



HEALTH & SAFETY STRATEGIES 2021

INFORMATION FOR SCHOOL DISTRICT 197
FAMILIES ABOUT:

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Personal Protective
Equipment

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Health & Safety

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Screening &
Testing

Personal Protective Equipment



- 1. Masks**
- 2. Face Shields**
- 3. Clear Barriers**
- 4. Gloves**
- 5. Gowns**

Mask Guidelines

For Staff

Face masks need to cover nose, mouth, and chin.

All staff must wear a mask inside at all times unless alone, or temporarily while eating or drinking.

Staff should not eat or drink in proximity to students.

Additional masks for staff are available in the main office.

Masks with a clear window over the mouth are available in the main office.

For Students

Students must wear a mask when inside unless eating or drinking.

If a student is unable to wear a mask due to a disability or mental health concern, staff will collaborate on additional mitigation and safety precautions to put in place.

Additional masks for students are available in the main office.

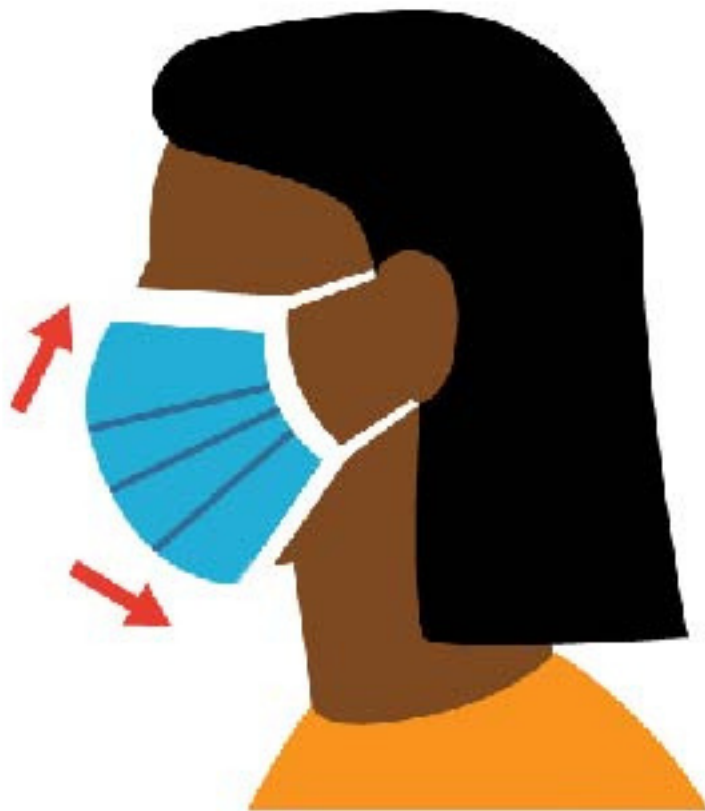
When masks are not being worn correctly, staff will (in order):

- Remind, reteach, redirect
- Involve the student's family
- Involve the administration

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

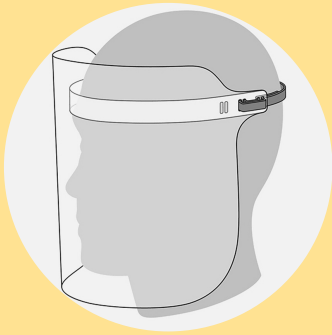
- Playground: Masks may be removed outdoors when 6 feet of distance may be maintained.
- Physical Education: Masks may be removed outdoors when 6 feet of distance may be maintained.
- A mask may be removed for a brief moment when needing to model or observe specific articulation or pronunciation of a sound when working with a speech/language pathologist or with a teacher when assessing a specific reading sound skill. The use of clear face masks may also be used for these situations.

**PLEASE WEAR
YOUR FACE MASK
PROPERLY**

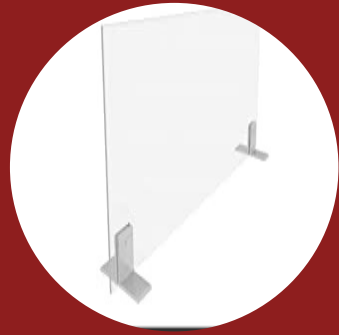


**COVER YOUR
NOSE *and* MOUTH**

Face Shields, Barriers, Gloves & Gowns



All staff (except bus drivers and Child Nutrition staff when cooking) must wear a shield inside at all times unless alone, or temporarily while eating/drinking. Shields and anti-fog wipes are provided by the district for staff working onsite. Supplies are provided at the building level.



Barriers are provided at the building level. Use when 6 feet between students and staff cannot be maintained.



Gloves are required for:

- Toileting/diapering
- Feeding or providing oral care
- Assisting with personal hygiene (brushing teeth, cleaning secretions)
- Some speech service interactions
- Assisting with medications or other nursing treatments



Gowns or other coverings may be used when there is a reasonable expectation that saliva or other bodily fluids may come into contact with an employee's clothing. Staff may consider wearing a gown or other covering when assisting students with personal care (e.g., feeding, toileting, assisting with hygiene, or transferring).

Health & Safety



- 1. Social Distancing**
- 2. Handwashing**
- 3. Screening & Testing**
- 4. Cleaning & Disinfecting**
- 5. HVAC**

Social Distancing

GENERAL GUIDANCE

- Early Learning and Elementary: 3 feet of distance between students including student workspaces
- Secondary: 6 feet of distance between students including student workspaces
- 6 feet of distance between students from different cohorts
- 6 feet of distance between students and staff when possible
- Markers for lining up in hallways and other public spaces placed at 6 foot intervals
- Students in specialized programs are considered members of both their special education and general education cohorts for the purposes of social distancing expectations.

LUNCH

- Student meal times should be held in the classroom if 6 feet of physical distancing between cohorts of students cannot be accommodated in the cafeteria.
- Distancing between students in the cafeteria should follow the same guidance as in the classroom (3 ft) for Early Learning and Elementary Sites ONLY.
- If meal times need to be held in the classroom, schools may have meals delivered to the classroom or have students bring food from the cafeteria back to their classrooms to eat.

OTHER PRACTICES

Student support programs such as special education, EL, gifted and talented and counseling may continue to pull students from their primary classrooms in order to provide these essential support services. Groups should be kept as small as possible and as consistent as possible from day to day, and as much physical distance as possible should be maintained between group members.



SAFETY FIRST!

**PLEASE PRACTICE
SOCIAL DISTANCING**

Handwashing & Hand Sanitizing

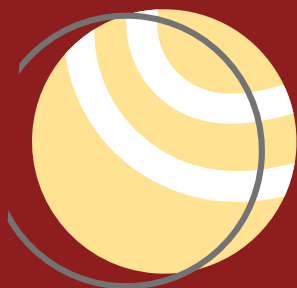
Wash hands before/after handling materials (or use sanitizer, until handwashing station is available)



Hand sanitizer is available at all sites. It has been placed throughout the building.



Classroom teachers will develop handwashing and material disinfecting routines.



Cleaning & Disinfecting

CLEANING removes dirt and most germs and is usually done with soap and water.

DISINFECTING kills most germs, depending on the type of chemical, and only when the chemical product is used as directed on the label.

All employees are expected to help clean and disinfect their personal work space, as well as shared surfaces and objects, daily. Supplies are provided for employees to use in accordance with product labels, manufacturer specifications, and any required personal protective equipment.



**Heating, ventilation,
and air conditioning**

HVAC



Programming has been set to increase airflow. Filters have been upgraded to increase filtration.

Our staff will help ensure our systems are functioning properly.

Our HVAC systems work best when windows remain closed.

Portable ventilation, like fans, will not be used without first consulting with the building engineer.

Screening & Testing

Daily home screening is required for staff and students.

Contact your building school nurse with questions

MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

STAY SAFE MN

Home Screening Tool for COVID-19 Symptoms

FOR SCHOOL, CHILD CARE, AND YOUTH PROGRAMMING

Answer these screening questions **each time** you are going to send your child to school, child care, or another youth program. If you answer “yes” to any question, your child should stay home.

Overview

Your child must not go to school, child care, or youth programs if they:

- Test positive for COVID-19.
- Show symptoms of COVID-19.
- May have been exposed to COVID-19.
- Are waiting to get tested, or waiting for COVID-19 test results.

If your child has symptoms of COVID-19 or tests positive for COVID-19, they must stay at home in isolation and away from others as much as possible for **at least 10 days** (counting from the day their symptoms first started or the day they were tested), and until their symptoms get better and they have not had a fever for 24 hours (without taking medicine to lower the fever). Even if they feel better, they must stay home for the full 10 days. These steps help to keep children and staff in schools, child care, and youth programs safe.

Note: Children may still need to stay home for other illnesses that have symptoms that are similar to COVID-19, such as strep throat, stomach illness, or pink eye. Contact your child care provider or school for information on when your child can go back to school in these situations.

Screening questions

1. Does your child have *one or more* of these symptoms?

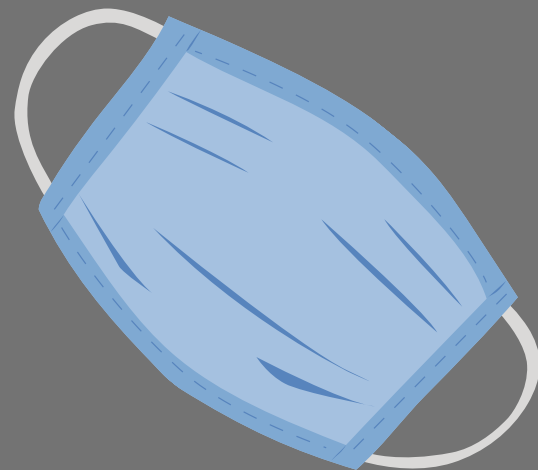
- ☐ Fever of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher
- ☐ Difficulty or trouble breathing

RESPONDING TO SIGNS & SYMPTOMS OF ILLNESS

Staff will play an important role in identifying students who may have signs and symptoms of COVID-19.

If staff notice any of the signs or symptoms, they will contact the school nurse, who is the covid coordinator for the building.

Each building has an isolation room for students waiting to be picked up.



COVID-19 SYMPTOMS

**The following symptoms may appear
2-14 days after exposure:**

- Shortness of breath
- Cough
- Fever
- Muscle pain
- Headache
- Sore throat
- Chills
- Fatigue
- Runny nose or congestion
- Loss of taste or smell

Seek medical advice if:

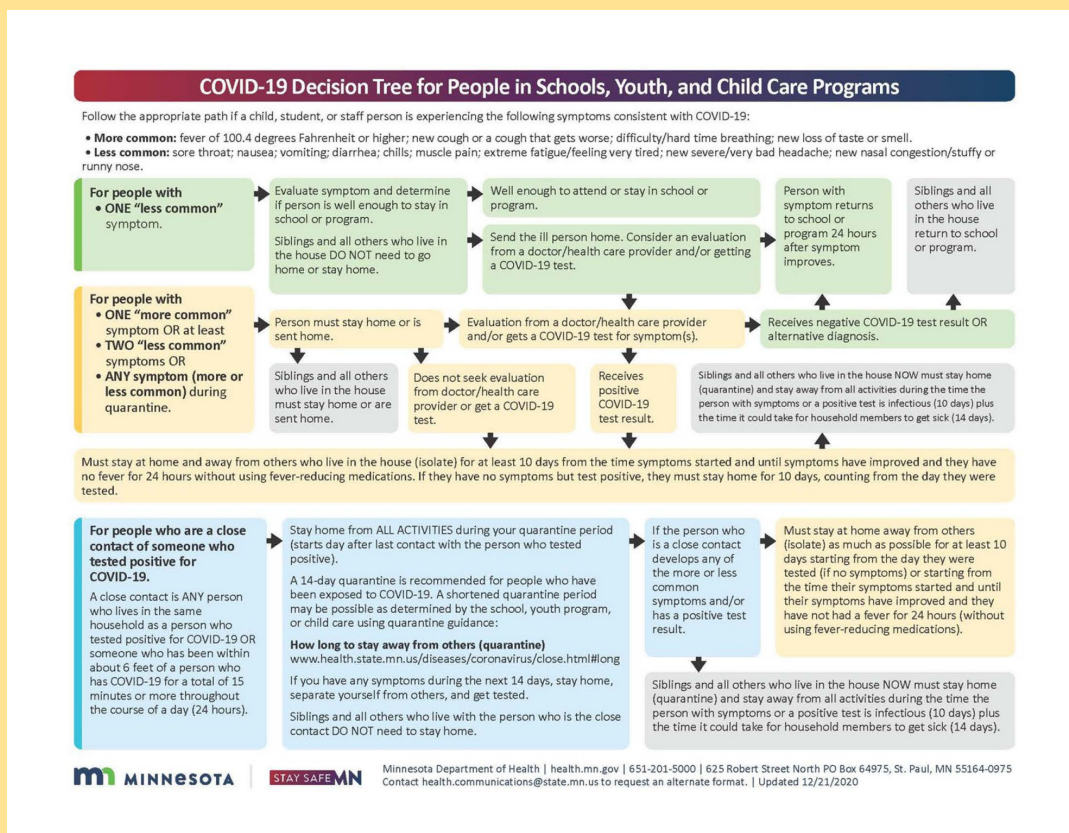
- You live in the an area with an ongoing spread
- Have been in close contact with a person known to have COVID-19
- You develop symptoms

ISOLATION & QUARANTINE



EXPECTATIONS

Isolation and Quarantine expectations will follow the guidelines from the MDH: Decision Tree. Contact Tracing will be completed to determine Close Contacts and they will be notified. Exposure notification will also be sent to families and staff.



FOR STUDENT CLOSE CONTACTS: A 14-day quarantine is recommended for people who have been exposed to COVID-19. A shortened quarantine period may be possible as determined by the school, youth program, or child care using MDH guidance: Your child can return after the 10 days as long as they do not develop symptoms during this time and other requirements for ending quarantine are met.

FINAL REMINDERS



- **Face masks need to cover nose, mouth, and chin.**
- **Students should be screened daily for symptoms.**
- **Practice good handwashing, sanitizing, and social distancing.**
- **Contact your school nurse with any questions.**