

# Health Room and Services Reopening Plan by Area

Fall 2020

8/17/2020

Guidelines based upon State of CT's Adapt, Advance, Achieve: Connecticut's Plan to Learn and Grow Together.

HES will comply with all directives to keep students and staff as safe as possible by following all guidelines put forth by the CDC, CT Dept. of Education, CT Dept. of Health, Northeast District Department of Health and Dr. Gorin, medical advisor. We will work closely with our partners to keep health and safety as a first priority in the 2020-2021 school year.

**Guidelines may change frequently as new information regarding COVID-19 becomes available from our partners.**

## Health Screening and Response
































Daily self/parent screening for staff and students is required. Staying home when ill is a foundational aspect of staying as safe as possible at school. Absences may be increased this year as many COVID-19 symptoms overlap those of mild, common illnesses. **COVID-19 illness can include one or multiple symptoms.** Often children can experience mild symptoms, but still be positive for COVID-19. Update plans for sick child care so students may stay home when ill. Students/staff with allergies or asthma should have medications and wellness plans up to date to prevent overlap of COVID-19 symptoms. It would be a good idea to check in with primary care if updates to baseline is required. All immunizations must be up to date before returning to school.

The Northeast District Department of Health has suggested that screening daily even before school can help establish a regular routine as we prepare for the start of the school year.

Stay home from school if you can check off any of the following symptoms:

**Symptoms of COVID-19** (\* per Addendum 5 <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/COVID-19/Addendum-5-Interim-Guidance-for-Responding-to-COVID-19-Scenarios-in-CT-School-Districts.pdf> – **most important identifying symptoms**)

- **Fever (100.0) or feeling feverish with chills \***
- **Cough \***
- **Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing \***
- **Fatigue**
- **Muscle or body aches**
- **Headache**
- **New loss of taste or smell \***
- **Congestion or runny nose**
- **Nausea or vomiting**
- **Diarrhea**
- **Contact with a person who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 \***

Symptoms of COVID-19	Strep Throat	Common Cold	Flu	Asthma	Seasonal Allergies
FEVER 					
COUGH 					
SORE THROAT 					
SHORTNESS OF BREATH 					
FATIGUE 					
DIARRHEA OR VOMITING 					
RUNNY NOSE 					
BODY/ MUSCLE ACHES 					

 Symptom of illness

The State of CT does not recommend universal screenings for daily entrance to school, but encourages use of a CDC daily check list for parents to do each morning before school. Please keep your child at home for any of these symptoms or potential exposure to COVID-19 and call Beverly Danielson, RN to report your child's reason for absence. Monitoring absence trends is required by State of CT guidelines.

If a student develops symptoms of illness at school, he/she will be referred to the school nurse and parents will be called for immediate pick up. Both emotional and physical well-being will be top of mind so as to encourage and support any student feeling ill at school. As in keeping with CT DPH and CT Department of Education guidance, PPE will be utilized by the school nurse while waiting with the student if symptoms of COVID-19 are assessed.

HES will work closely with NDDH and CT DPH to obtain guidance regarding confidential case reporting, illness monitoring, and possible closing of school should absences increase and/or possible COVID-19 cases arise.

### **8-17-2020**

**See scenarios as per DPH/CSDE in Addendum 5 – Symptoms of COVID-19 require absence for 10 days and fever free for 24 hours with symptom improvement; any symptoms require follow up with health care provider and documentation for other diagnosis if not related to COVID-19**

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/COVID-19/Addendum-5-Interim-Guidance-for-Responding-to-COVID-19-Scenarios-in-CT-School-Districts.pdf>

## **Daily Health Practices**

Health and safety of students and staff will be a priority for HES as put forth in the HES reopening plan. Staff, students, and parents will attend health teaching and review of all mitigation strategies as put forth by the State of CT's reopening plan. We want parents to have a full understanding of all strategies and protocols upon school entry.

- 3 days will be utilized before the opening of school for training purposes for staff
- Protocols and mitigation strategies will be communicated and reviewed at the start of school and on a continuing basis to reinforce safe strategies
- Communication to parents via email and website regarding updates and protocol will be utilized to allow parents the opportunity to learn about safety measures and ensure their children have an understanding of safety measures before the start of school.

## **Supplies**

HES has ordered and will be securing the recommended safety supplies as put forth by the CT Dept. of Education. These supplies include:

- Masks
- Gloves
- Surgical gowns for use in isolation room and/or where necessary
- Face shields
- Some desk shields where necessary
- Alcohol based hand sanitizer and stations
- Green cleaning supplies
- EPA registered disinfecting supplies

HES will update this health room plan should new guidance from state and local partners becomes available. New information is released frequently in this fluid situation. It is a difficult, but temporary time for our town, state, nation, and world. Health and safety will continue to be of the utmost importance as we work through this time together.