



COVID RESPONSE PROTOCOLS

– September 2023 –

FASP continues to closely monitor and respond to the information surrounding the COVID-19 situation. Please see below the COVID-19 policies and protocols in place. These are based on the most recent guidelines and recommendations from the New Jersey Department of Health and the CDC.

VACCINATION AND TESTING POLICY

FASP strongly recommends COVID-19 vaccination of all age-eligible students, faculty, and staff. A copy of the vaccination card must be sent to the school nurse at nurse@ecoleprinceton.org

Types of COVID-19 tests accepted:

- Laboratory tests: RT- "PCR", nucleic acid amplification tests (NAATs)
- Rapid Point-of-Care tests: antigen tests and some NAATs performed at a point-of-care (Doctors office, Healthcare centers, Urgent care centers, pharmacies, etc.)
- Self-Tests (home tests)

MASKING POLICY

Masks are still considered to be one of the best ways to mitigate the spread of Covid-19. All students, staff and visitors are welcome to wear it at school, but we no longer impose a universal masking policy. However, the mask may be required in some circumstances, regardless of vaccination status.

| | |
|---|--|
| During periods of elevated community transmission | Mask is <u>recommended</u> when COVID-19 Community Level in Mercer County is high (orange) . The most recent Covid-19 levels are available here https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/statistics/covid/ |
| Close contacts | All close contacts <u>must</u> wear a well-fitting mask for 10 full days following the last exposure. |
| After returning from isolation | Students and staff who return to school during days 6-10 of isolation or quarantine <u>must</u> wear a well-fitting mask |
| When illness occurs in school | Students or staff who become ill with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 while in school <u>must</u> wear a mask until they leave the premises. |

RESPONSE TO SICK OR SYMPTOMATIC STUDENTS AND STAFF

Symptom screening, masks and hand hygiene are proven strategies to reduce risk. Vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals should monitor their health daily. Students and staff who are sick should stay home.

- Sick students and staff with any Covid-compatible symptom (see below) should stay home, contact the school with no delay, and get tested for Covid-19. If tested positive, see 'COVID-19 POSITIVE TEST RESULT' below.
- Regardless of vaccination status, children, and staff with Covid-compatible symptoms while at school will be separated away from others until they can be sent home. Individuals will be sent home with no delay and asked to get tested for Covid-19.

COVID-compatible symptoms

At least two of the following symptoms: fever (measure or subjective), chills, rigors (shivers), myalgia (muscle aches), headache, sore throat, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, fatigue, congestion, or runny nose;

OR

At least one of the following symptoms: new or worsening cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, new olfactory disorder, new taste disorder.

For students with chronic illness, only new symptoms, or symptoms worse than baseline should be used to fulfill symptom-based exclusion criteria.

General reminder: parents are asked to notify the school administration when their child is ill, even when the condition or symptoms are not Covid-related. There are indeed several other conditions requiring exclusion from school. The list of these conditions and symptoms, as well as the exclusion duration is accessible [here](#).

COVID-19 POSITIVE TEST RESULT

If your child tests positive for COVID-19, please contact the school immediately.

Regardless of vaccination status, **students and staff who test positive for COVID-19 must ISOLATE at home for 5 full days.**

- Day 0 is the day the positive test was performed OR the day of onset of symptoms.
- Day 6 is the first day the individual can return to school, only if he is fever free for 24 hours (without fever reducing medication) and the symptoms are resolved.
- Until day 10: Individuals who tested positive for COVID-19 must wear a well-fitting mask.

Details on Isolation duration can be found on the CDC website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/isolation.html>

EXPOSURE & CLOSE CONTACTS

Close contact is defined as being within 6 feet of someone with COVID-19 for 15 or more minutes during a 24-hour period. Individuals would be considered exposed during the period between 2 days prior to symptom onset (or before the date the positive test was performed if asymptomatic) and 5 days after.

After an exposure, students/parents and staff should carefully monitor for fever (100.4°F or greater), cough, shortness of breath, or other COVID-19 symptoms for 10 days. If COVID-19 symptoms develop, students/staff should immediately get tested and follow isolation recommendations.

All individuals with a known exposure, regardless of vaccination status, should test five full days after last exposure and must wear a well-fitting mask at school for ten full days after last exposure.

Details on exposure and close contacts can be found on the CDC website:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/if-you-were-exposed.html>