



## **UPDATED DD4 COVID Protocols**

**In an effort to keep DD4 aligned with SCDHEC guidelines, the COVID Response Team, in collaboration with all district nurses, has updated the COVID Employee/Staff Protocols.**

Starting Tuesday, March 1, 2022, all Dorchester District Four schools and locations are suspending Test-to-Stay and quarantine practices in accordance with DHEC guidance. The District has reviewed data from the last two weeks as required by DHEC and determined that no DD4 schools or locations had 10% or more of their students and staff absent due to COVID-19, and less than 0.2% of students and staff were positive for COVID-19 District-wide. Therefore, all DD4 schools and locations are suspending Test-to-Stay and quarantine practices related to close contact exposures until further notice. This means that all schools and locations can resume normal operations and suspend contact tracing, social distancing, and mask requirements for students and staff after an exposure.

The District will continue tracking positive cases at all schools and locations. If a school or location reaches 10% of its students and staff absent due to COVID-19 over two consecutive one-week periods, the District will notify the administration, and they will reinstate contact tracing, Test-to-Stay and quarantine practices at their location as required by DHEC.

### **Reporting Symptoms Continues**

Any students or staff who have symptoms of COVID-19 are still required to be excluded from school/work and isolate until they have a negative COVID test.

### **Please be Aware of the Following COVID-19 Symptoms**

The CDC reports people with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms -- ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. Please watch for the following.

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

### **Quarantine for Positive COVID-19 Cases Continues**

Students who test positive for COVID-19 should continue to notify their school nurse and are required to quarantine for (5) five days from the date of the positive test. Staff who test positive for COVID-19 should continue to follow the self-report procedures established and will be required to quarantine for (5) five days from the date of the positive test or onset of symptoms as confirmed with the COVID Response Team. At home tests will continue to be accepted with an attestation form. At home COVID-19 tests cannot be used to access COVID-19 Relief days.

### **Testing**

DD4 is now providing COVID-19 test kits to students or staff who have symptoms and need to take a test. Parents or staff may request a test kit from their school or work location.