

Frelinghuysen Township School

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September 8, 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian,

In order to control communicable diseases, including COVID-19, in school, it is important to keep your child home when sick. This not only benefits your child but other children and staff in the classroom at school. Check your child every morning before sending him/her to school using the FTS Health Screening Tool that is attached to this letter. If you are unsure of any symptoms, please contact me for further guidance before sending your child to school.

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, FTS will consult with the Warren County Department of Health and the New Jersey Department of Health for guidance on illness at school. The general, current guidelines are as follows:

Warren County Covid 19 School Community Containment Guidelines

SITUATION:	CONTAINMENT RESPONSE	NOTE
Confirmed Case (Student or Faculty)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• May recommend school-wide virtual instruction for a day to allow health department to complete investigation and contact tracing• All students and faculty in class or on bus with a confirmed case are quarantined for 14 days• Confirmed case will isolate as per current guidance	
Probable Case (Student or Faculty)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• May recommend school-wide virtual instruction for a day to allow health department to complete contact tracing investigation• All students and faculty in class or on bus with a probable case are quarantined for 14 days or until Probable Case tests negative• Probable Case will isolate as per current guidance.• Probable Case is recommended for testing	

Reported Symptoms (Student or Faculty) with no known exposure to a confirmed case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student and faculty member with symptoms stays home at least 10 days since their symptoms first appeared and they have no fever for 24 hours and symptoms improved. May return earlier after negative COVID-19 test or alternative diagnosis is confirmed 	Based on NJDOH COVID-19 Guidance for Reopening Childcare 7/20/20
Close Contact (Student or Faculty)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student or faculty that are close contacts of confirmed cases outside the school will quarantine for 14 days from exposure 	

Assumption:

- There is a low confidence that students and teachers can remain 6 feet apart during a class period
- There is a low confidence that students can be six feet apart on the school bus. (All bus trips are longer than 10 minutes)
- When a 6 foot distance cannot be maintained, the use of face coverings and physical barriers in a classroom are protective measures to decrease the risk of disease transmission, but do NOT eliminate the recommendation for individuals in the class or bus to quarantine if there is a positive or probable case.

Definitions:

- Confirmed Case: A person with a lab test confirming COVID-19
- Probable Case: A person with clinical symptoms of COVID-19 with known exposure to a confirmed case
- Close Contact: A person *who was within 6 feet of a confirmed or probable COVID-19 case for at least 10 minutes*

There is not a single symptom that is uniquely predictive of a COVID-19 diagnosis. A COVID-19 (viral test) is needed to confirm if someone has a current infection. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure.

If your child is home with symptoms of COVID-19 or sent home with the symptoms they should be seen by your healthcare provider. If you need help finding a testing site, let me know. According to the NJDOH they may not return to school until ONE of the following is received by the nurse's office:

- 1. A healthcare provider provides documentation of an alternate diagnosis other than COVID-19 such as allergies or common cold**
- 2. A confirm negative COVID-19 test**
- 3. 10 days have passed since the start of symptoms, symptoms have improved and the child is fever free for at least 24 hours without fever reducing medication.**

Please talk with your child about preventing illness, which includes:

1. Wearing a face covering. All students should have 1 or 2 extras in their backpack. Current CDC guidelines and recommendations for face coverings are attached.
2. Students should wash their hands frequently and make use of available hand sanitizer stations.
3. Keeping socially distant while at school and do not share supplies.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Ruth Toronzi

RuthToronzi RN
School Nurse
908-362-6319 Ext.1

FTS Health Screening Tool

Help us keep our school healthy!

Please review the following questions each day before sending your child to school. If you answer YES to any of the questions, your child should stay home from school.



	YES	NO
Is your child exhibiting any of the following symptoms? Fever or chills Cough Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing Fatigue Muscle or body aches Headache New loss of taste or smell Sore throat Congestion or runny nose Nausea or vomiting Diarrhea		
Does your child have a temperature at or above 99, without fever reducing medication?		
Did your child take medication to reduce a fever or to mitigate the above symptoms?		
Has your child been exposed to anyone who has tested positive for Covid-19?		
If you answer yes to any of the above questions, please keep your child home from school to monitor their symptoms. The school nurse is available to answer any questions you may have about the symptoms above.		

FTS Face Covering Recommendations

From: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/about-face-coverings.html>

DO choose masks that	DO NOT choose masks that
 <p>Have two or more layers of washable, breathable fabric</p>	 <p>Are made of fabric that makes it hard to breathe, for example, vinyl</p>
 <p>Completely cover your nose and mouth</p>	 <p>Have exhalation valves or vents, which allow virus particles to escape</p>
 <p>Fit snugly against the sides of your face and don't have gaps</p>	 <p>Are intended for healthcare workers, including N95 respirators or surgical masks</p>

Caution: Gaiters & Face Shields

	Evaluation is on-going but effectiveness is unknown at this time
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