

Perkiomen Resolved

Perkiomen School Health & Safety Plan Returning to Campus and 2020-2021 Academic Year

Updated August 23, 2020

Our highest priority at Perkiomen School is the health and safety of our students and employees. The goal of this document is to present a preparation and response plan that limits the impact of COVID-19 on our community as we return to on-campus instruction in the Fall of 2020. This is a living document that will be updated to address the changing circumstances related to COVID-19.

Return to Campus: Overview

1. All students must be COVID-19 symptom-free before returning to school.
2. All students will be evaluated by the Health Center for COVID-19 symptoms and exposure.
3. Screening will be performed according to standards set by the CDC. Currently screening includes the following:
 - a. Temperature check
 - b. Health questionnaire
4. Students will be expected to perform a basic health-check at home - monitoring temperature and symptoms - for seven days prior to traveling (boarding students) or arriving on campus (day students).
5. If testing for asymptomatic individuals is recommended, is widely available and reliable we will consider broader community testing prior to the start of school.

Return to Campus: Day Students

- Perkiomen School will establish a staggered testing/screening schedule for day students that will begin prior to the start of school. In the alternative, a student can be tested or screened by a family physician after August 27 and provide the results to the Health Center.
- The school will screen and/or test students for potential exposure to COVID-19.
- Students that present positive to screen/test will be sent home with instructions to contact their health-care provider and will be required to remain isolated for the CDC-prescribed isolation period before returning to school.
- Students and families will be notified of CDC-established behavioral standards the school requires to ensure the student limits exposure to the COVID-19 in the days leading up to the start of school.

Return to Campus: Boarding Students

- Perkiomen School has established a staggered return schedule for boarders that will begin on August 27.
- The school will screen and/or test students for potential exposure to COVID-19.



- Boarding students are asked to develop a personal isolation plan in the event they would be considered positive for COVID-19. The plan should include a place where the student can be cared for (by a local relative or family friend) in isolation for the CDC-prescribed isolation period. The school will have limited isolation capabilities available.
 - Students that present positive to screen/test will follow their personal isolation plan and will receive support from the school to ensure their health, safety and success.
-

Daily Campus Life Screening: Overview

1. Perkiomen School requires a daily screening of potential COVID-19 exposure by all faculty and students on campus.
2. Daily self-screening of potential exposure will be performed according to standards set by the CDC. Currently screening includes the following:
 - a. Temperature check
 - b. Health questionnaire
3. The school recognizes the limited effectiveness of temperature-checks alone to identify possible exposure to COVID-19. Despite that, until more effective measures are established by the CDC, the school will utilize infrared thermometers to evaluate the student population as part of the daily routine.
4. A number of students will be randomly selected each for screening by a school representative, to ensure students understand their responsibilities and that the results they are self-reporting are accurate.

Daily Campus Life Screening: Day Students

- Prior to leaving home, day students will take their own temperature.
- Student will use our online portal to log their temperature and complete the Health questionnaire. Students whose self-screening present possible exposure to COVID-19 will be instructed to remain home until follow-up from the Health Center.
- Self-screening results will be evaluated by school representatives to ensure students who present possible COVID-19 exposure remain out of class until evaluated by the Health Center.

Daily Campus Life Screening: Boarding Students

- Prior to leaving the dormitory students will take their own temperature.
- Student will use the school's online portal to log their temperature and complete the health questionnaire. Students whose self-screening present possible exposure to COVID-19 will be instructed to remain in their rooms for follow-up from the Health Center.
- Self-screening results will be evaluated by school representatives to ensure students who present possible COVID-19 exposure remain out of class until evaluated by the Health Center.



Community Mitigation Steps

1. Students and employees must complete the school's daily screening procedure. Currently screening includes the following:
 - a. Temperature check
 - b. Health questionnaire
 2. All students and staff must wear a surgical or cloth mask.
 3. All individuals must follow CDC-prescribed social distancing procedures. The school has established appropriate spacing in classrooms and other required gathering locations.
 4. Students are expected to respect social distancing when dining. New dining procedures have been established to minimize potential COVID-19 exposure.
 5. Doors will be propped open during period changes.
 6. Hallways and doorways will be designated with directional signs where necessary and feasible.
 7. Sharing of pens, pencils, laptops, phones, food, and drink is prohibited.
 8. Hand sanitizer will be available throughout the campus and everyone will be encouraged to regularly wash their hands and refrain from touching their face, as well as any other CDC guidelines for limiting tactile spread of COVID-19.
 9. Areas will be cleaned with EPA and CDC-approved cleaning supplies. Regular cleaning will be completed by professionals and interim cleaning of high-touch surfaces will be carried out by all school employees.
 10. Students and employees who are at higher risk for severe illness as established by the CDC are advised to follow CDC recommendations for limiting exposure to COVID-19.
 11. The school recommends that all students and employees receive a flu shot for the coming year.
-

Health Center Protocol

(note new Health Center location: Hausmann-Hossman Cottage, next to Kriebel Hall)

1. Access to the Health Center will be limited to sick students only.
2. Students displaying symptoms of COVID-19 will enter the Health Center through the side door and be assessed immediately in the exam room. The exam room will contain an air filtration system and the nurse will ensure any areas contacted by the student will be cleaned according to CDC standards.
3. All other sick students will enter through the front door entrance (facing Seminary Street). Students with minor issues will be assessed and treated at the door. Only two students may be in the waiting room at any time.
4. Morning medications will be distributed at the front door.



Students Displaying Symptoms of COVID-19

1. Sick students will contact the nurse directly or with assistance from faculty and report to the side door (facing Second Street) of the Health Center wearing a face covering or mask.
2. Students will be assessed in the Health Center exam room immediately upon entry.
3. Students who are presumed-positive will be placed in the isolation room located in the Health Center.

Symptomatic Day Students

1. Parents/Guardian will be notified and student must be picked up as soon as possible but no later than two hours from the call.
2. Student must be tested for COVID-19 and present negative prior to returning to school.
3. While at home, students will have check-ins from their Advisor and/or Student Life Department.
4. School work will be assessed on an individual basis when a student returns to campus to ensure continuity of education and balance between well-being and academics.

Symptomatic Boarding Students

1. Boarding students that are presumed-positive, will be transported to St. Luke's Hospital Emergency Room for a COVID -19 test.
2. If a boarding student feels ill during the hours of 7:00 pm - 7:00 am, the on-call nurse will be contacted.
 - a. If the student does not display signs or symptoms of COVID-19, the student must stay in their dorm until the Health Center opens at 7:00 am unless the nurse determines the student should be moved to the Health Center immediately due to a more serious illness.
 - b. If the student is presumed-positive for COVID-19, they will be transported to St. Luke's Hospital Emergency Room for a COVID-19 test.

Students that are tested and confirmed positive for COVID-19 will participate in a contact-tracing exercise to identify other community members who may have been exposed. The school will follow direction from the state and local health officials for managing exposed community members, including isolation or quarantine. *Isolation* separates people who are infected with the virus from people who are not infected. *Quarantine* keeps someone who might have been exposed to the virus away from others.

Isolation and Quarantine Plans

Confirmed Postitive Boarding Students Isolation Plan

1. If the student is positive for COVID-19 the school will follow their personal isolation plan.
2. Students whose personal isolation plan allows them to remain on campus will reside in Duykinck Hall. The school will follow the CDC, PA Department of Education, and Montgomery County Department of Health recommendations for limiting further exposure to COVID-19 on campus. The school Health Center will provide ongoing care for the student according to the doctor's medical orders.



- a. When occupied the school will provide oversight of Duykinck Hall that will ensure the student's regular needs are met. Nursing staff will monitor the student's health in-person and via telehealth on a 24/7 basis throughout the isolation period. The Student Life Department and/or student's advisor will also monitor well-being while student is in isolation.
- b. The student will remain isolated in Duykinck Hall for the CDC-prescribed isolation period, unless the doctor's medical order suggests otherwise.

Exposure Quarantine Guidelines

If a student may have been exposed to the virus, necessity and length of quarantine will be determined by the Montgomery County Office of Public Health in keeping with CDC regulations. Those in quarantine should separate themselves from others, monitor their health, and follow directions from the state or local health department.

Quarantined students can expect a daily check in with the Health Center and regular check-ins from their advisor. Quarantined students will engage in classes, advisory, and other community activities online. Communication will be vital during isolation or quarantine. Communication with parents will be coordinated by the Student Life Office and Health Center.

Day Students

Day students who must quarantine should stay home.

Boarding Students

Boarding students who must quarantine have the option to go home, stay with their host, or quarantine on campus. Boarding students who are quarantining on campus will report to their dorm room and follow campus protocols.

Testing Defined

We will continue to monitor changes in testing options. At this time, our partner hospital Saint Luke's uses a Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test to determine whether a patient is positive for Covid-19.

PCR tests work by detecting specific genetic material within the virus. Health care workers swab the back of the throat; take a saliva sample and/or collect a liquid sample from the lower respiratory tract. Once a sample arrives at the lab, researchers extract its nucleic acid, which holds the virus' genome. Then, researchers can amplify certain regions of the genome by using a technique known as reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction. This, in effect, gives researchers a large sample that they can then compare to the new coronavirus, known as SARS-CoV-2.



