

SEAGULL SCHOOLS HEALTH POLICY related to COVID-19

APPENDIX A

SCHOOL HEALTH POLICY

This policy is an amendment to our existing health policy and is updated regularly according to the latest Centers for Disease Control and State of Hawaii Department of Health guidelines. This policy should be used in conjunction to Seagull's existing Health Policy in your Family Handbook; it does not replace our existing policy.

COVID-19 symptoms reported range from mild symptoms to severe illness. People with the following symptoms may have COVID-19:

- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fever
- Chills
- Muscle pain
- Sore throat
- Diarrhea
- New loss of taste or smell
- This list does not include all possible symptoms. Other less common symptoms have been reported, including gastrointestinal symptoms like nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea.

A child will not be allowed to attend school if any of the above symptoms are identified. We will require a negative COVID-19 test (Rapid COVID-19 Tests are acceptable) to return to school and avoid the 5-10 day isolation period. In addition to this, your child will be required to wear a well-fitting mask from day 6 – 10 upon your return if they were found positive for COVID-19.

If a child is in school and is observed with these symptoms, a parent will be asked to make arrangements for the child to be picked up by a responsible adult within 1 to 2 hours. A member of staff will isolate with your child to ensure health and safety of our community members.

DISCLOSURES

The following disclosures must be provided to your Center's director without exception. Please notify your Center's Director **prior to returning to the program** if your child, and/or any member of your household, displays any of the above symptoms, has been notified of an exposure to COVID-19, has a pending test scheduled (non-work issued) for COVID-19 and/or tests positive for COVID-19.

ISOLATION AND QUARANTINE

You are required to communicate your family's health status with the Center Director prior to being re-admitted to the program.

Isolation is used to separate individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19 or who have COVID-19 symptoms, regardless of their vaccination status.

- Children who test positive or develop COVID-19 symptoms, regardless of age or vaccination status, shall isolate by staying home for 5 days.
 - Children who isolate may return on the 6th day if they do not have fever in a 24-hour period without using fever-reducing medication, other symptoms of COVID-19 have

- improved, and are able to wear a well-fitting mask from day 6 to 10 after symptom onset or test positive date.
- Staff who test positive for COVID-19 or have symptoms, shall stay home, and isolate for five (5) days regardless of vaccination status.
 - Staff who isolate may return on the 6th day if they do not have fever in a 24-hour period without using fever-reducing medication, other symptoms of COVID-19 have improved, and are able to wear a well-fitting mask from day 6 to 10 after symptom onset or test positive date.
- A well-fitting mask should be worn at all times while in care (except during mealtimes or when sleeping) by a child or staff member returning from home isolation on days 6 through 10 after isolating for 5 days.
- Day 0 in calculating isolation period is the day the positive test was taken (if asymptomatic) or the onset of COVID-19 symptoms
- Children and staff with known medical history of allergies or of other etiology who exhibit COVID-19 like symptoms, should isolate and get tested for COVID-19. If negative and not identified as a close contact, they may return if symptoms are resolving and no fever for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medicine. They should also submit a doctor's note with the negative test result confirming medical history of allergies or other conditions which caused COVID-19 like symptoms.

Quarantine protocols previously used to prevent the transmission of COVID-19 by keeping people in close contact with someone with COVID-19 apart from others for in-school exposures have changed. Closing classrooms and implementing quarantine for in-school exposures are no longer necessary when universal indoor masking is implemented.

- When a child or staff member is identified as being positive for COVID-19, notification will be provided to all staff and parents in the group that were exposed to that person.
- The exposed children and staff have the option to quarantine by remaining home, or if they choose to return to class, all children over the age of 2, who can correctly and consistently wear masks, should do so for 10 days.
- Parents and staff should be on the lookout for symptoms and test as appropriate.

A doctor's note and/or negative COVID test may be required before your child returns to school and decisions will be made on a case-by-case basis.

RETURNING TO SCHOOL

Children and/or family members who have tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 RNA will work with the Center Director on a plan to return to school.

Children and/or household members who test positive for SARS-CoV-2 RNA will not be cleared to return to campus until they:

- provide a negative test for SARS-CoV-2 RNA; or,
- provide a doctor's clearance that they are not infectious or capable of transmitting SARS-CoV-2 RNA and infecting others
- have completed their 10-day isolation period (or as short as 5 days provided they are fever and symptom-free at least 24 hours prior to returning to school, and are able to wear a well-fitted mask from days 6-10).

HYGIENE PRACTICES

All children and staff are expected to follow strict handwashing procedures using soap and water to ensure high standards of health and hygiene. Children and staff are expected to wash their hands for a

minimum of 20-30 seconds, especially between transitions and after bathroom use, diapering, and meal time. Handwashing is strictly enforced for children and staff coming into contact with bodily fluid. Assistance will be given to children and infants who cannot wash their hands alone.

MASKING

Masks are required indoors by staff members and children over the age of 2, when [COVID-19 Community Levels](#) are medium or high, or in specific situations such as cluster of cases or exposure to a positive case.

- Masks should be removed for eating, drinking, and nap time.
- In infant or toddler settings where children are under the age of 2 or have special needs and cannot wear masks and are not yet fully vaccinated, it is recommended that staff wear masks.
- Masks are recommended to be worn in classrooms where there are identified clusters or for 10 days after exposure to a person who tests positive for COVID-19.
- When outdoors: Masks do not need to be worn in most outdoor settings. Masks should be worn in crowded outdoor settings, during activities that involve sustained close contact with others, or when community levels of COVID-19 are high.
- Masks should not be worn by:
 - Children younger than 2 years of age.
 - Anyone who has trouble breathing or is unconscious.
 - Anyone who cannot safely remove the mask without assistance.

WHEN TO SEEK EMERGENCY MEDICAL ATTENTION

If someone is showing any of these signs, **seek emergency medical care immediately.**

- Trouble breathing
- Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
- New confusion
- Inability to wake or stay awake
- Bluish lips or face

**This list is not comprehensive of all possible symptoms. Please call your medical provider for any other symptoms that are severe or concerning to you.*

Call 911 or call ahead to your local emergency facility: Notify the operator that you are seeking care for someone who has or may have COVID-19.

***This policy is subject to change without notice, based on updated recommendations from the Centers for Disease control or the State of Hawaii Department of Health.*