

COVID - 19 POLICY UPDATES FOR 2022- 2023 School Year

Below are the COVID - 19 updates for the 22 - 23 school year. While we do follow Union County Public Schools for decisions in relation to school closures, holidays and ½ days, our COVID policies are based on the NC Child Care Toolkit.

Per our regular sick policy (found in the Child Care Protection Policy on the website) children must be symptom free for 48 hours prior to returning to school. As a quick reminder symptoms include: Fever, diarrhea, nausea, scarlet fever, vomiting, discoloration of discharge of the nose and eyes, Croup, thrush, pink eye, chicken pox, unexplained rash, Lice, Measles, strep throat, poison ivy, Eye or skin infections; and/or any other symptoms of communicable or infectious disease.

In addition, if your child has any of the COVID symptoms listed below (which can be the same as other illnesses), in order for your child to return to school there are 3 options:

- Symptom free for 48 hours with a negative COVID test.
- If you prefer not to test, your child must remain out of school for 5 days and can return on the 6th day.
- Or can return after being symptom free for 48 hours and provide a note from the child's doctor that their illness was something other than COVID.

COVID Symptoms:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Fever (temperature 100.4 °F or higher) or chills● Cough● Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing● Fatigue● Muscle or body aches● Headache● Sore throat,● Nausea or vomiting,● Diarrhea,● New loss of taste or smell● Congestion or runny nose (other than a minor sniffle or allergy related)

We will no longer contact trace or quarantine classrooms. We will however, notify the classrooms affected by an exposure and when it occurred, as soon as we are notified, so you can make an informed decision for your child and family. In accordance with the guidelines we recommend but will not require that your child be tested 5 days after exposure. Please notify the Director immediately if your child tests positive for COVID or shows symptoms after an exposure. You do not need to notify us of an exposure if your child is not experiencing symptoms however, as always please use your best judgment when sending your child to school.

We will not require children to wear masks at any time.

Please note that sending your child to school will be considered acknowledgement that you have read, understand and agree to comply with this policy.

Thank you