

January 7, 2021

Dear Families.

Your health and safety, and the health and safety of all New Yorkers, is our top priority. The New York City Department of Education (DOE) continues to work alongside the rest of the City to keep the city's students, families, and staff members safe, healthy, and informed as the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic evolves. Today we are writing with an important update in the continued fight against the disease.

As part of the City's efforts to prevent the spread of COVID-19, the City is further increasing access to testing so that New Yorkers in every community can know their status. In order to do that, certain school buildings that are still closed for teaching and learning will be temporarily used as COVID-19 diagnostic testing sites across the five boroughs. These sites include your child's school building.

These temporary COVID-19 testing sites are designed to serve you and your child's school community by offering free, safe, and quick testing on weekdays from 8:00am to 1:00pm. We are approaching this with caution and care to ensure a limited footprint:

- The diagnostic testing space used by staff and patients will be restricted to limit public access and movement throughout your school building.
- Each day, custodial staff will clean and disinfect the sites in accordance with established
 protocols and standards, including cleaning bathrooms, sweeping and mopping floors,
 cleaning and wiping down all areas used for testing, cleaning all surfaces where contact may
 have occurred during testing, and performing turnover cleaning between tests.

We hope you will take advantage of this testing opportunity. We will continue to partner with the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and NYC Health + Hospitals to further increase access to testing for New Yorkers and maintain the fight against COVID-19. We will also continue to follow all guidance and take all appropriate health and safety measures. Nothing is more important than the health of our students, families, and staff, and we will work diligently with our City partners to make sure our school buildings are safe for use when they reopen.

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