

COLM Covid/Sickness Policy 2022-23

Do not send your child to school if he/she is sick, showing signs of illness, has had a known Covid or other contagious illness (flu, stomach bug, hand foot mouth, etc.) exposure. This is the most important thing you can do to keep our community healthy! Sending sick kids to school results in more sick kids, sick parents, and sick teachers. Please play it safe and err on the side of caution.

Do not send your child to school if he/she has had any of the following symptoms in the past 24 hours:

- Fever of 99.5 or higher
- Bad cold or flu (not seasonal allergies)
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Conjunctivitis/Pink Eye
- Impetigo (Staph/Strep skin infections)
- Strep Throat
- Cold Sores, Hand Foot and Mouth Disease, or unexplained rash
- Sinusitis, Ear Infection, UTI
- Other highly contagious illnesses or infections (the full list is available in the handbook)

Child must be symptom free **without medication** for 24 hours and no suspected covid infection to return to school.

Confirmed case of Covid in a student or staff member:

- The person who tested positive should stay home 5 days from the positive test or 5 days since symptom onset (day zero is day of test or first symptoms). Symptoms should be resolving, patient should be fever free without the use of medication for 48 hours, and he/she should feel well enough to participate in regular activities. That person may return on day 6 and wear a well-fitted medical mask for days 6-10. If this is not possible, return after 10 days have passed.
- Severe cases of covid will be dealt with on a case-to-case basis as a longer isolation period is currently recommended.
- The school will notify parents of any cases of covid. It is up to parents' discretion if they would like to keep their child home. The school will not close for one case.

- It is recommended, but not required to test on day 5 after exposure.
- The school reserves the right to make changes to this policy at any time. You will be notified of such changes through email.
- The school reserves the right to close if covid or any other contagious illness is becoming widespread in the student body, or if we are unable to staff the school appropriately due to adults being sick. You will be notified of such changes by Remind text and email.

COLM takes the following steps to promote a healthy environment:

- Frequent handwashing – upon arrival, before and after eating, coming in from outside, after using the bathroom, after touching face or using a tissue, etc.
- Well ventilated rooms with 4 stage HEPA filters
- Frequent cleaning and sanitizing of high-touch surfaces
- Nightly cleaning and sanitizing of rooms and bathrooms
- Requiring sick staff and students to stay home
- Alerting parents to cases of Covid or other contagious illnesses in the COLM community
- COLM will use an e-cleaner as needed to disinfect entire classrooms if warranted
- 100% of staff is vaccinated