

Wainscott Common School District

Contact Tracing and Testing Protocols

Contact Tracing

The Suffolk County Department of Health is responsible for case investigation and contact tracing in Suffolk County and will support the school district with contact tracing. The school district will support case investigations and contact tracing efforts by confirming attendance, sharing rosters etc. SCDOH typically completes case investigations within 24 hours of receipt of a positive test result. The school district will notify the school community while investigations are underway. SCDOH provides isolation or quarantine orders to all cases and contacts in Suffolk County. In addition, those under isolation or quarantine will be monitored daily by SCDOH. When the isolation or quarantine period has ended, a letter from SCDOH confirming release will be provided to each case and contact. Students and/or staff must provide the letter to their school district in order to return.

COVID-19 test results will come in most cases to SCDOH through the NYS Electronic Clinical Lab Reporting System (ECLRS) system. If during case interview SCDOH identifies that case is a student in school, SCDOH will reach out to the school administration to inform them of the positive case and conduct contact tracing. If it is a rapid antigen test, the student/family may get the result before SCDOH. In that situation, SCDOH will expect the medical office that did order the test to reach out to SCDOH. Case investigation/contact tracing would then proceed after SCDOH is notified. Contact tracing and quarantining of close contacts is *only* initiated upon receipt of a positive test result. In addition, only contacts of the case are quarantined, not contacts of contacts.

Additional Information from SCDOH on Contact Tracing and Testing

- If the spouse of a faculty member presents with a positive COVID test, the employee would be considered a close contact of the spouse, and would be subject to quarantine for 14 days from date of last contact with the spouse. The employee may return to work after completion of the quarantine period; no test is necessary unless the employee develops symptoms.
- If a faculty member who has wide-spread access to the building tests positive the faculty member will be under home isolation; if anyone meets the definition of a close contact with that faculty member, the close contact(s) will quarantine for 14 days. Faculty member may return to work after 10 days of isolation provided that person is fever free for the last 72 hours without the use of fever reducing medications and symptoms (if any) are improving.
- If a parent who was notified that she (the parent) tested positive for COVID-19 after the child left the house for the bus stop and the student has already arrived at school and is in class the child/student will be held in the isolation room to be sent home to be placed on quarantine. The child is not a case at that point, and therefore there is no action that needs to be taken for any of the other persons mentioned. SCDOH will not quarantine a contact of a contact.
- If an elementary student tests positive and the students in the cohort are all in masks and 6 feet apart in the classroom, the decision to quarantine will be decided on a case-by-case basis. SCDOH may advise that all of the students in that class/cohort be considered close contacts and be placed on quarantine. If all were wearing face coverings and practicing social distancing, the likelihood that further positive cases are identified from that cohort is minimal.

- SCDOH strongly recommends that close contacts get tested for COVID-19. Students and staff should consult their medical provider for guidance.
- Students and staff with symptoms of illness should not attend school. It is recommended that individuals and/or families consult their medical provider to determine if COVID-19 testing is warranted. Note: identification and contact tracing is initiated upon receipt of a positive COVID-19 test result. No action is taken for suspected cases.
- Students and staff who test positive for COVID-19 should follow the established CDC/NYS DOH guidelines for ending isolation. All residents who test positive are monitored daily by SCDHS contact tracing staff and will receive a letter from SCDHS confirming release from isolation.

Important Information on NYSDOH Contact Tracing Procedures

If an individual has a positive test, a COVID Contact Tracer from the SCDOH will connect you with the support and resources you may need through quarantine, such as help getting groceries or household supplies, child care, medical care or supplies. The Tracer will work with you to identify and reach out via phone and text to anyone you've been in contact with while you were infectious to trace and contain the spread of the virus.

- Your caller ID will say "NYS Contact Tracing" (518-387-9993).
- If you get a call from "NYS Contact Tracing" (518-387-9993), **PLEASE** answer the phone. Answering the phone will keep your loved ones and community safe.
- A contact tracer will:
 - NEVER** ask for your Social Security Number
 - NEVER** ask for any private financial information
 - NEVER** ask for credit card information
 - NEVER** send you a link without proper authentication procedure

Helpful Resources on Contact Tracing:

- <https://www.coursera.org/learn/covid-19-contact-tracing.edocomorp=covid-19-contact-tracing>
- <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/new-york-state-contact-tracing>
- https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2020/05/13/114_covid-19contacttracing_051420_0.pdf

Testing

The school district will assist families, students and staff with COVID-19 testing as necessary. The school district will work closely with the SCDOH to support testing.

Individuals who have questions regarding eligibility or access for testing should call the New York State COVID-19 Hotline at 1-888-364-3065 or visit the NYSDOH website <https://covid19screening.health.ny.gov>. Please call the testing site or your health care provider before you go for testing.

If you go to a test site run by New York State, there is never any charge for your test. If you go to a test site operated by local governments, private companies including pharmacies and medical practices or not-for-profit organizations, you are advised to check with the testing site and your insurer in advance of being tested to confirm you will not be responsible for any fees associated with your test.

Suffolk County has a comprehensive network of family health centers that serve the uninsured and underinsured. More information can be found at: <https://suffolkcountyny.gov/Departments/Health-Services/Patient-Care/Health-Centers>

In addition, COVID-19 testing sites can be found at: <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/find-test-site-near-you>

Local Testing Sites:

- GoHealth Urgent Care - Bridgehampton

- CityMD Urgent Care - Cutchoque
- GoHealth Urgent Care - Hampton Bays
- Suffolk County Riverhead Center
- CityMD Urgent Care - Riverhead
- ProHealth Urgent Care - Riverhead
- LI Urgent Care - Manorville
- CityMD Urgent Care - Shirley
- RiteAid - Shirley