

Newtown School Health Services

August 20, 2020

Dear Families and Staff,

The beginning of our new school year is right around the corner. As we all prepare for that busy first week of school, I want to share with you some of the guidelines that we will be following to keep all of our school communities safe this year.

Daily Screening: Before coming to school each day, both students and staff members will be expected to do a [COVID 19 Daily Health Check](#). Please print a copy of this screening tool and post it in a place where you can easily review it each morning. The daily screening is divided into two parts. The first part asks about specific symptoms. The second part addresses exposure to COVID 19. Anyone who answers YES to any of the questions in the daily health check, should stay home and notify the school nurse. If you do not have a working thermometer, they are available through your school nurse. The school nurses' contact information can be found at the bottom of the COVID 19 Daily Health Check form.

Illness At Home: In addition to the symptoms listed on the COVID screening tool, parents are encouraged to keep their children home if they are showing any symptoms of illness and to contact the school nurse. If staff or students have a fever, do **NOT** medicate with fever reducing medications and come to school. Fever is often an indicator of infection and should be evaluated by a healthcare provider. Students can access remote learning if they are feeling well enough to participate from home.

Illness At School: Students or staff who become ill while at school, will report immediately to the school nurse. Any individual who is found to have symptoms that suggest a possible COVID 19 infection, based on the symptoms identified by the CT Dept of Health, will be dismissed to home and referred to their health care provider. Students who have such symptoms will be separated from others in an Observation Room while they await parent pick up. Please be sure to have a plan in place for timely pick up (within 20 min) should your student need to go home.

Re-Entry to School Following Illness: Students and staff who are dismissed to home from school due to illness, will need to be assessed by a healthcare provider. A note from a healthcare provider or documentation of a negative COVID test will be required before reentry into school. Reentry notes are to be faxed directly to the school nurse in the Health Office at the fax number provided at the bottom of the Covid Daily Health Check before the student can reenter school.

Positive COVID Test or Exposure: Any student or staff member who tests positive for Covid 19 or has had close contact with a person diagnosed with COVID 19 should contact the school nurse immediately. The nurses will be working closely with our Health Department and Administration to respond to individual situations. Please see the attached information from the State of CT which will guide our management of COVID cases in school: [Interim Guidance in Responding to COVID 19](#)

Every Day Protective Health Habits: Please be sure to practice mask wearing, good handwashing and physical distancing at home. Practice makes perfect and will greatly ease the transition back to school this year. Resources for teaching about COVID 19 can be found on the School Health Services website: [School Health Services](#).

Stay safe, be well. Remember that your school nurses are here for you.

Anne Dalton, RN, BSN
Newtown School Nursing Supervisor
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Covid 19 Daily Health Check

Parents: Please complete this short health check with your student each morning and if you answer YES to any of the questions below, keep your child at home, check with your health care provider and report your child's information to your school nurse (see contact numbers below).

SYMPTOMS

Does your child have:

1. TEMPERATURE? 100 degrees Fahrenheit or higher when taken by mouth?
2. NEW UNCONTROLLED COUGH? (for students with chronic allergic/asthmatic cough, a change in their cough from baseline)
3. SHORTNESS OF BREATH?
4. DIFFICULTY BREATHING?
5. LOSS OF TASTE OR SMELL?

CLOSE CONTACT/PERSONAL EXPOSURE

Has your child had:

1. Had CLOSE CONTACT WITH A PERSON WITH COVID-19? (within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes)
OR
2. Had CLOSE CONTACT WITH A PERSON UNDER QUARANTINE for possible exposure to COVID - 19? (within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes)
OR
3. TRAVELED WITHIN THE PAST 14 DAYS TO AN AREA LISTED as having high rates of transmission? [CT Corona Virus Travel Advisories](#)

SCHOOL NURSE CONTACT NUMBERS:

<u>HAW</u> : Juliann Johnson :203-426-7668	FAX:203-270-6543
<u>HOM</u> : Maddy Allen: 203-426-7672	FAX:203-270-4557
<u>MGS</u> : Trish McDonald: 203-426-7664	FAX:203-426-0326
<u>SHS</u> : Mariza Borges: 203-426-2194	FAX: 203-270-3682
<u>RIS</u> : Deirdre Murphy: 203-270-4883	FAX:203-270-4890
<u>NMS</u> : Andrea Trager: 203-426-7636	FAX:203-270-4553
<u>NHS</u> : Karen Powell: 203-426-7649	FAX:203-270-4838