

# *Pearl River School District*

## **COVID-19 Protocols Update**

**March 8, 2022**

### **Masking**

Universal masking is no longer required in schools or on school buses as long as the [Community Level](#) in the county is not high. The local Health Department will make the determination if universal masking is reimplemented.

Masking will be required on days 6-10 for individuals returning from testing positive for COVID-19 and isolating for five days.

Masking for 10 days will be strongly recommended for individuals who are exposed or potentially exposed in a school setting.

When masking due to COVID-19, masks may be removed for eating, drinking or playing an instrument and physical distancing of 6 feet should be maintained.

### **Contact Tracing**

Pearl River will conduct group level contact tracing. In this case, parents will be notified that their child may have been exposed to COVID-19 by being in a classroom, cafeteria, bus or afterschool activity with an infected individual for more than 15 minutes.

Students exposed will not be required to quarantine, but will be asked to test at home the day after notification of exposure and on day 5 before coming to school. At-home test kits will be provided to families. Anyone who develops symptoms of COVID-19 will be required to test for COVID-19.

Masking for 10 days will be strongly recommended for individuals who are exposed or potentially exposed in a classroom setting.

### **Symptoms of COVID-19**

Students exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 will need to get tested. Parents can either take their child to be tested for COVID-19 at a health care provider or use an at-home test kit to test their child. If using a home test when a student is exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19, parents must email a picture of the test results to the school nurse. A negative test (or isolation for 5 days if no COVID-19 test is performed) will be required to return to school. As of March 8, 2022, the District will no longer require a PCR test.

Free at-home test kits are available to all PRSD parents and may be picked up at your child's school or at the District Office during regular business hours.

Students who test positive for COVID-19 will be required to isolate for 5 days and, if fever-free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication, and symptoms are resolving, the student may return on day 6. Masking will be required for days 6-10.

### **Test to Stay Program**

PRSD's Test to Stay Plan was approved by the Rockland County DOH. However, the new guidance issued on March 1, 2022 replaces the need to continue our Test to Stay Plan. Masking, testing, and not exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 will allow students and staff to remain in school.

### **Other Mitigation Measures**

Increasing ventilation in classrooms, use of HEPA filters, reminders to frequently wash hands or use hand sanitizers, distancing when feasible and access to home tests are all mitigation measures that will continue to be implemented and monitored.

Should the [CDC COVID-19 community/county level increase significantly](#), the District's COVID-19 protocols may be revised.

Resources:

[NYS DOH New Masking and School Guidance 3-1-22](#)

[NYS DOH COVID-19 FAQs for Schools 3-1-22](#)