

## Quick Reference for COVID Guidance, September 2023

Now that COVID-19 is an endemic communicable disease, the most recent guidance from the Washtenaw County Health Department for the school setting is reflective of this transition from previous pandemic guidance. There is now less focus on tracking individual cases and more focus on tracking *aggregate* activity and monitoring for outbreak situations. For this reason, SAS is no longer tracking individual timelines for individual cases; we are sharing the health department guidance and monitoring for outbreaks (as we do for all communicable illnesses). Please see the main highlights of the updated guidance outlined below; the full *COVID-19 Guidance for Schools and Childcare* guidance document is available [here](#).

### **Per the updated guidance, if you test positive for COVID-19:**

- You should stay home from school for 5 days from symptom onset (day “0”) and until symptoms have improved and you have been fever-free for 24 hours
- Masking is recommended through day 10, this is not required
- Testing is **not required** prior to returning to school
- Report the positive case to the school for aggregate reporting purposes

### **Per the updated guidance, If you are a close contact to someone who has COVID-19:**

- No exclusion from school is required
- Masking is recommended
- Monitor for symptoms of COVID-19 and if they develop, testing is encouraged.

### **Classroom notifications:**

- We will no longer be notifying classrooms or buildings regarding individual COVID cases.
- We will continue to monitor for outbreak situations and notify families in these situations as required by the health department guidance linked above.

### **Under the current guidance, masking is recommended:**

- For household or personal contacts of a positive case
- If you are notified of an outbreak in your student’s classroom
- During periods of high community transmission

Please contact Karan Hervey, District Nurse at [hervekar@salineschools.org](mailto:hervekar@salineschools.org) or Wendy Portwood, District Nurse at [portwoow@salineschools.org](mailto:portwoow@salineschools.org) with any questions.

*Updated September 19, 2023*