

Medical Policies

Updated 5/11/2021

Key Rules

1. If you have one of the symptoms listed on the health form (question #3), **do not** come to school, even if you have tested negative for COVID.
2. **UPDATED RULE:** If a family member has a symptom, other members of the family **may** come into school.
3. If any symptomatic family member is awaiting COVID test results-- or even if the test has not been administered but the person intends to get tested-- then your children **cannot attend school** until **ALL** test results are in **and** you are cleared to return.
4. If anyone was in contact with someone who has COVID, you may not attend YBH until cleared to return.
5. If you are unsure if you can attend school, assume you cannot until cleared by YBH.
6. **UPDATED RULE:** Based on the current level of community spread, children **may** come into school after attending a simcha. Please reach out to health@ybhpassaic.org with any related questions.
7. If one plans to get tested and is asymptomatic, please stay out of school for a minimum of 48 hours prior to testing.

General Rules

1. If any symptomatic family member, a YBH student or not, is awaiting COVID test results-- or even if the test has not been administered but the person intends to get tested-- then your children cannot attend school until the test results are in. Even if a "rapid" test came back Negative, but the family member is awaiting results of a PCR test, no members of your family may come to school until ALL tests have come back negative AND you are cleared to return.
2. Do not send your children to school **with even the slightest symptoms** of illness. If you need further guidance as to how to proceed, please email health@ybhpassaic.org.
3. Please make sure that you are accurately and completely filling out your children's daily screening forms.
4. Parents must inform the school (email health@ybhpassaic.org) if a student has come into contact with anyone that tested positive for COVID-19.
5. If you pre-plan COVID testing before traveling or seeing visitors, please stay out of school for a minimum of 48 hours before testing. That way, even in the event of an unexpected positive test, no one in the school will need to quarantine as a result. (Of course, **this guideline does not apply to COVID tests taken due to onset of symptoms for the one being tested**, which should be taken as soon as deemed medically appropriate.)
6. **UPDATED RULE:** Students and staff who were quarantined due to COVID exposure may return to school after **7** days from their most recent contact with someone who is considered contagious (which generally is considered to last 10 days from the onset of that person's symptoms). **In order to return after 7 days, the individual must never have had symptoms during the 7 day quarantine period and a PCR must be obtained beginning on day 5, or later, of the quarantine period.**

- a. Only a PCR test will be allowed (not rapid antigen tests or molecular rapid tests like Abbott ID) for purposes of testing out of quarantine after 7 days.
- b. Please be mindful that should the test come back positive, the individual who tested positive and all close contacts who are not vaccinated or recently recovered from Covid (e.g., siblings), must quarantine from the time the test was taken.
- c. A parent may decide to keep their child home for a full 10 day quarantine, in which case a negative Covid test is not required.
- d. If testing an asymptomatic child for purposes of shortening a quarantine period to 7 days, siblings do not need to stay home while the test remains outstanding.

Daily Screening Instructions

1. Every child's temperature must be measured every school day at home.
2. Please ask your child to smell the same thing every school day. Some examples to use are *besamim*, cinnamon, etc. If one day they do not smell anything, or the smell is distorted or different, that constitutes a failed test.
3. The definition of "something chronic" as applicable to the form is a 'symptom' that has been occurring almost every day for more than the past 6 months- for example, having the recurrent habits of making a sniffing sound or coughing. Contracting a common cold or cough every month during the winter season does not constitute a chronic condition, and will be subject to the regular screening guidelines.
4. Another definition of a chronic diagnosis is when symptoms do not occur almost every day, but come and go over time. Examples include asthma, allergies, migraines, or GI conditions. These will require a pediatrician's note that the student has those conditions, and details of what the associated symptoms are. We recommend obtaining this note before the child develops those symptoms, to avoid missing school when they occur. Additionally, the details of the current symptoms must be consistent with the chronic diagnosis. For example, if a student has never had a sore throat or coughing with their allergies before, then their current symptoms cannot be considered chronic. Only identify previously associated symptoms of your child's chronic diagnosis as chronic. Many times, an acute infection like COVID will exacerbate a chronic diagnosis. If anything about the current situation is different do not report it as chronic.
5. **UPDATED RULE:** Students who develop any of the signs or symptoms on the screening form will need to be **completely symptom free, without the aid of fever reducing medicine**, before returning to school. For example, if they go to bed with a stomach ache and wake up 100%, they can return to school, subject to our normal illness guidance prior to COVID.
6. The following are exceptions to the above:
 - a. A headache associated with no other symptoms and which either requires no pain medication or only one dose of pain medication. This symptom still needs to be reported to the school and further monitored.
 - b. Isolated nausea with no vomiting, diarrhea, or other listed symptoms. This symptom still needs to be reported to the school and further monitored.

- c. Fatigue that is mild, brief, and associated with no other listed symptoms. This symptom still needs to be reported to the school and further monitored.
 - d. A muscle ache which is localized to one specific body region or not related to any trauma.
 - e. If a pediatrician can document what diagnosis the student has, and the student meets criteria to return to school for that specific diagnosis. Pediatricians will need to briefly document the standard clinical and/or diagnostic findings to support the diagnosis. They will also need to clear the student to return to school.
7. Any of the following will require a pediatrician's note to return to school even if symptoms completely resolve: Fever with a cough; fever with difficulty breathing; fever with vomiting or diarrhea; or loss of taste or smell. The pediatrician should use his or her discretion and the latest medical information for ordering diagnostic tests to clear the student to return to school.
8. Students who test positive must follow the NJ DOH's policy for discontinuing isolation. Current guidelines are: a) minimum of 10 days from onset of symptoms, b) fever-free without taking anti-fever medication for 24 hours, and c) improvement of symptoms.
9. The previous standard school illness criteria still need to be followed. For example, a child must be fever free for 24 hours, without any fever reducing medication, before returning to school.