

GARRISON FOREST SCHOOL

300 GARRISON FOREST ROAD • OWINGS MILLS, MARYLAND 21117

Dear parents,

I apologize for sending an email so soon after our outreach yesterday—I know that there are a lot of emails and updates to sift through, and we do our best to streamline communications. In yesterday's note, I shared the link for our GFS COVID-19 dashboard where you can see the current number of individuals who have reported a positive test, as well as those who are quarantining due to a known exposure to COVID-19. ([You can see the dashboard here](#).
Passkey:)

Since we do have two positive cases within our community, one student and one faculty/staff member, I wanted to follow up with more details about what to expect. When our Health Center, which has been doing a phenomenal job of managing reports of symptoms and communications with families among their many other duties, gets a report of someone with a positive case, we immediately:

- Gather more information about the individual—have they been on campus recently and, if so, where? Are they involved in any activities that would take them out of their cohort? When with their cohort, did they adhere to mask wearing and social distancing protocols? The answers to these questions will help determine our next steps.
- If your child is within the impacted cohort but not a close contact, you will receive notification of the situation. In most cases, your child will not need to quarantine but you will be asked to continue monitoring symptoms.
- If your child is identified as a close contact, they will be asked to quarantine for 14 days.

Throughout this process, our Health Center will be in touch with any pertinent updates for you. In addition, if your child is being asked to quarantine, their teacher(s) will reach out with details about online learning during the quarantine period.

Our goal is keep our entire community informed so that you are able to make the decisions that are best for your family. We also have an obligation to maintain the privacy of our students and faculty/staff, so you will not get details about the specifics of a case unless it impacts your student. Please know that, at all times, our Health Center staff and the school's COVID Response Team are working hard to keep you informed and, most importantly, healthy.

In addition to sending timely communications about COVID cases and quarantines within our community, our housekeeping and facilities staff are dedicated to keeping our learning spaces clean. On top of regular daily cleanings, all spaces are deep cleaned once a week or if a positive case is reported within a cohort/classroom.

Thank you for your partnership as we move forward together.

Best wishes,



Chris Hughes
Head of School



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