



Greetings Dear Collingswood/Oaklyn Families,

We'd like to thank you for your continued patience and grace as we work together to keep schools safe and keep them open. To achieve this goal, we are requesting the community's help in our collective efforts to keep schools open for in-person instruction.

In most cases, our layers of prevention are holding steady. However, this week there are Department of Health **documented cases of viral spread in some of our schools**. Individual decisions to come to school while experiencing symptoms and waiting for COVID-19 test results can contribute to additional positive cases, isolations, and quarantines. Decisions made outside of school often affect our ability to operate safely. Schools are required to make necessary adjustments to ensure student and staff safety. Please refer to the **COVID-19 Daily Symptom Checkers** ([Preschool](#), [K12 Schools](#)).

Recently, the CDC and NJDOH updated quarantine and isolation for K12 schools: Find CDC guidance: [Quarantine & Isolation](#) and NJDOH: [Quarantine & Isolation for K12 Schools](#). The updated guidance **does not apply to Preschool: Recommendations for Childcare Programs**.

Effective **Monday, January 24th**, Collingswood and Oaklyn schools are adopting the new quarantine and isolation recommendations with **Strict Masking Protocols** for grades K-12.

For individuals who test positive for COVID-19, the districts will transition to 5-day isolation from the start of symptoms (Day 0) instead of 10 days. This new 5-day isolation is contingent upon an individual's symptoms completely resolving before returning to school on Day 6 with **Strict Masking Protocols**.

*Individuals will not be eligible for high-risk activities where a mask cannot be worn, such as competitive athletics, until Day 11. Please see the Athletic Director for details of the Return to Play program.

Individuals who develop COVID-19 symptoms, are awaiting test results, or were not tested must stay home for a full 5 days (Day 0 is the first day of symptoms). If symptoms resolve, isolation can end after 5 full days, and individuals may attend school on Day 6 with **Strict Masking Protocols**. Home tests will be accepted for COVID positive cases, but a PCR is required to confirm a COVID negative rapid test due to reliability concerns. If symptoms persist, individuals should continue to isolate until fever-free for 24 hours and other symptoms have resolved.

ISOLATION OPTIONS FOR COVID POSITIVE CASES		
Protocol	Option 1	Option 2
STAY HOME 5 days (Day 0 - Day 5) after testing positive IF SYMPTOMS PERSIST Continue 10-day isolation until fever-free for 24 hours and other symptoms have improved STRICT MASK PROTOCOL Day 6-10	STAY HOME 5 days (Day 0 - Day 5) after testing positive IF NO SYMPTOMS DEVELOP RETURN DAY 6 Offsite Lunch Only Elementary: At-home & Return MS/HS: Grab & Go Lunch & Return STRICT MASK PROTOCOL Day 6-10	STAY HOME 10 days after testing positive IF NO SYMPTOMS DEVELOP RETURN DAY 11

For close contacts of a positive case, unvaccinated students must quarantine for a full 5 days (Day 0 is the first day of notification) if they come into close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. If they do not develop symptoms, individuals may attend school on Day 6 with **Strict Masking Protocols**. Close contact for students in a school setting is defined as less than 3 feet when students are wearing masks or within 6 feet if not wearing masks for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more.

QUARANTINE OPTIONS FOR CLOSE CONTACTS		
Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
<p>STAY HOME 5 days (Day 0 - Day 5) after close contact exposure</p> <p>IF SYMPTOMS DEVELOP</p> <p>ISOLATION STARTS OVER Continue to isolate until fever-free for 24 hours and other symptoms have improved</p> <p>STRICT MASK PROTOCOL Day 6-10</p>	<p>STAY HOME 5 days (Day 0 - Day 5) after close contact exposure</p> <p>IF NO SYMPTOMS DEVELOP</p> <p>RETURN DAY 6 Offsite Lunch Only Elementary: At-home & Return MS/HS: Grab & Go Lunch & Return</p> <p>STRICT MASK PROTOCOL Day 6-10</p>	<p>STAY HOME 10 days after close contact exposure</p> <p>IF NO SYMPTOMS DEVELOP</p> <p>RETURN DAY 11</p>

Fully vaccinated students, individuals who had COVID-19 in the last 90 days, and adults who completed all recommended vaccines, including boosters, **DO NOT** have to quarantine unless they start showing symptoms.

Quarantine is required for adults who have not received a booster within 6 months of the second vaccine, individuals who have not completed 2 weeks with the second vaccine, and students under the age of 5 who are not vaccine eligible. Quarantine and isolation protocols **will not be retroactively implemented** based on prior status and/or close contact exposure.

To support our goal of keeping schools safe and keeping them open, we are taking the following health and safety precautions:

Strict Masking Protocol: There are to be no periods of unmasking for Day 6-10 students while inside the school building or outdoors on campus.

- Elementary families opting to send their asymptomatic child to school on Days 6-10 will need to sign their child out from school for the lunch and recess period in order to follow the Day 6-10 protocols.
- Secondary families opting to send their asymptomatic child to school on Days 6-10 will need to authorize their child to have the option to eat lunch offsite provided by the family or a "grab and go" lunch provided by the school in order to follow the Day 6-10 protocols.
- Secondary students will be dismissed from school and return to campus or conduct the remainder of their school day from home using the Google Classroom resources and assignments set forth by the classroom teacher.
- If there is a change in your child's status, please notify the School Nurse as soon as possible. School Nurses will continue to contact, trace and communicate with families based on COVID status and/or close contact exposure.

School Nurses will determine student return to school dates.

- Masks must be worn indoors by students, staff, and visitors in all situations. The CDC continues to recommend that you wear the most protective mask you can that fits well and will be worn consistently.
Neck gaiters are not acceptable and should not be worn at school.
- Cohorting and social distancing to the greatest extent practicable will continue.
- Frequent hand washing etiquette, hand sanitizer, and high-touch surface cleaning will continue.
- The school district will host monthly vaccine clinics at Collingswood High School Cafe from 3:00 - 8:00 p.m. **Next Vaccine Event: Monday, January 31st.**

Should you have additional questions about site-specific health and safety protocols, please reach out to your child's school.