

SOUTH PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT KEEPING SCHOOLS HEALTHY

As we prepare to begin five days of in-person instruction on Wednesday, August 25, all South Park families are asked to review the district's health protocols in place this school year. Your cooperation is appreciated as we all work to keep our schools healthy and safe!



SYMPTOM SCREENING

All students, teachers, staff and administrators are to use the district's [daily symptom screening checklist](#) before leaving for school. If you answer yes to any of the questions on the checklist, please stay home and contact the school nurse. Please stay home when you are sick!



MASKS/FACE COVERINGS

All individuals on school transportation must properly wear a mask over their nose and mouth at all times, in compliance with an order from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The South Park School District strongly recommends the use of masks/face coverings by all individuals while in district buildings. South Park student-athletes being seen or treated by a UPMC Sports Medicine athletic trainer must wear a mask, per UPMC policy.



HAND HYGIENE & HEALTHY HABITS

Everyone is asked to practice respiratory etiquette (cover your mouth and nose with your elbow when coughing or sneezing, use tissues and throw them away and wash your hands or use a hand sanitizer every time you touch your mouth or nose). School sinks are stocked with soap and paper towels, and hand sanitizer is available throughout our buildings, so everyone will have plenty of opportunities to practice good hand hygiene.



CLEAN SCHOOLS

Our facilities staff will follow CDC cleaning/sanitizing/disinfecting standards daily. There will be a focus on high-touch surfaces throughout the school day and deep cleaning every evening.



VENTILATION

Coils inside all HVAC units are routinely deep cleaned. Air turnover rates will be increased. More outside air will be brought in during normal operation. Classroom/bus windows will be open if/when possible.



CONTACT TRACING

The South Park School District is required to follow the reporting/contact tracing protocols and procedures of the Allegheny County Health Department and the Pennsylvania Department of Health, as per 28 Pa. Code ch. 27. The Allegheny County Health Department told schools during the summer that it will be the source of contact tracing and notification this school year. In the event the health department is unable to perform these tasks due to caseloads, school nurses and administrators will be responsible for performing these duties. If the district is notified about a positive COVID-19 case, contact tracing will be conducted. This will include in classrooms, the cafeteria, on school buses and in school-sponsored extracurricular activities.

Without universal masking implemented, the definition of a close contact in schools remains any individual within 6 feet of an infected person for 15 minutes or more any time up to two days before symptom onset or a positive test. Close contacts are required to quarantine. Any individual who provides proof of full vaccination will not be required to quarantine if he/she remains symptom free. Identified close contacts who are fully vaccinated will be, at the direction of the Allegheny County Health Department, encouraged to be tested 2-5 days after exposure and will be directed, once again under the direction of the Allegheny County Health Department, to mask for 14 days or until a negative test result is received.

The information in the flowchart on the next page was provided to the South Park School District by the Allegheny County Health Department in mid-August. It outlines who must quarantine when a COVID-19 case is identified.



MEDICAL RECORDS

The South Park School District asks that families voluntarily provide information to their school nurse if their children have been vaccinated against COVID-19. This is not a requirement. However, when our nurses have accurate information in a student's medical records, it will help to facilitate a smoother contact tracing process if necessary. If you have any questions, please contact your child's school nurse.



REPORTING CASES & ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

As per the district's approved health and safety plan approved on August 12, 2021, all district families and staff (those not identified as close contacts) will be updated on confirmed COVID-19 cases in district schools once per week via email, or more frequently if necessary. The district will also launch a new 2021-2022 COVID-19 dashboard on its website in late August to track confirmed cases in our schools.

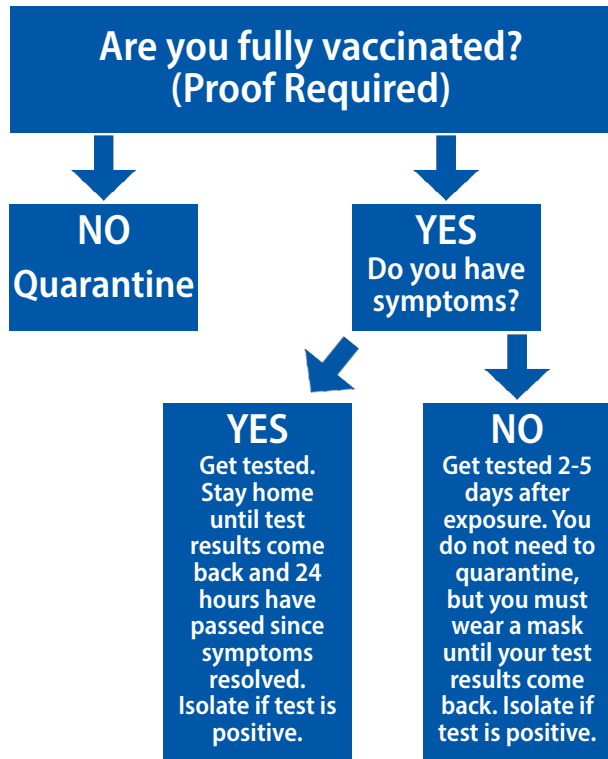
For additional information and resources about COVID-19, we encourage families to visit the websites of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Pennsylvania Department of Health and the Allegheny County Health Department.

Any future updates about the district's health and safety plan or the 2021-2022 school year will be posted on sparksd.org/2021-2022.

QUARANTINE FLOWCHART FOR K-12 SCHOOLS

Source: CDC and Allegheny County Health Department

STAFF CLOSE CONTACT



STUDENT CLOSE CONTACT

