

Be Safe, Be Healthy

Be #NormandyStrong

COVID-19 health and safety guidelines and strategies to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in our schools & community.



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Mask-Recommended Learning Environments



On Monday, April 18, 2022, the Normandy Schools Collaborative (NSC) adopted a mask-recommended policy for all district buildings. The mask-recommended environment was implemented for NSC staff and students in grades PK-12.

Please note: Masks are still required on school buses. Masks for school visitors are recommended, but not required. Visitors should be limited to parents/guardians on-site for specific meetings (e.g., teacher conferences) and essential visitors (e.g., vendors or service providers).



This plan continues to allow students and staff the option to wear masks if they so choose.

How It Will Work

Masks are recommended (not required) in PK-12 schools if a building's weekly percentage of individuals who test positive does not exceed 5% of a school's total population (students and staff). This weekly percentage will be calculated based on in-school exposures. COVID-19 data in the surrounding community will also be considered.



Note for school data tracking: "Positive case" is defined as an individual who tests positive or is presumed positive for COVID-19 and has had exposure to other individuals at school.

If the percentage of positive cases who have in-school exposure is greater than 5% of a school's total population (students and staff), barrier face masks will be required at school for at least two weeks. To resume mask-optional status, a school's weekly percentage of positive cases who have in-school exposure must be less than 5% after the two-week period. Data will be reviewed weekly.

Implementation of Mitigation Tactics in School Settings to Help Prevent the Spread of COVID-19

The procedures and guidelines in this handbook are subject to change. Our ongoing goal is to provide as much quality, in-person instruction as possible while following local and state public health agency and CDC recommendations. This will support our efforts to prevent the spread of the virus while providing quality learning opportunities for NSC students. The district will continue to monitor levels of spread inside of buildings and the community at-large to determine if/when a return to COVID safety and health protocols need to be reinstated.

School principals will be responsible for establishing the protocols and safety routines and communicating this information to students, families and staff. Limits will be imposed for nonessential visitors and volunteers.

The mitigation practices detailed on the following pages are what the district may implement if there is a significant increase in positive cases of COVID-19 in buildings and/or the community.

The JEGB authorizes the Superintendent or designee to return to a mask mandate inside all buildings if the CDC's COVID-19 Community Transmission Levels return to high or medium risk. This authority is granted in Missouri State Statutes 167.191 and 171.011, and JEGB policies EBB: Communicable Diseases and GBE: Staff Health and Safety.

Mitigation Tactics in School Settings to Help Prevent the Spread of COVID-19



Masks

Modifications to mask wearing have been made in alignment with CDC recommendations for staff and students.



Bus

- Staff & students must wear face coverings while on the school bus.

Schools

- It is recommended that all staff -- vaccinated and unvaccinated -- wear masks.



Contact Tracing

Contact tracing is an inquiry process that involves working with an individual (symptomatic and asymptomatic) who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 to identify and provide support to individuals who may have been infected through exposure and deemed at risk. This process prevents further transmission of virus.

Deemed at risk, or exposed, refers to those individuals who have been within 3 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes over a 24-hour period, with or without a mask. An infected person refers to an individual who has received a laboratory-confirmed positive COVID test result. Below are the primary contacts and their responsibilities.

Contact Tracing Process

Principal:

- Investigates to determine staff/students exposed to positive case
- Isolates positive case if on school premises
- Sends list to Human Resources Department & Assistant Superintendent of Student Services
- Contacts custodial staff to sanitize areas populated by positive case
- Informs staff members exposed and gives guidance to self monitor for symptoms and remain masked for five days

Nurse:

- Administers Rapid Test as needed
- Reports results to Human Resources Department & Assistant Superintendent of Student Services

Director of Communications:

- Provides letter for families & staff to principal

Human Resources:

- Maintains log of staff positive cases

Assistant Superintendent of Support Services:

- Maintains log of student positive cases

Quarantine/Isolation

Quarantine means exposed individuals who have not tested positive isolating themselves from others to prevent the possibility of spreading COVID-19. The quarantine period starts from the last day the exposed person was in close proximity (less than 6 feet) for 15 minutes or more with a person who tested positive. August 2022 CDC guidance does not recommend quarantine for exposed individuals unless they are symptomatic. Therefore NSC will not implement quarantine unless the person shows symptoms.

Isolation refers to individuals infected with COVID (positive results) separating themselves from others to prevent the possibility of spreading COVID-19.

Staff/Student Exposure

According to the CDC (as of 8/22):

- Individuals exposed to the Covid-19 virus do not need to go into quarantine unless symptomatic.
- **Students/Staff:**
 - Students and staff must remain masked for five days after possible exposure.
 - It is recommended that individuals administer a COVID-19 test the fifth day after exposure to ensure they can safely unmask while at school or in the office setting if the results are negative.

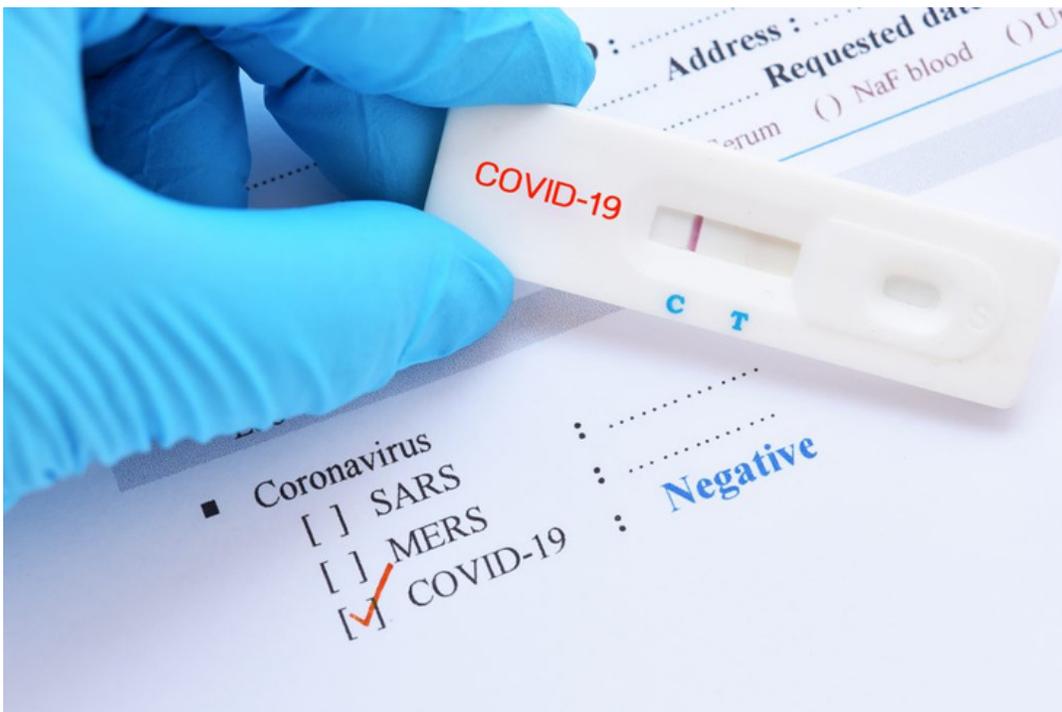
COVID-19 Test Results

Positive Test Results

- Staff and students need to seek medical attention, go into isolation and return after the 5th day beyond the start of symptoms or the date of a positive test as long as symptoms are improved and no fever for 24 hours without fever-reducing medications. Upon return, individuals must be masked at all times for five additional days, except when eating and drinking.

Negative Test Results

- Staff and students will remain at work/school and continue to monitor symptoms for five days.



Mitigation Strategy

For the 2022-2023 school year, on-site learning is compulsory. However, NSC will provide a continuity of services via remote learning if in-person learning must stop temporarily. NSC will continue to meet the social, emotional, and mental health needs of students and staff.

Mitigation Strategy Procedures

NSC will ensure continued safe operations to maintain the health and safety of students and staff by implementing the mitigation strategies described below.

- **Correct wearing of masks.** All students and staff will wear masks on school buses. Buses and schools will receive a supply of masks to give to students who arrive without or misplace their mask.
- **Illness, hand-washing and respiratory etiquette.** NSC will continue to remind sick students and staff to stay home. Students, especially younger students, will receive instruction on proper hand washing and sneezing/coughing in order to mitigate against the spread of COVID or other infections.
- **Maintaining safe facilities remains important.** NSC is committed to continuing to clean and maintain healthy facilities. High-touch surfaces will continue to receive additional sanitization. The district is implementing ventilation improvements based on need at NSC buildings.



Mitigation Strategy

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- **Diagnostic and screening testing.** With NSC's partnership with Washington University and BJC, all members of the NSC community have access to saliva tests that offer timely test results. Staff and students can call the COVID-19 appointment hotline at 314-454-4269.
- **Vaccinations.** NSC's partnership with Affinia has allowed for on-site vaccinations at Normandy High School for eligible community members.
- **Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities.** The health and safety procedures listed in this plan and elsewhere may be modified in order to ensure appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities. NSC's Special Programs department, in coordination with Special School District, leads the district efforts here.

Continuity of Services

In the event that in-person learning must stop temporarily during the 2022-2023 school year, NSC will provide a continuity of services via remote learning.

- **Technology for learning.** Students will continue to use technology devices to support independent or collaborative learning. Learning devices will be used effectively both in person and during remote learning, if applicable. NSC has created hospitality hubs for parents and students to interface with IT staff to best receive devices, troubleshoot any issues, or receive instruction on their use. IT staff has expanded the hours for these “Genius Bar” IT hospitality hubs. More information is available on the website: www.normandysc.org/departments/it-home
- **Teaching and learning methods.** Teachers will employ learning tools to create safe and respectful learning environments where students are engaged and challenged. Students will have access to before and after school activities when available.
- **Social, emotional, and mental health needs of students.** Teachers will focus on grade-level learning for Social Emotional Learning (SEL) and accelerating the learning where gaps exist. Each school will establish SEL goal-setting as a shared priority with the support and assistance of district counselors and social workers. Guidance counselors will provide small group support to students in all grade levels to assess for students at risk and with social and emotional needs.

Continuity of Services

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Guidance counselors and social workers have resources available to assist students with the after-effects of returning to school from the pandemic. Community partners are re-establishing programs to support students identified as at risk or vulnerable. Counselors and social workers will assist in coordinating and leading comprehensive mental health programs and resources.

- **Social, emotional, and mental health needs of staff.** NSC's Human Resources and Support Services department create regular events for building staff morale and offering opportunities for social and emotional support. NSC's Human Resources department has certain programs available to support staff mental health and wellness, and the department is considering additional measures in this area.



Periodic Revisions

NSC reserves the right to change and edit this Plan as medical and governmental guidance changes or for other relevant reasons. NSC will review this Plan at least every six months and revise it if necessary.

Stakeholder Consultation

During the 2020-2021 school year, NSC conducted surveys and held a number of public forums in person and via Zoom where families and stakeholders had an opportunity to give feedback on the 2020-2021 version of the Plan, on which the 2021-2022 Plan is closely modeled.

As part of the review and revision process of the 2022-2023 Plan, NSC will continue to consult with stakeholders as required. Methods of consultation with stakeholders may include, but are not limited to:

- Community survey
- Parent/family survey
- Student survey
- Staff survey
- Board meeting presentations
- Other public meetings, presentations, or roundtables

NSC will make the Plan available in other languages or will provide an audio version of the Plan as requested by stakeholders.

Contact Information

Student/School Health Practices

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Staff-Related Matters

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Community Surveys/Stakeholder Input

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The Return to Learn COVID mitigation plan is also available on the NSC website:

www.normandysc.org/programs/covid-return-to-learn

The updates to the information contained in the publication will be posted on this site as well as distributed to parents and staff via email and social media.

