

HCS Covid Mitigation Plan

Dec. 29, 2021

We continue to consult the most recent CDC guidance for schools and MSDE's guidance for childcares and nonpublic schools. We are using a layered prevention strategy as recommended by the CDC. Plan changes will be communicated to you on at least a monthly basis.

Layered Prevention Strategy

Consistent and Correct Mask Use

We will continue indoor mask by staff and students in the 3s room and up. Exceptions to mask wearing include when sleeping or eating, when outside, or when distanced from others.

Cohorts

We will keep the school separated into cohorts

- Infants and Toddlers
- 2s
- 3s
- 4s
- K-2
- 3-8

Cohorts will not have close contact with each other. The k-2 and 3-8 cohorts will continue to have a combined recess in the morning when it can be done outdoors. This recess will not normally include "close contact" as defined on the next page. K-8 before and aftercare students will be in contact with students outside of their cohort.

Promoting Vaccination

We encourage all eligible staff and students to get the COVID vaccine.

A majority of staff at HCS are vaccinated. We will not publish exact percentages or identify who is or is not vaccinated. We continue to encourage vaccination for all staff. We also have stricter travel policies for unvaccinated staff.

Ventilation

We will continue to use anti-viral furnace filters and frequently open classroom windows. We use a carbon dioxide meter to monitor room fresh air levels.

Handwashing and Respiratory Etiquette

We will continue to teach and reinforce handwashing with soap and water. We will remind everyone in the facility to wash hands frequently and assist young children with handwashing, and we will promote covering of coughs and sneezes.

Staying Home When Sick and Getting Tested

Symptom screening of staff and students will continue. People with symptoms should stay home and get tested if recommended by their health care provider

Cleaning and disinfecting

Surfaces will be cleaned/disinfected at least 1x per day.

When a Case Occurs

Isolation for covid-positive people and quarantine for exposed people

Staff or students who test positive or who were exposed are expected to follow CDC guidelines for isolation or quarantine, particularly in regard to length of time away from HCS.

Close Contact Definition

- Normal definition: Being within 6 feet for a total of 15 minutes within a 24 hour period, regardless of whether that

contact was indoors or outdoors, and regardless of masking.

- Applies to
 - All adults
 - Daycare students
 - K-8 students who don't meet the below criteria
- [Special K-12 student definition](#): Being within 3 feet, while correctly wearing a well-fitted mask, for a total of 15 minutes within a 24 hour period, regardless of whether that contact was indoors or outdoors.
 - Applies to K-8 students for exposures at school only, and only for exposures to other students.

Test to Stay (K-8 Only)

K-8 will use the test-to-stay protocol for students who were exposed. Teachers will not use this protocol.

Day of exposure is considered Day 0. Exposed students will test on day 1, 3, and 5 after exposure. Parents are responsible for getting the child tested and reporting the results to the school (office@hampdens.org) after each test. The child may not attend school if the required test has not been completed. Rapid tests, including correctly administered at-home tests, will be accepted. Children who test positive will be required to isolate for the current CDC-recommended duration.

For students and teachers who are fully vaccinated OR who have tested positive for COVID within the last 90 days, no quarantine will be required after exposure. A test will be required on day 5-7 after exposure.

Classroom Closure (daycare)

HCS is required to report cases in the daycare to the MDH, and they are required to close classrooms when students are reported positive. We follow their guidance for length of classroom closure.

Notification

When a positive case is reported, HCS will notify parents of

- Parents of all students in the affected cohort, whether close contacts or not. We will include information about who was/was not a close contact.
- Parents of any additional students who were determined to be close contacts, if such contact occurred.
- Additionally, we will report any cases that occur on the same "floor" as your student. Floors are defined as follows:
 - Floor 1: Infants – 3s
 - Floor 2: 4s – 8th grade

Tuition Refunds

For closures 1-14 days long, we do not plan to issue refunds. For closures longer than 14 calendar days, we plan to refund 50% tuition for the period starting on day 15.

For elementary, remote learning does not count as a closure.