

FAQ: Newmark COVID-19 Safety Protocols for 2021-22

General: Screening, Testing, Vaccination

Do we need to submit daily COVID-19 Screening?

Yes, every morning, you will receive an email reminder to complete your daily COVID-19 Screening Form BEFORE 8:00 AM each morning at Newmark. Please login to your Newmark PowerSchool/Unified Classroom Parent Portal to complete the Daily COVID-19 Screening (under "Forms"). View How To Access Daily COVID-19 Screening Form. Any student with symptoms should not be sent to school and the school must be notified.

Will Newmark require daily COVID-19 testing of all students and staff?

No. There is no statewide policy for testing students and staff, and currently neither the CDC nor the NJ DOH recommend daily testing of students or staff.

Does my child need to wear a mask at Newmark?

At this time, all students and staff will be required to wear masks when inside the Newmark building. Newmark does provide mask breaks. Students will also need to wear masks when outside unless in extreme heat. They will need to also follow the 6' social distancing protocol.

Can staff and/or students wear face shields instead of face masks?

Currently, the CDC does not recommend use of face shields as a substitute for face masks. Therefore, they may not be used to satisfy face mask requirements.

My child is fully vaccinated. Who do I contact at Newmark?

If your child is fully vaccinated, please email a copy of your child's vaccination card to the School Nurse at <u>ecarroll@newmarkeducation.com</u>. We need to have this document on file to determine if student needs to quarantine in case of exposure in their classroom or school, or if traveling.

Quarantine Policy

If my child is vaccinated, do they need to quarantine if exposed to COVID-19?

The CDC and New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) do NOT require fully vaccinated people to quarantine if they are exposed. A fully vaccinated person would ONLY need to isolate if they develop symptoms and test positive for COVID-19. Newmark's School Nurse must have your child's vaccination card on file to determine if quarantine is needed. Newmark will require the vaccinated person to be tested 3-5 days after exposure.

Does my child need to quarantine if our family travels domestically or internationally?

If fully vaccinated, students can travel domestically and do not need to quarantine. For international travel, contact covid@newmarkeducation.com. Newmark School must have a copy of your child's vaccination card on file. If your child is traveling outside of the NY, NJ, CT, DE or PA area and is NOT vaccinated, they must quarantine. They can return to school after 7 days if they receive a negative COVID PCR test between Days 3-5 OR after 10 days with no testing.

Should students, staff or others who have been tested for COVID-19 attend or visit school while they await test results?

Anyone who is sick should stay home from school. Anyone who suspects they are ill and received a COVID-19 test should <u>NOT</u> attend or visit school while awaiting test results. Should the test result be negative, they should follow normal illness exclusion rules (typically 24-72 hours without fever and/or



Education

the use of fever reducing medication before they can return to school). If a clinician has a suspicion that the illness may be COVID-19 despite a negative test, they should follow general guidance related to COVID-19 – i.e., unless they were immunocompromised, they would wait at least 10 days from symptom onset and at least one day from resolution of symptoms prior to returning. If the individual should be quarantined based upon a known exposure, then they would need to wait 14 days from last possible exposure prior to returning.

What are the rules and procedures to clear an individual to return to school following a positive test result? Does a test need to come back negative?

A negative test is not necessary to return to school. CDC guidelines state that persons with COVID-19 who have symptoms and were directed to care for themselves at home may discontinue isolation under the following conditions:

- At least 10 days* have passed since symptom onset, and
- At least 24 hours have passed since resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications, and
- Other symptoms have improved.

Is there a specific place at Newmark to isolate students or staff who show symptoms of COVID-19? Newmark has designated two spaces where persons with COVID-19 symptoms can be separated from other students and staff while they wait to be picked up from school.

If a student who has been at Newmark is identified as having COVID, does the entire class have to be quarantined for 14 days?

As provided in CDC guidelines, if unvaccinated individuals have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, meaning they are within 6 feet of someone for at least 15 minutes within a 24 hour period, they should self-quarantine for 14 days from the date of last exposure before returning to school. In the case of a positive COVID test, local health departments, working in coordination with Newmark, will conduct contact tracing to determine whether or not an individual has been in close contact with a student and advise any affected individuals, via trained contact tracers, to self-quarantine for 14 days. The local health department, in coordination with Newmark, will assess the specific circumstances of the individual with the positive test to determine those individuals that have been in close contact and need to self-quarantine – this may or may not include all students in the class.

What notifications are required to the school community when there is an exposure? Will parents be notified if there is an exposure to COVID-19 at Newmark?

Newmark will immediately notify the local health department, parents and staff while maintaining confidentiality.

If a student is unable to attend school based on COVID positive test, are they able attend their classes via Remote Instruction?

Remote Instruction is <u>ONLY</u> available for students who have tested positive or live with someone who has tested positive and they need to quarantine. Parents must email <u>covid@newmarkeducation.com</u> with information and complete the *Request For Instruction Change* in the PowerSchool/Unified Classroom parent portal. Students who have to quarantine due to travel or anything non contact tracing-related are not eligible for Remote Instruction but will be provided with school work at home and their Homeroom teacher will provide periodic check ins.



Social Distancing

What are the social distancing requirements at Newmark?

In Newmark all desks in classrooms are three feet apart. All desks are facing the same way and desk groups work is prohibited. Throughout the building there are distant markers so students have visual representation of social distancing.

Will social distancing methods be implemented in transportation to and from school?

Families have been given the option to drive their child to and from Newmark. If a family is choosing district-provided transportation, they should contact their local school district to determine what their district safety guidelines for the bus companies.

Is Newmark's facility open to outside events?

Newmark will be limiting outside events. We are planning to offer onsite after school activities unless otherwise directed by the Department of Health.

Are visitors allowed at Newmark?

At this time, Newmark is allowing minimum visitors into the building unless otherwise directed by the Department of Health.

How is Newmark accommodating class activities with shared objects, such as art supplies?

Newmark will be avoiding or limiting sharing objects. If sharing is unavoidable, items will be cleaned between use.

How many students are allowed in common areas at one time?

Common areas include the bathroom and lunchroom. Only two students will be allowed in the bathroom at one time and will be escorted by staff and their time will be logged in. Elementary Middle and High School students are assigned to use separate bathrooms. In the lunchroom no more than 45 students will eat at one time and all students will be separated by tables and plexiglass dividers.

Scheduling

Will Newmark offer remote classes in the Fall?

The Department of Education requires full-time, in-person instruction to allow the days to count towards the 180-day requirement. With that being said, there will be NO remote option for students. However, students who are subject to quarantine due to having a diagnosed case of COVID or being directly exposed to COVID (household member has it, etc.) will be allowed to participate in LIVE remote instruction to maintain school work. There are no exceptions to this. LIVE remote instruction is NOT provided for those who have to quarantine due to travel or for any other reason. As always, students will be able to access all assignments through their class Teams and maintain their school work. In the event that Newmark needs to close due a COVID-19 outbreak, classes for staff and students will be conducted remotely and parents will be notified at that time.

Can student purchase lunch onsite?

Yes, Newmark will offer onsite lunch for purchase which will be served in closed containers in lunch bags. There will be no buffet lunch lines. Students may also bring in their own lunches.

Will the classroom windows will be open during the school day?



Yes, but because our building is so new, construction code on schools do not allow for windows to be open fully. Our teachers will open windows daily. Our HVAC system filters will be changed regularly and have been upgraded.

Contact Tracing Responsibilities and Procedures

Which entity should serve as a health and safety contact if Newmark has questions?

The primary contact at Newmark is our local health department. Newmark's school nurse and human resources specialist are certified contact tracers through John Hopkins University and will assist the local health department as needed.

COVID-19 Questions:

Email covid@newmarkeducation.com

Subject to change. Rev. 8/26/21