ten (10) days\* have passed since symptoms started - and -



Twenty-four (24) hours have passed since last fever without taking medicine to reduce fever - and -



Overall improvement in symptoms

Those who test positive by a PCR (mouth or throat swab) test or similar viral test but do not have symptoms will be required to stay out of school until ten (10) days\* after the specimen was collected.

\*Note: some people may be required to extend the isolation period to twenty (20) days. Their doctor will need to determine if this is necessary.

The criteria above should be used to determine eligibility to return to school. Negative PCR test results are not required nor recommended after meeting these criteria.

### QUARANTINE:

SCDHEC defines a **close contact** as anyone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes.

<b>Close Contact with Confirmed COVID19 (not a household member)</b>	The standard quarantine period is fourteen (14) days after last close contact with a person while they were contagious with COVID-19.
<b>Household Contact with Confirmed COVID19</b>	If the student or staff lives in the same household as the case and has daily close contact, they will have to quarantine for an additional fourteen (14) days after the day their household member has been cleared from their isolation period.
<b>Other Household members in Quarantine (Contact of a Contact)</b>	If the student or staff lives in the same household as someone in quarantine, they will not necessarily need to quarantine themselves unless the household member in quarantine is then determined to be a COVID-19 case. DHEC will notify those who are required to complete quarantine.