

COVID Guidelines for WLT

November 2022

Per the CDC and Springfield Greene County Health Department recommendations, there is no longer a quarantine required if exposed and a close contact. However, the removal of this requirement does not necessarily make things easier! **We still have a responsibility to keep ALL the children in our care as safe and healthy as possible. We must also keep staff healthy to be able to provide care.** We will therefore be following the criteria below, until further notice.

If exposed to a positive COVID case, outside the home, quarantine is not required. However, a negative test and masking is required to stay in attendance. All children aged 2 and up can safely mask, per the current recommendations. (We realize the younger ones will need assistance with their masks, and we will gladly support them while here at school. However, if they simply cannot mask effectively, we will need to send them home.) Re-testing is also still needed at day 5, with a negative result, to stay in care. The need to mask ends upon completion of day 10.

If exposed to a positive COVID case, inside the home, children aged 2 and up will need to stay home through day 5 due to the *daily re-exposure*. Testing is required at day 5, with a negative result, to return to school. Masking will be required for the next 5 days as well. (As stated above, we realize the younger ones will need assistance with their masks, and we will gladly support them while here at school. However, if they simply cannot mask effectively, we will need to send them home.) Re-testing at day 10, with a negative result, is required to stay in care and remove the need to mask.

If your child is positive for COVID, staying home through day 5 is required. Care can resume on day 6, or later, if the child has have been fever free (without the aid of medication) for a full 24 hours AND symptoms have greatly improved. Masking is required to be in care, and the need to mask in ends upon completion of day 10.

Any child in our infant and toddler unit, under aged 2, cannot mask or be accurately tested outside of a medical facility. Therefore, all infant-toddler children who are exposed and at risk must remain home a full 10 days. If the child remains symptom free and without concern on day 10, the child may return to care upon the completion of day 10.

In ANY case, if symptoms arise and the child should test positive, the timeline will need to be reevaluated.

Day 0 = onset of symptoms (or positive test if asymptomatic). Day 1 = the next day.

If your child has the following symptoms, keep them home for testing. Proceed accordingly, based on test results. (Home tests are available in the WLT office.)

- *Fever over 100 degrees
- *NEW cough
- *Loss of taste or smell
- *Headache
- *Sore throat
- *Runny/stuffy nose
- *Fatigue
- *Muscle pain/body aches
- *Nausea/vomiting or diarrhea
- *Close contact to positive case
- *Waiting for test results

These criteria could change if the current COVID community level should change.