



## 2022-2023 COVID-19 Guidelines

Newmeadow is committed to the health and safety of our students and staff. If a student or staff member is diagnosed with a communicable disease it is important to protect the health of both students and staff while minimizing the disruption of the education process.

Newmeadow, pursuant to applicable laws, rules and regulations, will continue to follow the latest guidance related to COVID-19. For more information, please review [“What Parents/Caregivers Should Know about COVID Mitigation Strategies for the 2022-2023 School Year”](#)

. We have also included the link to the [COVID-19 Requirements for Child Care Programs](#) from the Office of Children and Family Services.

Please find below several bulleted points of importance in aiding our return to school:

- In-person instruction will be provided for all students.
- **Isolation after testing positive for COVID-19 is still in place.**
- Isolation is typically for five (5) full days, returning on day 6 if symptoms have subsided and students are fever free for 24 hours. Isolation times can vary.
- The NYS Department of Health recommends that individuals should wear a mask during days 6-10 after testing positive for COVID-19.
- **Quarantines are no longer required for close contacts.** Please continue to monitor your child for COVID-19 symptoms if they come in contact with a positive individual. Keep children home when sick.
- Please continue to **report any positive COVID-19 cases** via the COVID Reporting Form found at <http://newmeadow.org/covid-reporting-form/>.
- Masks and face coverings are optional, and we continue to respect the decisions of students and staff on whether they choose to wear masks or not.

### Illness/Positive COVID Test

Individuals who test positive for COVID-19, or who show symptoms of COVID-19, are asked to stay home and follow the Centers for Disease Control’s Isolation Guidance as follows:

- Individuals who test positive and have no symptoms may return to school/work after day 5.
- Individuals who test positive and have symptoms may return to school after day 5 **if** they are fever-free for 24 hours (without the use of fever-reducing medication) **and** symptoms are improving.

**Stay home when sick.** Any student or staff member who has symptoms of respiratory or gastrointestinal infections, such as cough, fever, sore throat, vomiting, or diarrhea, should stay home. Individuals who report to school/work with symptoms or develop symptoms while at school/work will be monitored by the health office.

## Testing & At-home test kits

Testing is recommended for people with symptoms of COVID-19 as soon as possible after symptoms begin.

Test kits for students are available in the health offices. If you need a home COVID test, please contact the school nurse at 518-899-9235 or by email at [healthoffice@newmeadowprek.org](mailto:healthoffice@newmeadowprek.org).

## COVID-19 vaccination

Children ages 6 months and older are all eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. Children older than 5 are eligible for a booster. COVID-19 vaccinations are not required to attend school or work. For more information on vaccination sites, visit [ny.gov/vaxtoschool](https://ny.gov/vaxtoschool).

## Masks

Mask-wearing is recommended for at least 10 days following a positive COVID test or COVID illness. Any student or staff member may wear a mask while at school to prevent the spread of illness. No one shall be bullied, harassed, or discouraged from wearing a mask. We will have extra face masks on hand to distribute to students and staff for personal protection.

## Health and Safety Protocols

Routine cleaning and disinfecting in our school continue to be an important strategy for reducing the spread of illness. Protocols will continue to be reviewed and monitored.

Filtration and ventilation shall meet or exceed minimum requirements.

We appreciate your cooperation in these health matters. Please contact our COVID Coordinator at [rgrugnale@newmeadow.org](mailto:rgrugnale@newmeadow.org) with any questions you may have.