



Student Health and Safety and COVID-19 Response Plan

Frederick County Public Schools (FCPS) is working in collaboration with the Frederick County Health Department (FCHD) to carefully monitor the most up to date information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), the Maryland Department of Health (MDH), and Maryland Stated Department of Education (MSDE) and other local, state, and federal government agencies.

FCPS is proactively approaching concerns and questions regarding student health and safety during the COVID-19 Pandemic. FCPS is evaluating all facilities, buses, and procedures to ensure safe school environments that comply with physical and social distancing requirements and readily available personal protective equipment (PPE).

The purpose of this document is to outline the expectations of all staff, students, and visitors who enter FCPS buildings and to share the procedures FCPS administrators and school health staff will be following in response to laboratory confirmed cases of COVID-19 and cases of COVID-like-illness in our schools.

STUDENT AND PARENT/GUARDIAN REQUIREMENTS

1. Parents/guardians are expected to monitor their child's/children's health daily and screen for the following symptoms prior to sending them to school or any in-person FCPS sponsored activity. Symptoms include, but are not limited to:

- a. New onset cough or shortness of breath
- b. Temp 100.4 F or greater
- c. Muscle/body aches
- d. Fatigue
- e. Sore Throat
- f. Headache
- g. Loss of Taste/Smell
- h. Nausea/Vomiting/Diarrhea

Any individual with the above symptoms should not report any FCPS building. A daily screening protocol will be provided to families via Schoology by their child's classroom or first period teacher.

3. A face covering is required throughout the school day, including all FCPS buildings and transportation services.

- a. Students are required to wear a face covering on the bus.
- b. Students are authorized to use their own face coverings, but FCPS will provide them if students do not want to bring their own.
- c. If the school determines that the face covering is not adequate, a disposable mask will be provided to them.
- d. If your child is medically unable to wear a face covering, you must discuss and resolve this matter with the building principal or program coordinator a minimum of 48 hours before sending your child to school.
- e. Visitors are required to wear a face covering at all times when in a school building and when entering and exiting the building.
- f. Students may remove face coverings while eating lunch, snacks, or drinking when there is proper social distancing.
- g. Staff and students may remove face coverings during outside activities on school grounds, if social distancing (6 ft.) can be maintained.

4. Parents are expected to notify the school principal or school nurse as soon as they become aware that they or their child has tested positive for virus that causes COVID-19 or that they or their child has been exposed to a person who is confirmed to have COVID-19.

5. Students and staff will stay home if they have symptoms of COVID-19-Like-Illness, have been diagnosed with COVID-19, or have been tested and are waiting for test results.

6. During the school day, when a student reports or exhibits symptoms of COVID-19-Like Illness, health room staff should be notified immediately, and the student will report to the school health room where the school health staff will review the student's symptoms in the designated isolation space.

School health staff will contact the parent/guardian, or emergency contact of the student and request the student be picked up within 30 minutes. Students in the same household must be picked up by parent/guardian the same day, regardless of any signs/symptoms present. This includes students who may be attending other school buildings.

After leaving school, the student and students in the same household should self-isolate and seek professional medical assessment before returning to school. Students are to remain isolated at home until they submit a release note from a medical professional allowing their return to school.

7. A student who has a positive COVID-19 test must meet the following criteria before returning to school:

- a. Notify the student's school principal
- b. Stay home *at least 10 days* after the symptoms first appeared
- c. Have no fever for at least 24 hours without medication
- c. Demonstrate improvement of other symptoms
- d. If asymptomatic, individuals must stay home for 10 days after the positive test was performed.

Anyone who has had close contact with an individual meeting the criteria for COVID-like-Illness must stay home for 10 days since last contact with the individual unless and until the individual with COVID-like-Illness tests negative for COVID-19 or receives a different diagnosis from a health care provider.

FCPS will not publicly disclose the identities of individuals who test positive or are suspected of being positive for COVID-19. FCPS will conduct case investigation and contact tracing in collaboration with FCHD officials to gather names and contact information of individuals, including students, that may have been exposed to COVID-19.

8. Fever Guideline: FCPS standard practice that if a student has a fever at home/at school, the student is to remain home until fever-free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication.