What if?

STEP-BY-STEP PROTOCOL FOR SCENARIOS RELATING TO ILLNESS/COVID-19

• Student becomes ill at school
• Staff member tests positive for COVID-19

Updated January 2023
WHAT IF A STUDENT BECOMES ILL AT SCHOOL?

Student begins to feel ill at school

Staff alerts the school nurse and brings student to identified exam room

School nurse examines student and contacts home to ascertain additional information

School nurse arranges for family to pick up ill student. If no pickup is available, school administrators will arrange a “sick bus” to take the student home

Family is advised to contact their health care provider and ESBOCES provides an at-home COVID-19 test

Student receives a negative COVID-19 test
- Family provides school with negative test results
- Students can return to school as long as the student is symptom free and fever free for 24 hours without use of fever-reducing medication

Student receives a positive COVID-19 diagnosis/test regardless of vaccination status
- Student must isolate and may return to school after a minimum of 5 days since symptoms first appeared (day 0 is the day of symptom onset), or if asymptomatic (day 0 is the test date), or if symptoms are resolving (no fever for at least 24 hours without use of fever-reducing medication)
- Student does not test, must remain home until symptoms resolve
WHAT IF A STAFF MEMBER TESTS POSITIVE?

- Staff member tests positive for COVID-19, regardless of vaccination status
- Staff member alerts administrator/supervisor of a positive test
- Supervisor notifies the appropriate Administrative Council member

  • Positive at-home self-test must be reported to the Suffolk County Department of Health by the staff member
  • If seeking conversion of sick to COVID-19 days, a confirmed positive test from a testing facility or medical provider will be required

If symptoms are resolving (no fever for at least 24 hours without use of fever-reducing medication) staff member may return to work after a minimum of 5 days since symptoms first appeared (day 0 is the day of symptom onset), or if asymptomatic (day 0 is the test date)

Staff members should follow Human Resources protocol for conversion of sick to COVID-19 days where eligible. For guidance, go to the ESBOCES website at esboces.org/COVID19
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