

The Public Schools of Brookline

Updated Covid-19 Protocols

Individuals Who Test Positive For COVID-19

Self-Isolation for COVID-19 positive cases is a minimum of 5 days after symptom onset or, if asymptomatic, after positive test (PCR or antigen).

Return to school after 5 days, and once individual has:

- Been without fever for 24 hours (and without taking fever-reducing medications); and,
- Experienced significant improvement in other symptoms.

Following the 5 day isolation period, individuals *must mask for 5 additional days when around others, other than when eating, drinking, or outside, taking care to increase distance from others as much as feasible during these unmasked times*. Individuals who are unable to mask should stay home unless there is an exemption on file, in which case staff will ensure extra precautions.

Test on Day 6 is recommended* but not required to return to school

**particularly in those with any residual minor symptoms on Day 5*

- Take an at-home rapid antigen test on evening of Day 5 or morning of Day 6 of self-isolation
- If positive, stay home and retest on subsequent days if able
- If negative, return to school

Symptomatic Individuals (Regardless of Vaccination Status)

New onset of COVID-19 symptoms, even if a single symptom (such as runny nose, sore throat or cough)

- Stay home initially and do at-home rapid antigen test on Day 1 of symptoms.
- If negative, and *only one symptom* (excluding fever, difficulty breathing/shortness of breath, new loss of taste or smell, muscle aches or body aches, or new onset cough), may attend school for the day. Retest 24h later.
- If negative, but *more than one symptom*, stay home for the day. Retest 24h later.
- If subsequent test is negative, return to school when symptoms improve (must be without fever for 24 hours without use of fever-reducing drugs).

If positive on any test, follow above guidance and self-isolate for 5 days at a minimum.

PSB will begin voluntary at-home weekly surveillance for staff on 2/1/22 and for students on 2/8/22. **At that time we will discontinue in-school contact tracing and the Test and Stay program.** While close contacts at school will no longer be identified, we will concentrate our efforts on providing testing for symptomatic individuals. Positive results on the at-home test must be reported to the school nurse.

Per DESE and DPH guidelines, those who have tested positive for Covid-19 in the previous 90 days should not participate in this weekly surveillance testing.

Unvaccinated or Partially Vaccinated Individuals Identified as Close Contacts Outside of School

- Self-Quarantine for at least 5 days from the last date of exposure.
- PSB recommends taking an at-home rapid antigen on the day the close contact is first notified.
- Take a second test 5 days after the last exposure (sooner if symptoms develop).
- May return to school after completing 5 day self-quarantine provided individual:
 - Remains asymptomatic, AND
 - Conducts active monitoring for symptoms through Day 10 following last exposure, immediately self-isolating and testing should symptoms develop.

Fully Vaccinated* Individuals Identified as Close Contacts Outside of School

*Defined as having received two doses of either the Moderna or Pfizer COVID-19 vaccines or a single dose of the Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) vaccine more than 14 days ago.

- No quarantine required.
- PSB recommends taking an at-home rapid antigen on the day the close contact is first notified.
- Take a second test 5 days after the last exposure (sooner if symptoms develop).

If positive on any test, follow above guidance and self-isolate for 5 days at a minimum.