

Q: Do I have to complete a health screening when I come to work?

A: We are required per EO 2020-145 to conduct daily entry self-screening protocol for all employees entering buildings. Every staff member must complete a health screening prior to entering any DCS building. The link for the screening form is building specific and is located on the building page on the website or use the QR code posted on all DCS entrances.

Q: Do students have to complete a health screening before coming to school?

A. For the health and safety of our students, the local public health department requires students to be screened for symptoms of COVID-19 before entering the school building. The local public health department and CDC do not recommend that on site screening be conducted by schools due to the time and interruption to education this would cause. We ask that families complete the steps of the student screening protocol below, prior to sending their child to school, school activities, or sports.

Q: Do I have to wear a mask?

A: All students & staff will wear facial coverings in the school setting. (Y5-12 *also includes ECSE)

- Any staff member or student that is incapacitated or unable to remove a facial covering without assistance, will not be required to wear one.
- Any staff member or student that cannot medically tolerate a facial covering should contact the District Nurse for further guidance.
- Note: Plastic face shields are not a replacement for cloth face coverings, but may be used in conjunction with cloth face coverings in certain settings. In settings in which cloth face masks are not required, plastic face shields may be worn alone, and may offer some degree of risk mitigation. (Source: Michigan Association of Public Health, CDC)
- We are requesting that each student/family provide a facial covering for their child. In addition, we recommend that every family supply an extra facial covering to be kept at school or in the student's backpack in the event one is lost or soiled throughout the school day. However, extra supplies of facial coverings will be available for students who need them.
- We will review proper face covering etiquette with students and staff which includes [how to safely wear and remove a face covering](#).
- We will remind students and staff to wash their reusable facial coverings daily. ([How to Wash Your Mask](#), CDC)
- Additional PPE (personal protective equipment) will be provided for staff members depending on their role and level of risk of exposure.

Q: Can I wear a face shield instead of a mask?

A: The use of face shields is not an appropriate substitute for a mask.

Q: What are the most important precautions that should be taken?

A: There is no single precaution that is the most important. Everyone should:

- Stay home when they are sick
- Wear a face mask around others, especially when a six-foot distance cannot be maintained
- Wash hands frequently
- Disinfect commonly touched objects and surfaces frequently
- Cover coughs and sneezes
- Avoid touching face

Q: Do we have to formally screen students with a health check?

A: Parents are asked to screen their child(ren) daily before leaving for school with the following questions:

- Has your child(ren) started to have any of the following, not due to some other known health problem?
- Temperature over 100.4 Fahrenheit when taken by mouth?
- Sore throat
- New, uncontrolled cough that causes difficulty breathing (for students with chronic allergy/asthmatic cough, a change in their cough from baseline)
- New onset of severe headache, especially with a fever
- Diarrhea, vomiting or abdominal pain
- Has your child(ren) had close contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19?
- Since they were last at school, has your child(ren) been diagnosed with COVID-19?

If the answer is YES to any of these questions, keep your child(ren) home from school. Call the school as soon as possible to let them know the reason your child(ren) will not be there today. Call your healthcare provider right away.

Q: Are we required to record the current temperature or simply certify that it is below 100.4 F?

A: There is no specific requirement to check a temperature. You should, at a minimum, have staff and students self-monitor and report if they feel feverish.

Q: Screening Students and Staff

A: We do not recommend the schools do health screening, nor does the CDC (see <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schoolschildcare/symptomscreening.html>). We recommend, as does the CDC, that parents do this prior to sending children to school.

Q: Do all students or staff that were working in close proximity to others who tested positive, now have to get tested? How are the parents being notified?

A: In general, people that are considered a close contact to a case are recommended to be tested, but it is not required. It helps to identify more cases and identify and quarantine more contacts, but if they test negative, they cannot be released from quarantine early.

Parents will be notified by the school that there is an identified or suspected COVID-19 case. The local health department will notify parents if a student is a close contact and if the student needs to quarantine.

Q: How do we handle the students/staff in a classroom where someone has been tested but test results are pending?

A: Close contacts of someone who is symptomatic should follow quarantine guidelines. While the test result is pending, all students and staff should be vigilant about social distancing, hygiene, and self monitoring for symptoms. The district will work with the Washtenaw County Health Department to determine if class should not be held until the test results are known.

Q: What is a close contact to COVID-19?

A: A close contact will be, at a minimum, an individual who has been within 6 six feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes starting 2 two days before the contagious person began having symptoms (or 2 days before a positive specimen was collected if they never have symptoms). The 15 mins may not necessarily be continuous, but may be cumulative. Close contacts will need to be quarantined for 14 days.

Q: What if a student displays COVID-19 symptoms while at school?

A: Students will be placed in an isolation room to separate anyone who has COVID-19 symptoms or tests positive but does not have symptoms. Students in the isolation room will be kept as far apart as possible but in the same room. Students should wear surgical masks in the isolation room as long as medically tolerated. All other students should be kept in a different room.

Q: Is it safe to bring textbooks and materials back and forth to school?

A: It is not ideal or recommended. If this must happen, students should wipe them down with disinfectant as soon as they get to school.

Q: What is required for cleaning and disinfecting outdoor areas?

- A: Outdoor areas, like playgrounds in schools and parks generally require normal routine cleaning, but do not require disinfection.
- Do not spray disinfectant on outdoor playgrounds- it is not an efficient use of supplies and is not proven to reduce risk of COVID-19 to the public.
 - Frequently touched surfaces made of plastic or metal, such as grab bars and railings should be cleaned routinely.
 - Cleaning and disinfection of wooden surfaces (play structures, benches, tables) or groundcovers (mulch, sand) are not recommended.
 - Sidewalks and roads should not be disinfected. Spread of COVID-19 from these surfaces is very low and disinfection is not effective.

Ensure hand washing is performed by all students and staff after touching playground equipment or other play materials.

Q: Can students share objects?

- A: **Shared Objects** - individual sets should be used as much as possible. When this is not possible, items should be wiped down prior to other students using the materials. Individual students should keep their materials in their backpacks, assigned boxes, cubbies, etc.
- **Limit the use of shared objects** (e.g., gym or physical education equipment, art supplies, toys, games, computers) when possible, or clean and disinfect between use.
 - **Discourage sharing of items that are difficult to clean or disinfect** such as electronic devices, pens and pencils, classroom stapler, whiteboard markers and erasers, books, games, art supplies (e.g., markers, crayons, scissors), and other learning aids. Soft and porous materials, such as area rugs and seating, may be removed to reduce the challenges with cleaning and disinfecting them.
 - **Keep each student's belongings separated from others'** and in individually labeled containers, cubbies, lockers or areas.
 - **Ensure adequate supplies to minimize sharing** of high touch materials to the extent possible (e.g., assigning each student their own art supplies, equipment) or limit use of supplies and equipment to one group of students at a time and clean and disinfect between use.