

Suffield Public Schools

Safety Protocols Update January 2022



Sunday Zoom Conference Schedule

Faculty & Staff - January 2, 2022 (5:00 pm)

Parents & Guardians – January 2, 2022 (6:00 pm)

Presentation Outline

COVID-19 prevention strategies remain critical to protect people, including students, teachers, and staff, who are not fully vaccinated, especially in areas of moderate-to-high community transmission levels.

- CDC K-12 Guidance (July 2021)

- COVID-19 Case Data (Dec. Vacation Only)
- COVID-19 Protocols
 - Isolation
 - Quarantine
- Temporary Remote Learning
- Layered Prevention Strategies
- Considerations for Continuity of Learning



COVID-19 December Vacation Positive Case Data



COVID-19 Positive Student Cases Reported

85

COVID-19 Positive Faculty & Staff Cases Reported

16

Student/Staff Isolation Protocols During High Transmission



Symptomatic (Fully Vaccinated)

- Symptomatic with Positive Test:
 - **5 day isolation** and return to school on Day 6 if symptoms significantly improve;
- Symptomatic with Negative Test:
 - May return to school if symptoms significantly improve.

Symptomatic (Partially Vaccinated or Unvaccinated)

- If there is a known close contact or exposure;
 - **5 day isolation** and return to school on Day 6 if symptoms significantly improve;
- If unknown close contact or exposure;
 - May return to school with negative test or symptoms significantly improve.

“Isolation relates to behavior after a confirmed infection. Quarantine refers to the time following exposure to the virus or close contact with someone known to have COVID-19.”

*Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
(December 29, 2021)*

Student/Staff Quarantine Protocols During High Transmission



Asymptomatic Exposure (Vaccinated)

- Continue with in-person learning/teaching
- Test for COVID-19 after Day 5
- Consider quarantining for non-school related activities

Asymptomatic Exposure (Partially Vaccinated or Unvaccinated)

- **5 Day Quarantine** and return to school on Day 6;
- Test for COVID-19 after Day 5
- Student Screen and Stay (Parent Option Available)

“Isolation relates to behavior after a confirmed infection. Quarantine refers to the time following exposure to the virus or close contact with someone known to have COVID-19.”

*Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
(December 29, 2021)*

Temporary Remote Learning



“Accordingly, school districts are also encouraged to develop a local policy to address how remote learning might be used to provide continued educational opportunities: (1) for students who must be in COVID-19 isolation or quarantine, (2) to address localized outbreaks in a school or specific school district, and (3) in rare and individualized circumstances, for students with elevated risks from COVID-19 exposure due to co-habiting family members with documented vulnerability to COVID-19.”

CSDE Guidance Regarding the Future of Remote Learning in Connecticut Schools

(July 15, 2021)

Temporary Remote Learning During High Transmission (cont.)



- **Passive Live-feed Remote Learning**

- Classroom Teachers will be focusing instruction on in-person learners
- Students will be responsible for submitting classroom assignments posted on Google or Seesaw platforms.
- Check-in Support will be provided if it is feasible to do so. Parents and students should not expect Remote Learning to be equivalent to in-person instruction.
- Check-in Support, if possible, for students will be provided by Recovery Teachers (unassigned), Interventionists, and Academic Support

- **Implementation Timeline (week of January 3)**

- Jan. 3 – New students in isolation or quarantine will not be provided remote access. Therefore, students will need to be marked absent if they are not in-person
- Jan. 4 – New students in isolation or quarantine will be provided passive live-feed access. However, students will need to be marked absent if they are not in-person
- Jan. 5 – New students in isolation or quarantine will be provided passive live-feed and online lesson plan access. Attendance will be taken and students will not be marked absent if in attendance.

“Students benefit from in-person learning, and safely returning to in-person instruction in the fall 2021 is a priority.”

- CDC K-12 Guidance (July 2021)

Temporary Remote Learning During High Transmission (cont.)

- Parent request for Temporary Remote Learning due to isolation or quarantine must be submitted online through COVID-19 Positive Case, Symptoms, or Exposure Online Reporting System
 - Online Reporting Link will be on district website
 - Parents should continue to update online reporting system anytime a change to the student's COVID-19 status occurs
 - Examples:
 - Test Results
 - Student was asymptomatic, but became symptomatic
 - Contact School Nurse with Question

SPS Online COVID-19 Reporting

- May take 24 hours for Remote Learning Access (depends on whether classroom is already engaging in Remote Learning)



“Students benefit from in-person learning, and safely returning to in-person instruction in the fall 2021 is a priority.”

- CDC K-12 Guidance (July 2021)

Layered Prevention Strategies During High Transmission



Social Distancing

- To the greatest extent possible

Contact Tracing and Communication

- Discontinue Contact Tracing
- School notification to all classroom exposures
- District notification if clusters are identified

Cohorts

- No changes to current procedures

Vaccinations

Isolation and Quarantine Protocols (updated December 31, 2021)

Mask-wearing

- Universal Masking as required per Executive Order 13A

Hygiene Protocols

Ventilation and Cleaning

Expand COVID-19 Testing Availability (if available)

No Visitors

*“Many schools serve children under the age of 12 who are not eligible for vaccination at this time. Therefore, this guidance emphasizes implementing **layered prevention strategies** (e.g., using multiple prevention strategies together consistently) to protect people who are not fully vaccinated, including students, teachers, staff, and other members of their households.”*

- CDC K-12 Guidance (July 2021)

Considerations for Continuity of Learning and Protocols Decision-making

Localities should monitor community transmission, vaccination coverage, screening testing, and occurrence of outbreaks to guide decisions on the level of layered prevention strategies (e.g., physical distancing, screening testing).

- CDC K-12 Guidance (July 2021)

- Considerations
 - Guidance from DPH, CSDE, CDC
 - Unique School COVID-19 Transmission Trends
 - County COVID-19 Transmission Trends
 - Suffield Public Schools District COVID-19 Transmission Trends
 - Town of Suffield COVID-19 Transmission Trends
 - Breakthrough COVID-19 Cases
 - Vaccination Data



CSDE Vaccination Status Definition



Fully Vaccinated

Defined as two weeks after second dose of Pfizer or Moderna vaccines or first dose of Johnson & Johnson vaccine.

Partially Vaccinated

One dose of a two dose COVID-19 vaccine
or within two weeks of final dose

Unvaccinated or Unknown Vaccination Status

**“Updated Considerations for
Quarantine, Isolation,
Testing, and Contact Tracing
Policies and Procedures in
PreK-12 Schools”**

*Department of Public Health
(December 31, 2021)*