

YES Prep Public Schools 2022 – 2023 Back to School Plan

August 2022

YES PREP PUBLIC SCHOOLS

AMPLIFY



YES Prep FAST FACTS »

University-Preparatory

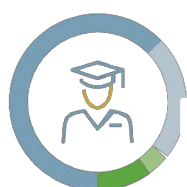
Program for grades K-12



Headquarters

Houston, Texas

17,750 Students



87.1%	HISPANIC
89.5%	FREE / REDUCED LUNCH
7.8%	SPED
70.3%	AT RISK
43.4%	EL
1.1%	HOMELESS



24 Schools

5Elementary Schools

19Secondary Schools



AWARDS & HONORS

90% Graduation Rate

AP Program Options

- AP English Literature
- AP English Language
- AP Psychology/Sociology
- AP Seminar
- AP Human Geography
- AP World History
- AP US History
- AP Government
- AP Statistics
- AP Calculus A/B
- AP Calculus B/C
- AP Biology
- AP Chemistry
- AP Art Portfolio
- AP Computer Science Principles

College & Career Readiness

Alternative Education Program

- THRIVE



All Eligible High schools earned a gold ranking by U.S. News & World Report



Rated Among the top 100 High Schools in America by Major Publications and 4 are ranked Texas's top 20

7 High Schools named among the nation's most challenging high schools by the Washington Post. prestigious international baccalaureate programing



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INTRODUCTION

Thank you for your support and partnership as we continue our commitment to prioritizing safety while also working tirelessly to provide the highest quality instruction for students. This year is a year we reimagine the whole school experience for our students, from safety, to student achievement, to school community.

As we plan for returning to school at YES Prep, we recognize that this will still be an uncommon school year, but we remain committed to supporting your student's learning, as well as his or her safety.

While it is not possible to eliminate all risk of furthering the spread of COVID-19, there are steps families and schools can take to significantly reduce the risks to students, teachers, staff, and their families. Outlined below are the procedures our campuses will have in place to prevent or mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and to respond if a positive case is identified.

YES Prep continues to monitor the latest developments and continues to vigorously promote safety measures and improve them where we can.

The health and safety of staff, students, families, and visitors is a top priority here at YES Prep. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, YES Prep has created this guide to provide guidance for the 22-23 school year with safety in mind.



Safe In-Person Learning

Masks

Masks, by law, will be optional. We encourage staff and families to make the decision that best meets their needs. The CDC does recommend universal indoor masking for all teachers, staff, students, and visitors to pre-K-12 schools, regardless of vaccination status. YES Prep will distribute all available remaining mask inventory to campuses.

Social Distancing

All students and staff are instructed to social distance at least three feet whenever possible.

Self - Monitoring

Students, staff, and visitors are asked to monitor their health and stay home when sick.

- Parents are asked to monitor their children and check temperatures at home prior to leaving for school and upon returning home from school each day.
- Staff should continue to monitor their own symptoms and should stay home when they believe they are sick with a communicable disease. Please follow your campus or team protocol for requesting time away as needed.

Sanitization & Disinfection

All district schools and buildings will continue to be cleaned, disinfected, and fogged nightly with hospital-grade disinfectants as a precautionary measure.

Hand sanitizer and other cleaning and disinfecting supplies will be provided in all school, buildings, and buses.

Hygiene

Individuals are strongly encouraged to routinely wash or sanitize their hands throughout the day, prior to eating, and after each visit to the restroom. Individuals are also encouraged to practice proper respiratory etiquette by covering coughs and sneezes with the inside of their elbow, a tissue, or mask.

COVID-19 Vaccinations

The vaccinations available have been proven to be highly effective against many strands and even if infected, are effective in preventing serious illness.

Additionally, those wishing to receive a COVID-19 vaccine and rapid testing at no cost, may also find convenient locations at [vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov).

COVID-19 Testing

Effective July 12th, YES Prep will only offer rapid COVID testing to YES Prep staff using our current supply of rapid GenBody COVID tests. Testing will only be available until our current supply expires in November 2022.

YES Prep staff should request COVID testing from their CMA/RN or DCO during regular school hours. All campus-based testing must be reported using [YES Prep GenBody COVID-19 Testing Tracker](#). We are exploring partnerships with nearby testing facilities and recommend all employees [secure the free tests available](#) to be sent to your home.

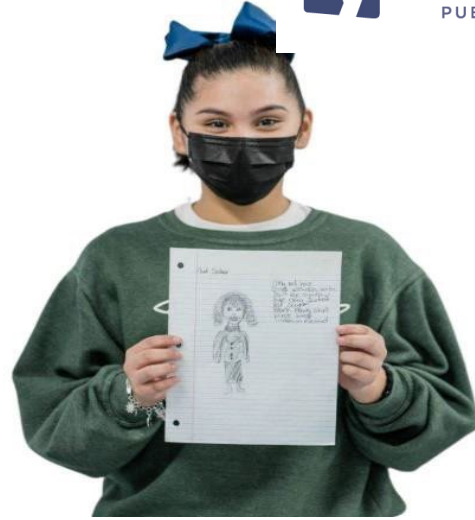
COVID -19 Guidelines

The district has outlined guidance and protocols for confirmed, presumed, and exposed individuals. For more information, see Yes Prep's Family [Resource Center: COVID-19 Info & Resources - YES Prep Public Schools](#)

Encouraging Prevention

We can do our best to prevent the spread of germs and illness by taking 3 key steps:

1. If you can, get vaccinated. The vaccinations available have been proven to be highly effective against many strands and even if infected, are effective in preventing serious illness.
2. Prioritize hand washing. Use hand sanitizer when hand washing is unavailable.
3. Stay home when sick or when displaying symptoms that may be related to an illness.



On-Campus Prevention

If your child has any symptoms or illness, please **do not** send them to school.

The best prevention and mitigation strategies are being vaccinated, participating in any release boosters, and wearing a mask.

All YES Prep students and staff are encouraged to continue wearing masks while on campuses, on the bus, and at all district offices and facilities regardless of vaccination status. **Medical-grade or N-95 face masks are strongly recommended.**

YES Prep schools will continue to be cleaned on a regular schedule, giving special attention to high traffic and frequently touched surfaces.

Other layered prevention measures like washing hands and physical distancing whenever possible are also still in place across our schools and facilities.

We ask families to please conduct an [at-home health screening](#) each day to ensure that your student, and all YES Prep community members, stay safe and COVID-free.

Notifying YES Prep

We are required to report confirmed positive cases to the Texas Education Agency on a weekly basis. If you have tested positive for COVID and have recently been on a YES Prep site, please notify your campus.

We are still required to report COVID positive staff cases to the county. [Please self-report on this survey.](#)

Confirmed Cases & Quarantining

If you learn that your child has tested positive for COVID-19, please notify your campus. Confirmed individuals should quarantine for 5 days regardless of being symptomatic or not.

Confirmed Cases:

- Must be reported to campus leadership
- If a student tests positive for COVID-19 the student should quarantine for 5 days beginning from the date of positive test of date that symptoms first start, whichever is earlier. Staff and students may return to school after 5 calendar days of quarantine; however, it is recommended that they wear a tight-fitting mask at work until symptoms resolved.
- After symptoms of COVID-19 are improving
 - **Loss of taste and smell may persist for weeks or months after recovery and need not delay the end of isolation.

Receiving Notification

YES Prep will communicate via e-mail or SchoolMessenger call with any information related to campus health and safety updates. Parents can also use the COVID-10 Tracker for test confirmed COVID-19 cases since the start of school by day and week. Find it here: [COVID Tracker - YES Prep Public Schools](#)

Student Uniforms & Dress Code

YES Prep will waive the uniform policy for students for the 2022-2023 school year, but students will follow the "free dress" policy as outlined in the Individual Campus Supplement for their school.

Student Meals

All meals are FREE of charge to students in the 2022-2023 school year. It is highly recommended that students wear masks that cover both the nose and mouth when entering and exiting the cafeteria, as well as when not actively eating or drinking.

Additionally, water fountains will be available as refilling stations only. Students should not drink directly from water fountains and are advised to bring refillable water bottles to school each day.

School Bus Service

Transportation Services is resuming normal operations and bus service at full capacity. It is highly recommended that students and bus operators wear masks that cover both the nose and mouth regardless of vaccination status.



Athletics, UIL, & Extracurricular Activities

Health and safety guidelines and protocols conducted during the school day shall also apply to after-school programming. Student programming is to be offered 100% in-person following social-distancing guidelines. Campuses may provide Family Engagement initiatives in-person and/or virtually based on campus and family needs.

Athletics - Travel

Busing for students participating in athletic events will be allowed with social distancing when possible.

Athletics - Events

Athletic programs will no longer conduct health screenings and temperature checks. Athletes are to notify the AD of any close contact or symptoms prior to attending any athletics events.

Spectators are allowed at athletic events with the recommendation of masks and ADs ensuring that social distancing is being practiced at all times. Concessions will be allowed to be sold.

College Visits – YES Prep Sponsored

College visits may be arranged for seniors and juniors. For Junior Spring Trip, specific guidelines are outlined separately.

College Visits – College Sponsored

Seniors and juniors can visit colleges on their own if families are in support and are aware of health risks of traveling.

Small Group Gatherings

Small Group Gatherings are permitted in the decisions outlined below if...

- Health and Safety Guidelines are observed
- Social Distancing can be achieved
- The gathering is necessary for student success or **student/staff/family engagement**.

Examples include, but are not limited to:

- ARD Meetings
- Disciplinary Hearings
- CNA Meetings

Large Group Gatherings

All large group gatherings must be approved by the DCO and principal using the Event Planning Guide. All approved large events must follow social distancing and health and safety guidelines. An Administrator is required for all on-campus events with an anticipated attendance of 50+ students.

Masks are strongly recommended for all participants.

YES Prep-Sponsored Staff Travel

Staff should use their discretion when determining the personal risk of traveling for YES Prep business.

All travel should be approved by their manager. If a staff member is driving students, they must be approved to drive first. Please email Talent@yesprep.org to start that process.

Teaching Excellence Saturday Events

We have resumed Teaching Excellence Saturday Events with the following schedule:

- August 27th
- September 24th
- October 22nd
- November 12th
- December 10th
- January 7th- Make-Up Day
- January 21st
- February 11th
- March 25th
- April 15th
- April 22nd- Make-Up Day

Family Visitors

Family visitors are permitted to visit a campus if their visit is necessary for student success. All family visitors must show identification and receive a temporary badge from the front office upon arrival at campus. Masks are strongly recommended for all visitors. Family Tours are permitted under this guidance. Non-essential deliveries such as lunch, personal items, and homework are prohibited.

External YES Prep Visitors

External YES Prep visitors will be permitted to visit a campus if the visitor is providing a service that impacts student success and learning. Visitors must show identification and receive a temporary badge from the front office upon arrival at campus. Visitors must follow social distancing and health and safety guidelines. Examples of these include vendors who provide tutorial and curricular support to students. Masks are strongly recommended for all visitors.

Field Trips

Field trips are permitted in the decisions outlined below if:

- Health and Safety Guidelines are observed
- Social Distancing can be achieved
- The gathering is necessary for student success or **student/staff/family engagement**.

Examples include, but are not limited to:

- Athletic Games
- Performing Arts competitive events (i.e. – Dance Competition)
- Museum trips
- Enrichment

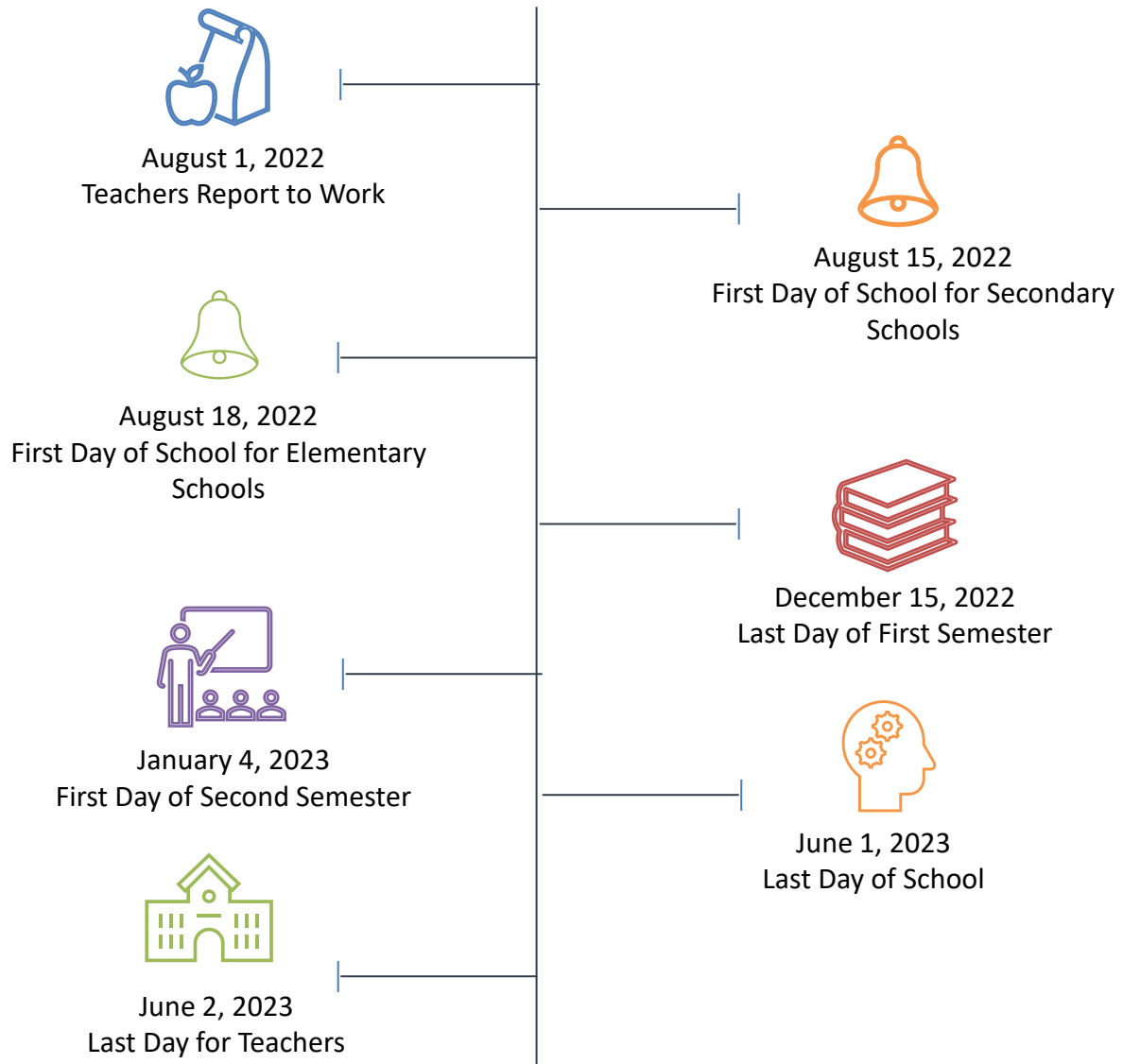
All field trips must be approved by the DCO and Principal at least 30 days in advance by submitting the [Event Planning Guide](#). Students and staff attending an overnight field trip are strongly encouraged to take and receive a negative COVID test prior to attending the field trip. DCOs or a designated operations team member should use [Travel Tracker](#) to submit all field trips at least 21 days before the trip. Bus confirmation must be received before permission slips are issued, money is collected, and confirmation is sent to students or guardians.

All non-YES Prep staff chaperones – including parents and family members – must follow the volunteer policy.

Closure Plan

We do not anticipate school closures. Should deteriorating COVID-19 conditions warrant the closure of a campus, classroom, or portion of a classroom, that determination will be made on a case-by-case basis by YES Prep Health & Medical Services in consultation with the Houston Health Department.

2022 – 2023 Timeline



[Click Here for the 2022-2023 Academic Calendar \(Elementary\)](#)

[Click Here for the 2022-23 Academic Calendar \(Secondary\)](#)



Safe In-Person Learning & Working

Prevention Strategies

It's critical that all staff members utilize the following [prevention strategies](#) to help deliver safe in-person instruction and help to prevent COVID-19 transmission in our schools:

- Universal and correct use of [masks](#), though not required
- [Physical distancing](#) should be maximized to the greatest extent possible
- [Wash your hands often](#) with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use a hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol to clean hands. All staff should wash their hands:
 - Before and after eating food
 - Before and after treating a cut or wound
 - After using the toilet
 - After blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing
 - After touching your eyes, nose, or mouth
 - Touching your mask
 - Touching an item or surface that may be frequently touched by other people (e.g., door handles and tables)
 - After touching garbage
 - When opening or closing a restroom door use a paper towel, tissue, disinfectant wipe, or disposable glove
 - If covering a cough or sneeze, do so with a tissue then throw the tissue in the trash and wash your hands
 - Minimize all personal items brought to school

Positive COVID-19 Cases

If you learn that you have tested positive for COVID-19, please notify Talent using this [form](#). Confirmed cases must quarantine for 5 days regardless of being symptomatic or not. Return to work criteria:

If you are symptomatic:

- Provide evidence of a confirmed test prior to manager approving use of COVID-19 PTO days
- 24 hours with no fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and
- 5-day quarantine or submission of 2 consecutive negative tests at least 24 hours apart after day 5.

If you are asymptomatic:

- Provide evidence of a confirmed test prior to manager approving use of COVID-19 PTO days.

After a 5 day quarantine, it is recommended that they wear a tight fitting mask at work or school until symptoms have resolved.



Student Absences

Student excused absences will follow the traditional excused absence policy for illnesses and will require documentation.

Staff Absences

YES Prep is committed to continuing to provide staff with up to 5 days of COVID PTO to utilize for the 22-23 school year when they are required to be away from work to quarantine. Staff who test positive for COVID and who need to quarantine away from work should submit their time in the Employee Self-Service (ESS). Managers/DCOs have the discretion to request documentation before approving a staff member's COVID PTO days.



Staff Screening & Wellness

Monitor your symptoms and stay home when you are sick. If a staff member is experiencing a fever they should not come to campus or leave campus immediately, and not return to campus until they are 24-hours+ fever-free without fever reducing medication

Contact Tracing

Staff and students are no longer required to inform parents of close contact status of students. We no longer have campus staff track close contacts. If staff or students have tested positive and have recently (within 2 days) been on-site, informing close contacts is recommended by the person who tested positive.

Monkeypox Safety

YES Prep is also aware of the recent rise in cases of Monkeypox. The virus can spread from person-to-person through:

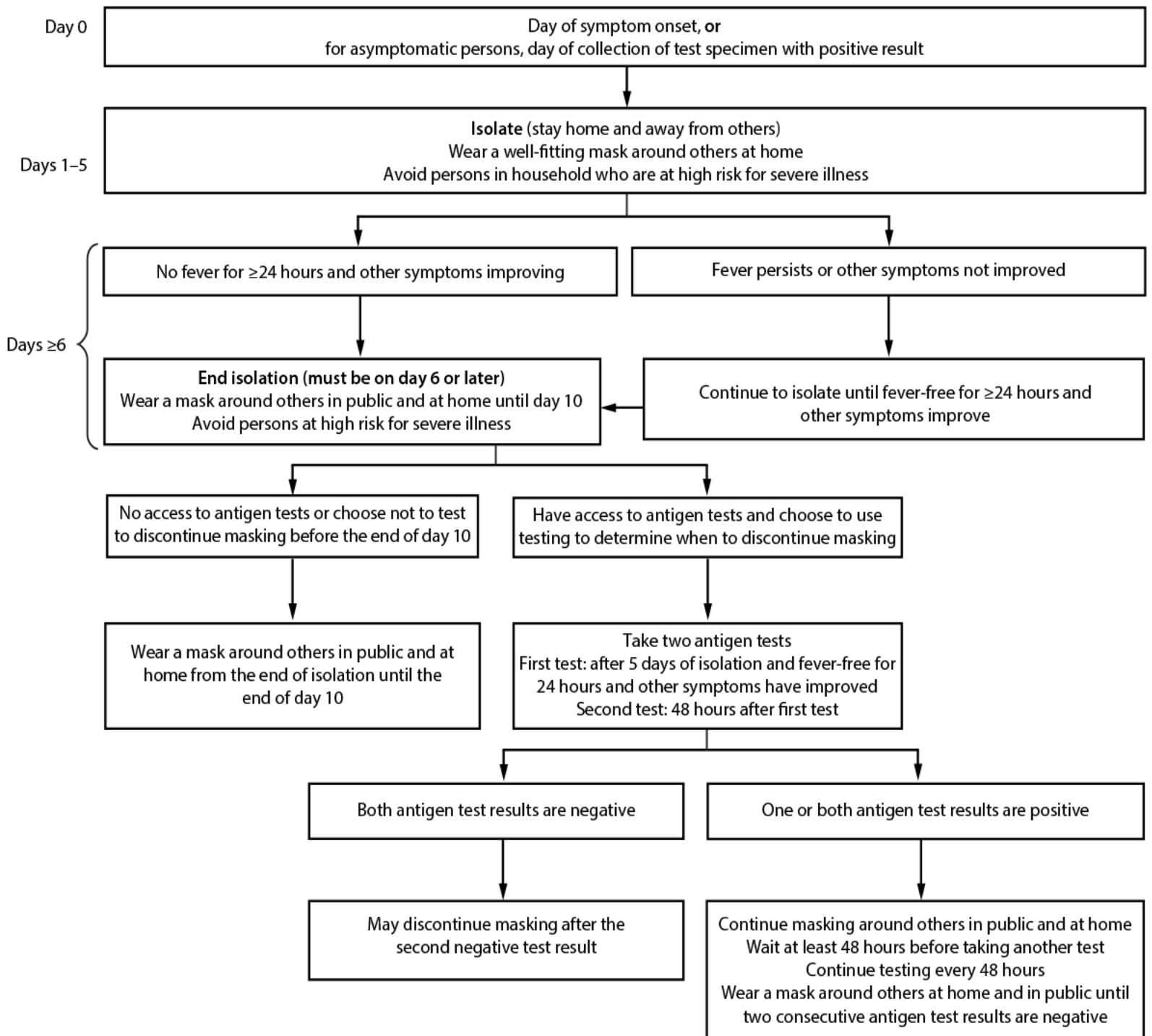
- Direct contact with the infectious rash, scabs, or body fluids
- Respiratory secretions during prolonged, face-to-face contact, or during intimate physical contact
- Touching items (such as clothing or linens) that previously touched the infectious rash or body fluids

It's also possible for people to get monkeypox from infected animals, either by being scratched or bitten by the animal or by preparing or eating meat or using products from an infected animal. The illness typically lasts 2-4 weeks.

People who do not have monkeypox symptoms cannot spread the virus to others. To prevent monkeypox, please avoid close, skin-to-skin contact with people who have a rash that looks like monkeypox and wash your hands often.

We will continue to be responsive and communicate any changes to our health and safety protocols.

COVID-19 CDC Recommendations



Student and Family Support

Health & Behavioral Services

We have partnered with Legacy School Based Health Clinics to address the health & behavioral needs of our students.

If you need additional support, get support regarding your anxiety or stress by speaking to a trained counselor at SAMHSA Disaster Distress.

Helpline at 1-800-985-5990 or by texting TalkWithUS 66746.

For more information, visit [Legacy Community Health's website](#).

Student Assistance Form

We know that you may have some needs that arise as a parent, guardian, or student. You can receive direct help by submitting a "Student Assistance Form" or SAF. A campus counselor will follow-up with you to determine the best way to get your needs met.

To access the form, click [here](#).

Affordable Internet for Eligible Households

YES Prep has partnered with EveryoneOn to provide families with the best low-cost internet service and computer offers during this challenging time. By clicking on link below and entering your zip code, you'll find low-cost internet service and computers in your area.

Click [here](#) for more details.



Physical Health

COVID-19 has underscored the importance of health, fitness, and physical activity. In addition to being fun for children, regular physical activity has many health benefits, including strengthening bones, decreasing blood pressure, reducing stress and anxiety, increasing self-esteem, and helping with weight management. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, children ages 3 to 5 should be active throughout the day. Children and adolescents ages 6 to 17 years should be physically active at least 60 minutes each day.

For more information, visit [CDC.gov/PhysicalActivity/Basics/Children](https://www.cdc.gov/PhysicalActivity/Basics/Children)

211 Helpline

As always, the 211 Texas/United Way HELPLINE is providing information about community resources and connection also search ng people to basic needs assistance and other social services, for which demand is likely to increase. You the 211 database online [here](#).

211 is not the number to call for emergencies or if someone suspects they have COVID- 19.

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact
your campus directly.

For general information, please email

receptionist@yesprep.org or call **713-967-9000**