



Health Policy Addendum – COVID 19

Updated 2/21/21



We are continuing to rely HEAVILY on parents to monitor their children and to answer the daily health screening questions honestly. We are asking that every family continue to take their child’s temperature each and every morning that they will be attending school. ***If your child’s fever reads anything above 99.5° we are asking you to keep your children at home.***

People with COVID-19 have experienced a wide range of symptoms reported – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. The following symptoms (even just one) should be taken seriously as they may point to COVID 19:

Runny/Congested Nose	Cough	Sore Throat
Fever or Chills	Fatigue	New loss of taste or smell
Shortness of Breath/Difficulty Breathing	Headaches	Nausea or vomiting
Diarrhea	Muscle or Body Aches	

If a staff member or child develops COVID-19 symptoms **OR** is directed to get tested for COVID-19, the staff member or child’s family **MUST REPORT** the suspected or confirmed case **immediately to St Mark’s Nursery School**. Please call the office during school hours or one of the Directors after school hours:

- St. Marks Office: (516) 536-6295
- Michelle Creegan (Educational Director): (516) 582-6064
- Alicia Todaro (Educational Director): (631) 767-7439

For any confirmed exposure or positive case of COVID-19, St. Mark’s Nursery School will immediately contact the Nassau County Department of Health and follow any guidance set forth. See below for some of our baseline policies. In all of the following scenarios the school should be contacted immediately:

- **If an immediate family member of a child or staff member has a confirmed exposure to COVID-19 and is asked to quarantine**, the child or staff member **MAY** continue to attend school. The family member must quarantine for the time set forth by the DOH. The exposed family member **MAY NOT** perform drop-off or pick-up duties. If that family member develops ANY symptoms during the quarantine period or gets tested at any point during their quarantine – the school must be notified immediately and the child or staff member must immediately leave the program and stay home for their own quarantine period of up to 10 days from the onset of family member’s symptoms or positive test (as determined by the DOH).
- **If an immediate family member of a child or staff member is showing ANY cold/Covid-19 symptoms**, the child or staff member **must stay home** until a doctor’s note designating the family member’s symptoms as non Covid-19 related is available **or** a negative COVID-19 test result for the family member is available. (PCR tests are preferred due to their increased reliability).
- **If an immediate family member of a child or staff member tests positive for COVID-19**, the child or staff member must stay home for a 10-day period from the onset of family member’s symptoms or positive test **IF THE POSITIVE FAMILY MEMBER CHOOSES TO ISOLATE** in order to ensure that they do not also present with symptoms. If the positive family member does not choose or to or cannot completely isolate from the immediate family the child must quarantine for a period of 10 days beginning from the positive family member’s last day of symptoms. **Before coming back to school the child or staff member must also receive a negative COVID-19 test and present results upon return.**

- **If a child or staff member tests positive for COVID-19**, the school will immediately contact the DOH (Department of Health) and follow all guidance provided. This may result in the whole class staying home to quarantine and self-monitor for a designated period of time, depending on when the infected person was last in class and on other factors. Families will be notified immediately through email and/or phone calls.
- **If a child or staff member has a confirmed exposure to COVID-19** outside of our program, the staff member or child must quarantine for the designated amount of time determined by the DOH and present a negative COVID-19 test upon return to the school.
- **If a child presents with COVID-19 symptoms during program hours or we are informed of a confirmed exposure outside of school**, he or she will be immediately isolated from the class with one of the directors in a well-ventilated space. The family will be notified immediately and will be asked to pick up their child promptly. Any siblings or family members who live with the symptomatic or exposed student will be brought to the office and sent home with the symptomatic student. The child's class will be notified immediately through email and/or phone calls and will spend the remainder of the day in an unoccupied classroom or outside on the playground. Families that wish to pick up their children may do so.
- **If a child or staff member display symptoms of COVID 19 at any time**, they must stay home from school and may not return until one of the following criteria have been met.
- **Children and staff members may return to school after ANY illness:**
 - When they are symptom and fever free without the use of medicine for 72 hours.
 - OR
 - When they receive a negative test for COVID-19 AND are fever and symptom free for 24 hours.
 - OR
 - When they receive a doctor's note stating that their symptoms are not COVID-19 related AND they have been symptom and fever free without the use of medication for 24 hours.
 - OR
 - If a child presents with symptoms and has a fever from a verifiable source (e.g., ear infection, strep throat), your child must be fever free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication AND must take prescribed antibiotics for at least 24 hours prior to returning to school. A doctor's note confirming the child's diagnosis must be presented to the school upon return.
- **Return to School after Positive COVID Test:**
The child or staff member may return to school when they have:
 - Quarantined for the designated amount of time as set by the NYSDOH
 - **AND** they are symptom and fever free without the use of medicine for **72 hours**
- **If a family member of a child or staff member travels to one of the states or countries on the NYS DOH Travel Advisory**, the family member must follow NYS protocol for quarantine after travel and will not be permitted to bring their child for drop off or pick up during that time.
- **If a child or staff member travels to one of the states or countries on the NYS DOH Travel Advisory**, they will need to follow NYS protocol for quarantine after travel.

All guidelines are subject to change based upon guidance from the Nassau County DOH, the CDC, and OCFS