

Summary of Updated NYSDOH Covid Guidance.

Changes

- Test-to-stay is no longer recommended (was never permitted in Nassau County).
- Unvaccinated staff is no longer required to be tested weekly.
- Screening testing is now only recommended when local positivity rates are exceptionally high or if there's an outbreak at school.
- Schools no longer need to cohort groups of students (This was not required).
- Quarantine recommendations will only come about in high-risk congregate settings.

Quarantine

- Still recommended that people exposed to a positive case be informed of exposure and advised to wear a mask for ten days after being in close contact and be tested at least five days after exposure.

Isolation

- If symptomatic (without a negative test) or testing positive, isolation is still required.
- Students and staff with symptoms of Covid should be sent home and should test.
- Isolation should last for five days at home following onset of symptoms or positive test – if symptoms develop, reoccur, or worsen during an isolation based on a positive test the isolation period restarts.
- Those with symptoms may return to school after 5 days if
 - They are fever free without fever-reducing medicine for 24 hours and their symptoms are improving AND
 - They wear a mask through day 10.
- Testing is still not required to end isolation.
- Testing can be used to shorten the amount of time for required masking following release from isolation and upon returning to school.
 - If a person can receive two negative tests 48 hours apart at any point in their isolation period, they may return to school without a mask following their second negative test once their 5 day isolation is complete.
 - There are limited circumstances when a person may need to remain out of school beyond 10 days that will be handled on a case-by-case basis.
- Those who cannot wear a well-fitting mask for ten days after testing positive must either isolate for ten days or test negative to leave isolation.

Reporting

- The reporting requirement ended on June 30th. Reporting is not currently required but may be required later.

Misc.

- Enhanced spacing, ventilation, and sanitation are not required but recommended to the extent feasible.

- Screening and regular testing are not required.
 - If schools do conduct testing, they must do so with a Limited Service Laboratory Certificate.

Valley Stream CHSD Information:

You are still required to report any positive test results, symptoms, or exposures to the district. To report yourself or your child testing positive for COVID, an exposure, or COVID-19 symptoms, please contact Perrotta Consulting at 516-534-8888, email covid19@vschsd.org, or fill out the Google Form on the district website (<https://forms.gle/TFLVmBZqKxjR3Pxq5>). You will speak to a representative on the district's behalf regarding any questions, protocols, or return to school dates.

This year, based on New York State Department of Health guidance, individuals who test positive for COVID-19 must stay home for 5 days and may return to school after 5 days of isolation if a mask is worn on days 6-10. Testing, however, can be used to shorten the amount of time for required masking following release from isolation and upon returning to school. If an individual submits proof of two negative tests 48 hours apart at any point in their isolation period, they may return to school without a mask once their isolation is complete.

If your child was determined to be a close contact, you will receive a notice to your email notifying you of the exposure and what the recommended protocols are. Your child will not be mandated to quarantine after an exposure to COVID-19 if they are not experiencing any symptoms.