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Dear Parents/Guardians,

**Our school is excited to announce that we are ready to begin the antigen Test to Stay (TTS) program.**

The TTS program is activated when a student or student(s) are identified as a close contact to a confirmed case of COVID-19. The intention of the TTS program is to allow students that would otherwise be required to quarantine to remain in school. A detailed description of this program can be found on the Agency of Education [Test to Stay website](#) and you can also take a look at how the program will work in [this flowchart](#). For TTS testing locations please visit following link, [Test-to-Stay Information and FAQs](#). More details on what testing day will look like are included below.

**Next Steps**

1. A student can only participate in Test to Stay if their parent/guardian has given consent. If you would like your child to participate in the response testing, including the antigen Test to Stay program, please complete the [Consent webform](#) as soon as possible.
2. Vermont will be using SimpleReport to report the results of antigen tests. This reporting system allows for parents/guardians to receive their student's results instantly. Please register your student, including your contact information, using this [link](#). **Please Note: this self-registration link is not the same thing as giving consent. In order for your child to participate, you must complete the [Consent webform](#).**

**How the Test to Stay Program works**

Test to Stay is only for unvaccinated students who are close contacts of a positive case that they encountered at school. It replaces the need to quarantine and miss school days, but students are still expected to [quarantine](#) when at home, including on the weekends.

If you have consented for your child to participate in the Test to Stay program you will receive a notification if they have been identified as a close contact of a positive case. In most cases, Test to Stay will start the next morning and your child will receive a rapid antigen test before the beginning of school. Antigen testing will continue until seven (7) school days after the last exposure. If the last day of testing falls on a weekend, then the school will do a final day of testing on Monday morning.

- If your child tests **negative**, they may remain at school and participate in school-sponsored activities.
- If your child tests **positive**, they will be considered positive for COVID-19 and will need to enter a period of isolation for 10 days. You will receive a letter with specific instructions if this should occur.

If your child develops symptoms at any point, inform the school, seek a PCR test right away and keep your child at home and away from others.

Your child does not need to be tested on the weekends, but should quarantine from the community, meaning they should not participate in other activities, go to the grocery store, or spend time with friends and others outside of their household.

It is important to note that this Test to Stay program is **only for attendance at school or on-campus school-sponsored activities**. Your child is expected to quarantine for all other activities, aside from medical appointments, until seven (7) days after last exposure. While participating in Test to Stay, your child may not attend school activities that involve students from other schools, such as sport or scholastic competition.

During the entirety of this Test to Stay protocol, your child must remain with you. Once the test is administered you must leave the testing site and keep your child with you. The student cannot enter their school until a negative test result is received. Transportation is the responsibility of the parent/guardian.

- If your child receives a positive antigen test result, they will not be allowed to attend school, must quarantine and we suggest you take a PCR test to check the results.
- If your child receives a negative antigen test result, they will be allowed to attend school, and you can bring them to school for the day. They will need to continue in the antigen testing protocol until they reach day seven of their quarantine period.

During your child's quarantine:

- You should watch for symptoms, even if mild, of cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fever, chills, fatigue, muscle pain or body aches, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, or diarrhea.
- Your child should not leave home, except to attend school, on-campus school-sponsored activities, or to get medical care.
- You should call ahead before visiting a health care provider or emergency department with your child to notify them that your child is in quarantine.
- While at home, your child should stay apart from other people in the household, especially anyone who is at increased risk of getting very sick, like people who are older or have health conditions. Other household members, including siblings attending school, do not need to quarantine unless they develop symptoms.

If at any point your child develops symptoms:

1. Do not send your child to school.
2. Make an appointment through the Vermont Department of Health to schedule a PCR test.
3. If your child is having a medical emergency, call 9-1-1 or go to the hospital.
4. If your child doesn't have a provider, call 2-1-1 to be connected to a clinic in your area.
5. People with mild illness can treat their symptoms at home: help your child get plenty of rest, drink plenty of fluids, and take fever-reducing medication if needed.

If you have questions, please contact Aron Smith at (802) 370-3941 or [asmith@maplerun.org](mailto:asmith@maplerun.org).

Sincerely,



Bill Kimball