

Dear Smithfield Community,

September, 2021

It has been wonderful to see students returning in person! As a result we thought it would be important to share information regarding the new COVID-19 and RIDOH/RIDE guidelines. The RIDOH/RIDE has made it clear to school nurses that there needs to be a low threshold for illness. To that end, they have instructed us to adhere to the following:

Please do not send your student to school if they are exhibiting any symptoms of Covid-19.

Of note: that symptom cannot be explained by some other illness that has been documented by your pediatrician. For example, they come into school with a headache, and the student has either a diagnosis of migraines, or has not eaten breakfast. If after either treating the migraine and/or allowing the student to eat the headache resolves, that student may remain in school.

This year if your child develops any one of the COVID-19 symptoms listed below during the school day

The parent will be called to pick up their child and any sibling(s).
RIDOH/RIDE advises that parents of symptomatic individuals seek medical advice.
A negative PCR test is needed before that student can return to school.
Once a negative PCR result for the symptomatic student has been documented, the siblings may return to school as well.

If the test is negative, the student may return to school if they remain fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication, and symptoms have improved or resolved (back to usual health). If the test is positive, the student must follow the RIDOH guidelines for ending isolation.

Symptoms of Covid-19 (Including the new Delta variant):

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| Fever or chills | Sore throat |
| Cough (new) | New loss of taste or smell |
| Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing | Congestion or Runny nose |
| Fatigue | Diarrhea |
| Muscle or Body Aches | Headache |
| | Nausea/Vomiting |

We ask that parents of students returning to school after any illness fill out the [After- Illness Attestation Form](#) which can be found on this link. Once completed, this form must be delivered to the school nurse.

Thank you for helping us keep the Smithfield School community healthy and safe.

Kindest regards,

Smithfield School Nurses