

UXBRIDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Protocol for Sick Students and Staff During COVID-19

When should students/staff stay home from school:

- If your child has any of the following symptoms:
 - Fever of 100.0 or higher
 - Cough (not due to known cause)
 - Chills
 - Muscle pain
 - Sore throat
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - New loss of taste or smell
 - Nausea
 - Vomiting
 - Diarrhea
 - Fatigue
 - Headache (when in combination with other symptoms)
 - Runny Nose/Congestion (not due to known causes and when in combination with other symptoms)

- Has a contagious illness such as flu or strep throat.
- Has a skin rash that has not been diagnosed by a physician. We urge you to have rashes diagnosed so that the physician can determine whether or not it is contagious.
- Eye is pink, red or itchy, and/or a crusty drainage from the eye is present.
- If a student has head lice, the family should contact the primary care provider for treatment options.

When can student/staff return to school:

Non- COVID-19 related:

- 24 hours after the start of antibiotic therapy for a diagnosed bacterial infection.

- 24 hours without vomiting or diarrhea if determined to be non-COVID-19 related, with note from doctor.
- In accordance with school policy, students who have head lice may return to school after treatment has been completed.

COVID-19 related:

- If your child has symptoms of COVID-19 he/she can return to school when these three things have happened:
 - Tested negative for COVID-19 (Must be documented PCR test)
 - Have improvement in symptoms
 - Your child has had no fever for at least 24 hours (without the use of medicine that reduces fever.)

If a provider makes an alternative diagnosis for the COVID-19-like symptoms, the individual may return to school based on the recommendations for that alternative diagnosis (for example, influenza or strep)

- If a student presents with COVID-19-like symptoms and chooses not to be tested, they may return to school 10 days from the start of symptoms, as long as their symptoms have improved and they have been without fever for at least 24 hours prior to their return to school without the use of fever reducing medication.
- If your child had a positive COVID-19 test he/she can return to school after these two things have happened:
 - Your child has had no fever for at least 24 hours (that is two full days) of no fever without the use of medicine that reduces fever and symptoms have improved (ie. no cough or shortness of breath).
 - Will need a note from your child’s doctor or the local health department for approval to return to school.
- If your child DID NOT have COVID-19 symptoms, but tested positive your child can return to school when:
 - At least 10 days have passed since the date of the positive test.
 - They continue to have no symptoms since the test.
 - Will need a note from your child’s doctor or the local health department for approval to return to school.
- Close Contacts

- You will be notified by the Uxbridge Board of Health if your student is considered a close contact of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. Close contacts will NOT be able to return to school until they have received a negative COVID-19 PCR test (must be documented PCR test) and they have self-quarantined for 14 days after the last exposure to the person who tested positive for COVID-19

**Department of Elementary and Secondary Education “Protocols for responding to COVID-19 scenarios in school, on the bus, or in community settings.” September 14, 2020 and “Joint Memo Clarifying Key Health and Safety Requirements for Schools” August 18, 2020

Available test sites:

<https://www.mass.gov/doc/ma-covid-19-testing-sites/download>

Updated 9/14/20