

Port Chester Schools COVID-19 Isolation and Quarantine Protocols January 14, 2022 Update

CDC and NYS guidelines

CDC and NYS have changed their guidelines often in the past few weeks. If and when NYS changes, we will adjust and notify the community.

OUR CURRENT PROTOCOLS

When an individual tests positive

 Individuals (regardless of vaccination status) who test positive must isolate for 5 days and can return on Day 6 if asymptomatic or improving symptoms including fever free for 24 hours with no fever reducing medication. No shortening of isolation has been accepted by WDOH to this date. At this time, a test is not needed to return.

Individuals Who are Direct Contacts of a Positive Individual (with proof)

- **Fully Vaccinated individuals**, who are asymptomatic, can report to school. A test is not needed to return.
- Unvaccinated Individuals who are identified as direct contacts must quarantine until returning on Day 6 if asymptomatic or improving symptoms including fever free for 24 hours with no fever reducing medication; a test is not needed to return. **OR, if asymptomatic,** may be eligible to participate in Test to Stay. As part of TTS, the District will conduct a Rapid Antigen a minimum of 3 out of 5 days from the date of exposure.

How are close contacts determined:

See our flowchart here

Having COVID-19 symptoms without any known exposure:

• Individuals may return when asymptomatic with a negative Rapid Antigen Test or negative PCR test.

TESTING

Testing: What does the District Accept?

• **Proof of Positivity:** The District will accept a Rapid Antigen Test or PCR as proof of positivity for both adults and students.

Testing: What does the District NOT Accept?

- Rapid Antigen Tests are not acceptable in order to refute a positive result or decrease quarantine/isolation.
- If in doubt, an individual will be isolated and excluded from school
- Once an individual has been deemed positive, there is no testing out.

TEST-TO-STAY PROGRAM

Test-to-Stay Program (only for those unvaccinated and exposed in school)

- Eligibility:
 - Only *asymptomatic individuals* who were exposed at school, where both the positive individual and exposed individual were wearing masks consistently and correctly and were identified as a direct contact by an administrator or nurse, may participate in the Test-to-Stay Program.
 - Even if an individual is approved to attend school, he/she must still quarantine before and after school hours.
 - If an individual becomes symptomatic while part of TTS, they must stay home and be tested for Covid.
 - If an individual is exposed to a new case, the "clock" resets to Day 1.
 - TTS individuals may not participate in extracurricular activities.
- Location/Time: Test to Stay testing is from 7:00 a.m. to 7:45 a.m. The school nurse or school administrator will inform the individual of the test date and test location. All individuals who were identified as direct contacts as a result of school exposure MUST report for testing prior to being admitted to school/work.
- **Frequency:** Individuals participating in the TTS program must be tested 3 out of 5 days after exposure. By the 5th day if they remain asymptomatic, they no longer have to be tested.
- Notification:
 - The TTS Team will provide each individual with a "Green-to-Go" pass upon testing. This pass can be brought to the main office or other designated space in each building, as decided by principals.
 - A database will be developed and shared with all administrators so that they have a record of the results of each individual that participated in TTS in their school. The database will be populated by a nurse who is being hired for this specific purpose.