



## Contact Tracing and Testing

The Monroe County Department of Public Health (MCDPH) provided the following local guidance on 8/6/2020, which is in alignment with The New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) Interim Guidance for In-Person Instruction at Pre-K to Grade 12 Schools, released 7/13/2020. The following reflects the guidance provided:

1. If a person arrives at Holy Childhood with symptoms, they will be advised to call their primary care doctor and undergo a COVID test. Entry to the facility would be denied. They must isolate from their family until their test results come back.
2. If they then have a positive test, the Monroe County Department of Public Health would be notified, and the health department isolation team would reach out and put them under isolation order and would email this order to them. If they have no symptoms and it has been 10 days, they would then be released from isolation by the health department, receiving applicable documentation.
3. Anyone who is considered a contact to a positive COVID person will be contacted by the Monroe County Department of Public Health and put under mandatory quarantine orders for 14 day. They must wait out the full 14 days because it takes that long for the virus to manifest itself. A NEGATIVE COVID TEST DOES NOT ALLOW THEM TO COME OFF a mandatory quarantine order.
4. In order to be considered a contact you must have been within 6 feet of the person, talking for 15 minutes or longer without wearing a mask, or with only one party wearing face covering. IF BOTH PARTIES ARE MASKED they are not considered by the health department to be a contact.

**What should the school do if a student exhibits symptoms of COVID-19 while at school?** Immediately separate the student from other students and arrange for immediate pickup. Upon pickup, the parent/guardian will be given the COVID-19 Testing and Health Care handout provided by the Monroe County Department of Public Health, which describes next steps for testing and contact tracing. The school will request that the parent/guardian to have the symptomatic student tested for COVID-19. The School Program Director or nursing staff will follow-up with the parent/guardian to learn the result of test.

**Where should I go or take my child to get tested?** The nearest testing to site to Holy Childhood is located at Monroe Community College. Follow this link to find a testing site near you: <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/find-test-site-near-you> or contact your physician.

**What should the school do if the student's test comes back positive?** The parent/guardian should contact the health department immediately. Upon notification, the school will also immediately contact the Monroe County COVID-19 Hotline at (585) 753-5555. During off-hours, this number is connected to an answering service. The message will be relayed to the on-call staff member with the Monroe County Department of Public Health. The call is important; since it

is highly likely the student's family will learn the test result before the health department does. The health department will work with the school to determine an appropriate course of action based on the most up-to-date information about COVID-19, as well as guidance from New York State Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control. There are multiple levels of action which the health department *may* recommend given individual circumstances, ranging from all students and staff in a particular room being placed on quarantine, to a wing of the school placed on quarantine, or, in a worst-case-scenario, the total school population being quarantined, necessitating a shift to full remote learning. In any event, the school will work with the Monroe County Department of Public Health to communicate the plan of action and possible COVID-19 exposures in alignment with our school's emergency communications plan, which calls for timely and transparent communication.

**What might that plan look like?** In the possibility of a student suspected of having COVID while attending in-person instruction, that child would be isolated and parents/guardians called to pick up the child. Parents/guardians would be instructed to call the child's health care provider and request a COVID test, or proceed directly to a testing site. School staff would follow up with the family and the department of health regarding the results of the test. School officials would work with the department of health to ascertain the appropriate and expedient course of action to protect all students and staff. School officials would communicate with families regarding the agreed upon plan for the original student and the rest of the class or school as needed.

If a student tests positive for COVID, the department of health will advise the school officials on next steps. The school staff would "retrace" the movements of the student within the school to determine who might have come in contact with the infected student. This data will inform the prescribed next steps for anyone who has come into contact with a positive individual, per the Monroe County Department of Public Health. If the student has symptoms that are not COVID related (as noted by the CDC) or has been medically cleared as not having COVID, no further plan would be needed.

Throughout the incident, school staff will communicate with parents/guardians, school staff and the health agencies responsible for the interventions related to the COVID pandemic. This communication may include automated telephone calls, emails, and/or website/social media postings. Strict adherence to privacy guidelines will protect private health information.