## **South Shore Educational Collaborative**

75 Abington Street Hingham, MA 02043 www.ssec.org SSEC Pr

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## COVID Protocol and Testing for the 2022-2023 school year

Symptomatic testing is used when an individual is showing symptoms of COVID-19 during school

- (No one should come to school if they are feeling sick while at home).
- Parent/Guardian permission is required for participation in the program, please use the permission form in the link below. If you require a printed form please contact your program nursing office and one will be provided to you.

## Symptomatic Test Student Link:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Wfh72ygo0c6NIIUTPQfNHnUm5Y8qy3SBmljoqA66PxA/edit?usp=sharing

- If an individual has minimal symptoms and tests negative, they can remain in school.
- If an individual tests positive for COVID-19, they must quarantine at home for 5 days beginning the day after their first symptoms or positive COVID test results.

Individuals may return to school on day 6 if fever free x 24 hours, have improving symptoms and are able to wear a well-fitting mask at all times through day 10 of illness (other than while eating or drinking and then they should stay at least 6 feet away from others).

- If unable to wear a mask, the individual may test again on day 6 and if they test negative they may return to school.
- If the individual tests positive they should remain in quarantine through day 10.

Nursing will notify your town of residence's Board of Health department of any positive test results from in- school testing.

Thank you for your support, it is our hope that these measures will work together to keep our schools safe for everyone. Please contact your program nurse with any questions or concerns.

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COVID Symptoms to monitor for each morning include:

- □ Fever (100 degrees Fahrenheit or higher), chills, or shaking chills
- □ Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
- □ New loss of taste or smell
- □ Muscle or body aches
- Cough (not due to other known cause, such as chronic cough)
- Sore throat (*when in combination with other symptoms*)
- □ Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea (*when in combination with other symptoms*)
- □ Headache (*when in combination with other symptoms*)
- □ Fatigue, (when in combination with other symptoms)
- □ Nasal congestion or runny nose, (not due to other known causes, such as allergies) (when in combination with other symptoms)

If your child has any of these symptoms or combination of symptoms as stated above, **Do not send them to school!** Contact their program director or school nurse and consider testing for COVID 19 using a rapid antigen test.

**IF NEGATIVE**: If your child does not have COVID-19, they may return to school based upon guidance from their healthcare provider and necessary management of **another diagnosis**. Students must stay home until their symptoms have improved and they are fever free for 24 hours.

**IF POSITIVE:** Your child should remain at home in quarantine (except to get medical care), **for 5 days beginning the day after their first symptoms or positive test result.** Beginning **day 6 they may go out into public as needed and return to school if fever free x 24 hours with improving symptoms and able to wear a well-fitting mask at all times (other than eating /drinking and then they should remain 6 feet away from others).** Please notify their program director or school nurse and notify personal close contacts.