

# **The Summit Country Day School Protocols for Responding to COVID-19 Scenarios**

Updated August 30, 2021

## **Introduction and Overview**

The Summit Country Day School is providing information on protocols for responding to specific COVID-19 scenarios. We will update this document as more information about the disease becomes available.

**An in-person school environment requires a culture of health and safety** Specifically:

- **It is not one mitigation strategy but a *combination* of all these strategies taken together that will substantially reduce the risk of transmission.** No single strategy is perfect, but all strategies together will reduce risk. It will take collective, continued vigilance towards health and safety measures to continue to contain COVID-19.
- **Students must be monitored daily for symptoms. Students must stay home if feeling unwell.** Everyone must do their part to protect others and not come to school if they are exhibiting any COVID-19 symptoms or are feeling sick.
- **Masks are among the most important single measures to contain the spread of COVID-19.** Masks should *adequately cover both the nose and mouth*. The school year will start off with all adults and children wearing a mask inside the building. See the mask protocol for details.
- **Hand hygiene is critical.** Students are required to exercise hand hygiene (handwashing or sanitizing) upon arrival to school and before eating.
- **Physical distance greatly reduces the risk of transmission.** As COVID-19 is transmitted through respiratory droplets, putting distance between yourself and others reduces risk. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the American Academy of Pediatrics recommend three-foot desk separation of desks. Plexi-glass is in place in many areas of campus to limit disease spread among young unvaccinated students.
- **Assigned seating.** Assigned seating will be implemented in grades 1-12 to assist with contact tracing.
- **Nurse notification.** Notify the nurses of any student illness or those in the home with a positive case. Email: [summithealth@summitcds.org](mailto:summithealth@summitcds.org); School phone: (513) 871-4700 x263

## **Testing, tracing, and isolation**

It is important to note that testing, combined with contact tracing and isolation, helps control the spread of COVID-19. The school will accept rapid COVID-19 tests in cases where the individual is symptomatic. However, in all other cases, including those opting for seven-day quarantine, the school only recognizes PCR tests. Those being tested should quarantine until test results are received. Summit nurses report all positive test results to the Cincinnati Department of Health.

**Close contacts of a positive COVID-19 case:** The CDC defines “close contact” as being within 6 feet of a person diagnosed with Covid-19 for a total of 15 minutes or more over a 24 hour period. The definition of close contact applies regardless of whether either person was wearing a mask.

## **Most common symptoms of COVID-19**

The single most important thing to do if any of the following symptoms are present is to **STAY HOME**. Our collective health relies, in part, on individual attention and responsibility. Note that some symptoms of COVID-19 are the same as the flu or a bad cold; please do not assume it is another condition. **When in doubt, stay home.**

Below is the full list of symptoms for which caregivers should monitor their children:

- Fever (100° Fahrenheit or higher), chills, or shaking chills
- Frequent cough versus base line
- Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Headache
- Vomiting or diarrhea
- Fatigue
- Nasal congestion or runny nose

Students who have symptoms should contact their primary care physician for further instructions.

### **Community notification of positive COVID-19 cases:**

The Summit seeks to balance transparency, practicality, and privacy when it comes to those in the building who test positive for COVID-19. We maintain a COVID-19 Case Log in the Health and Wellness tab of the Resources site in the Portal. If a positive COVID-19 case is reported, an update (without names) is entered into the Case Log, which will show only those cases for which a community member is currently isolated.

Our process is as follows:

- If and when an exposure occurs, we will connect with our local Board of Health and follow their direction.
- We will inform any individuals who might be at risk due to exposure.
- We will limit communication to those unconnected to the situation to protect the privacy of the individual and to limit unnecessary anxiety and concerns.

## ***Section 1: Protocols for individual exposure or individual positive test***

### **I. Protocol: Student has symptoms or tests positive for COVID-19.**

1. The student must remain at home (except to get medical care), monitor symptoms, notify the school, and assist the school in contact tracing efforts. Family members must quarantine unless vaccinated. For most people who have relatively mild illness, they will need to stay in self-isolation until 10 days have passed since symptom onset **and** at least 24 hours have passed since resolution of fever without use of fever reducing medications **and** other symptoms have improved.
2. Once notified, the school in turn notifies others.

3. The school determines whether the student was on the premises during the time frame that started two days prior to symptom onset (or testing positive if not symptomatic) until the time of isolation.
  - a. If so, the school promptly closes off areas visited by the COVID-19 positive individual until such areas can be cleaned and disinfected.
  - b. The school promptly cleans and disinfects the student's or staff member's classroom and any other facilities (e.g., extracurricular facilities) visited by the individual.
  - c. The school promptly cleans and disinfects the bus(es) the student or staff member was on.
4. The school assists with contact tracing, making a list including phone number and email of any other close contacts the student or staff member had, beginning two days before the onset of symptoms (or positive test if asymptomatic) until the individual was isolated.
5. **MONTESSORI Toddlers** - The division sends a communication to the other families in the student's class that there has been a positive case without naming the individual student or staff member who tested positive. All students in the class quarantine for 10 days. However, if exposure happened in class, quarantine may end on day 7 with a negative test occurring no earlier than day 5. The student must remain asymptomatic during the quarantine period. If the class is in school, the school calls the parents to pick up the children immediately. Parents should monitor their children closely for symptoms and isolate if symptoms develop.
6. **Montessori 3-6:** The division sends a communication to the other families in the student's class that there has been a positive case without naming the individual student or staff member who tested positive. Summit will identify the student's possible "close contacts" in activities outside the classroom – extended day, after school clubs. Students identified as needing to quarantine will be required to do so for 10 days. However, if exposure happened in class, quarantine may end on day 7 with a negative test occurring no earlier than day 5. The student must remain asymptomatic during the quarantine period. If the class is in school, the school calls the parents to pick up the children immediately. Parents should monitor their children closely for symptoms and isolate if symptoms develop.
7. **LOWER/MIDDLE/UPPER SCHOOL:** Summit will identify the student's possible "close contacts" in activities outside the classroom - athletics, extended day, after school clubs, extracurriculars. Unvaccinated close contacts in activities outside the classroom are notified and quarantine for 10 days. The individual must remain asymptomatic during quarantine and should still watch for symptoms for a full 14 days after exposure. Quarantine may end on day 7 with a negative test occurring no earlier than day 5. Vaccinated close contacts do not need to quarantine.
8. If student tests negative, student stays home until free of fever for 24 hours and other symptoms have improved.
9. **IF OTHERS IN THE CLASS TEST POSITIVE:** The Summit will perform all steps under this protocol for that person. **ALSO FOLLOW:** "Protocol: Presence of multiple cases in the school."

## II. Protocol: Student is symptomatic at home

Family should monitor student at home each morning for the most common symptoms of COVID-19.

- a. Do not send the student to school.
- b. Call your child's division point of contact and inform the student is staying home due to symptoms.
- c. Seek guidance regarding testing from medical provider. An individual who does not wish to be tested should isolate until 10 days have passed since symptom onset and at least 24 hours have passed since resolution of fever without use of fever reducing medications and other symptoms have improved.
- d. Those who proceed to be tested:
  - i. **IF NEGATIVE:** Student stays home free of fever for 24 hours and other symptoms have improved.
  - ii. **IF POSITIVE:** Student should remain at home (except to get medical care), monitor symptoms, notify the school, notify personal close contacts, and assist the school in contact tracing efforts. Most people who have relatively mild illness will need to stay in self-isolation until 10 days have passed since symptom onset **and** at least 24 hours have passed since resolution of fever without use of fever reducing medications **and** other symptoms have improved.

### **III. Protocol: Student is symptomatic on The Summit bus.**

1. If symptoms are noticed as the student is getting on the bus and if there is a caregiver present, do not allow student to board the bus. Caregiver should then FOLLOW: "Protocol: Student is symptomatic at home."
2. If student is already on the bus, ensure student is masked and keeps mask on. Ensure other students keep their masks on. Ensure student keeps required physical distance from other students. Open windows if practical.
3. Bus driver/monitor will call ahead to The Summit. The school nurse will be informed of a possible symptomatic child. The nurse or designated personnel will meet the bus as it arrives. If the nurse is not able to meet the bus, she will triage on the phone with the designated personnel member.
4. As practical, student with possible symptoms should exit the bus.
5. Bus will be cleaned/disinfected.
6. Nurse will evaluate the student for symptoms and follow protocol of student symptomatic at school.

### **IV. Protocol: Student is symptomatic at school.**

1. Teacher ensures the student is wearing a mask that fully covers nose and mouth. Teacher sends student to the nurse's clinic for evaluation.
2. Nurse will evaluate the student for symptoms.

**IF ANY SYMPTOM:**

  - a. Place the student in the designated isolation room. Strict mask wearing covering the nose and mouth for every person in the room must be enforced.
  - b. Contact caregiver for pick-up. **CAREGIVER MUST PICK UP WITHIN 60 MINUTES OF CALL.** Student waits to be picked up in the isolation room. Caregivers must wear a mask/face covering when picking up their student. Student should not ride the school bus home. Follow Protocol:

Student or staff has symptoms or tests positive for COVID-19.

## **V. Protocol: Previous Positive Case or Vaccinated Individual**

If a person who previously had Covid-19 (confirmed by a PCR test) is identified as a close contact within 90 days of their positive test result, the person does not need to quarantine but should monitor for symptoms from their exposure date. If symptoms develop during the 14 days, they must isolate and get tested. The school accepts a rapid test if the individual is exhibiting symptoms. If the close contact occurs after the 90 days outside of class, an unvaccinated person must quarantine for 10 days.

Individuals are considered fully vaccinated two weeks after their final dose. Those individuals do not need to quarantine when identified as a close contact as long as they remain asymptomatic. If symptoms develop during the 14 days from exposure, they must isolate and get tested.

## **VI. Protocol: Family Member Has Probable/Positive Case.**

If the positive family member isolates him/herself at home (eats, sleeps and spends the day away from everyone else), the rest of the family needs to quarantine for 10 days if they are unvaccinated. The individuals should still watch for symptoms for a full 14 days after exposure. If the positive family member interfaces with the other family members even with a mask on, the other family members if unvaccinated need to stay quarantined for 10 days after the positive family member's case is resolved (10 + 10 = 20 days).

### ***Section 2: Protocol: Travel***

***Those who travel domestically should follow [CDC guidance](#). Those who travel internationally should follow [CDC guidance](#).***

***These recommendations and requirements will be updated as new information about the virus develops and we monitor and evaluate data.***