

# North Stonington Public Schools

## Safe Return to In-Person Learning and Continuity of Services Plan

(Executive Summary)

September 1, 2022

*This plan reflects the summer 2022 COVID-19 guidelines from the Connecticut Department of Public Health and the Connecticut Department of Education. The North Stonington Public Schools will strive to offer ideal educational practices while ensuring the wellness of all students, staff, families, and visitors. Our goal will be full in-person learning for the entire 2022-2023 school year. Attendance at school offers the best support for the social, emotional, and physical health of students. If students need to be out of school for any illness, including COVID-19, teachers will provide assignments that can be completed at home. Real-time, remote learning will not be offered routinely. We will continue to review our health data and recommendations from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Ledge Light Health District (LLHD) and the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE).*

### Students and staff who have any of the following symptoms should not attend school:

- have a fever of  $>100.4$ , or feel feverish
- have an uncontrollable cough or shortness of breath
- test positive for COVID-19. (isolate at home for 5 days and wear a mask for the following 5 days while at school.) You may use this tool for calculating days of isolation: [COVID Q/1 Calculator](#).

### Our Current Mitigation Strategies

We will:

- provide test kits for symptomatic students or staff and to families when requested.
- continue to teach and encourage handwashing and respiratory etiquette.
- conduct regular cleaning practices, including disinfecting high-touch surfaces.
- follow standards for ventilation.
- provide appropriate accommodations for any student or staff with a documented need.



We will **not**:

- require face masks. However, masks can be worn if an individual chooses to do so.
- implement any specific plans for cohorting or grouping students or staff.
- conduct contact tracing for COVID.
- report positive cases to the school community, but will report to the LLHD and CSDE, as required.
- require vaccination for coronavirus, but it is encouraged. Everyone 6 months of age or older can be vaccinated.

### Requests of Families



We ask families to:

- self-test children if they have mild symptoms (infrequent cough, congestion, runny nose, sore throat, etc.)
- report any positive cases in their household to the school nurse.
- take reasonable precautions to stay healthy during the school year.
- If your child has symptoms while at school, we may ask families to dismiss their child and self-test.

Please know that this plan may change in response to new guidelines or health conditions in the community. We hope for an enjoyable, healthy, and productive school year for all! If you have any questions, please contact our school nurses at (860) 535-2805 for the elementary school, or (860) 535-0377 for the middle/high school.