



**The Public Schools of Brookline**  
Town Hall  
333 Washington Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Brookline, Massachusetts 02445

April 6, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Your school nurses and I hope that you and your family are healthy and doing well. We are writing to share information with you and answer some questions we have received from families about COVID-19 cases in our school community.

It is the role of the Brookline Health Department to reach out to town residents who have a confirmed positive case and conduct contact tracing. Through this tracing, individuals who have had contact during the infectious period with someone who has a confirmed positive case of COVID-19 will be identified, notified, and advised of appropriate isolation or quarantine measures. **Since we have been out of school for three weeks, well beyond the incubation period, the schools will not send notifications of confirmed cases; only the Brookline Department of Public Health will.**

If you or your family members develop symptoms, it is important to reach out to your health care provider for guidance. If your symptoms are consistent with COVID-19, always alert your physician or healthcare provider before you arrive at their office or facility. Healthcare providers will determine with you if testing is warranted. If you are told you are "presumed positive" it is important that you follow isolation guidelines as instructed by your healthcare provider.

Please also know that you can reach out to your [school nurse](#) for additional support. Our school nurses continue to work with the Brookline Health Department and Massachusetts Department of Public Health, and our decisions are informed by their recommendations and guidance and by information from the CDC and World Health Organization.

If there should be any widespread concern related to the schools or a specific school community, we will share that information with you, after consultation with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and the Brookline Health Department.

We also want to stress that adhering to the social distancing recommendations is crucial to limiting the spread of this virus. As you know, social distancing means keeping a distance of 6 feet between individuals. This means no playdates, parties, or other social gatherings. While parks remain open, they are only for passive use (not sports) and require appropriate social distancing. We understand that physical distancing is difficult. It is also necessary. Please, please enforce these measures, along with good handwashing, with your own family members.

Other information and updates related to town-wide concerns can be found at [brooklinecovid19.com](https://brooklinecovid19.com) or by calling the Town's Emergency Operations Center information line at 617-879-5636.

We wish you peace and health during these trying times.

Sincerely,

Tricia Laham, MEd, RN, BS  
Coordinator of School Health Services  
Public Schools of Brookline