

# **Infectious Disease Preparedness Plan**

COVID-19, Influenza (flu), Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV), Norovirus.

Osseo Area Schools is committed to providing a safe and healthy learning environment for all our students, staff, community, and visitors. To ensure we have a safe and healthy learning space, Osseo Area Schools has developed the following Infectious Disease Preparedness Plan. All staff are responsible for implementing this plan. Our goal is to mitigate the potential for transmission of infectious diseases in our schools and community.

## **Ensure sick individuals stay home when not feeling well with prompt identification and response to infectious disease.**

Staff, students, and families will be informed of and encouraged to self-monitor for signs and symptoms of many potential infectious diseases as listed on the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's website. Individuals with symptoms, even when mild, should remain home until they are well enough to be in the learning environment to help prevent the spread of infectious diseases. For those at increased risk of complications, individuals should reach out to a healthcare provider, even when symptoms are mild, for consultation.

These symptoms include but are not limited to; consistent cough, fever over 100.4 degrees, difficulty or trouble breathing, sore throat, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, chills, muscle pain, excessive fatigue, severe headache, nasal congestion, or severe runny nose.

Individuals who test positive for COVID-19, Influenza, RSV, or other infectious diseases should follow exclusion periods from schools which can be found on the district website. All staff and students who are ill should remain out and return to sites when their symptoms are improved, and they are well enough to attend. Staff should follow their sick leave procedure as is laid out in their contract and families should call the attendance line.

Individuals who have a fever of greater than 100.4 degrees, vomiting, diarrhea while at the sites will be sent home. These individuals may return when they have had no episodes of diarrhea, vomiting or fever for 24 hours without the use of medications and are well enough to participate in learning.

## **Individual Hygiene**

Basic infection prevention measures are always implemented at our sites. Staff and students are encouraged to wash their hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water frequently throughout the day, but especially at the beginning and end of the program, prior to any mealtimes and after using the restroom.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends wearing a well-fitting mask consistently and correctly to reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19 and other respiratory diseases while community infection rates are high.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends staying up to date on all routine vaccinations. Receiving a yearly flu vaccine and staying up to date on COVID-19 vaccinations. COVID-19 vaccination is the leading public health strategy to prevent severe disease of COVID-19.

**Isolation Room**

Each site will identify a room that can be converted into an isolation room for sick individuals if needed. This room is ideally located close to the main entrance and/or health office.

An isolation room should be opened at the discretion of the nurse if the number of sick individuals in the health office with potentially contagious symptoms does not allow for sufficient distancing between individuals.

If there are any individuals in the isolation room awaiting a ride, they will need to be monitored. This cannot be the sole responsibility of the nurse as they may have other situations which require their attention.

**Ventilation Protocol**

Osseo Area Schools are following CDC and State guidance on HVAC equipment. Extended run times for before and after occupancy, increased outside air input, and increased filtration are all part of the HVAC plan.

**Site Cleaning and Disinfection**

Staff are encouraged to clean their individual workstations with approved disinfectant which is provided by the Operations staff. Common cleaning surfaces include staff workstations, student desks, chairs, countertops, sinks, faucets, etc.

Staff can request Ecolab Smart Power Sink and Surface Cleaner Sanitizer from site operations staff.

**COVID-19 Testing**

Osseo Area Schools promotes testing for those who are interested. The district will provide state issued COVID-19 testing kits as long as they are available and in stock. Please work through the site's nurse to receive a testing kit. Sites will not be providing on-site testing.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your site nurse or the district health services coordinator [sennesm@district279.org](mailto:sennesm@district279.org)

[Minnesota Department of Health](#)  
[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)  
[COVID-19 Testing](#)