Half Hollow Hills: Testing Pull-out Section

Updated 1/4/2021

From pg. 28-31 of Reopening Plan

Suspect or Confirmed COVID Cases & Protocol for Return

- *Emergency Response* - Students and staff with symptoms of illness must be sent to the health office. A school nurse (Registered Professional Nurse, RN) is available to assess individuals as chronic conditions such as asthma and allergies or chronic gastrointestinal conditions may present the same symptoms as COVID-19 but are neither contagious nor pose a public health threat. Proper PPE will be required anytime a nurse may be in contact with a potential COVID-19 patient.

- *Isolation* - Students suspected of having COVID-19 awaiting transport home by the parent/guardian will wait in a designated isolation room, with a supervising adult present utilizing appropriate PPE. Multiple students suspected of COVID-19 may also be in this isolation room if they can be separated by at least 6 feet. If they cannot be isolated in a separate room from others, facemasks (e.g., cloth or surgical mask) will be provided to the student if the ill person can tolerate wearing it and does not have difficulty breathing, to prevent the possible transmission of the virus to others while waiting for transportation home. Students should be escorted from the isolation area to the parent/guardian.

- *Testing* – The district will assist students and staff with arranging COVID-19 testing when there is cause, such as a symptomatic individual, or exposure to a confirmed case. The parent or guardian or staff member will be instructed to call their health care provider, or to follow up with a local clinic or urgent care center, for evaluation including a COVID-19 test where medically warranted.
    - If they do not have a health care provider, the District will schedule an appointment with School District Physician Dr. DiMaria – Family Medical Care of Babylon, Deer Park, NY for a COVID-19 test.
    - The results of the staff member or student's COVID-19 Test will be processed by the Enzo Clinical Labs in Farmingdale, NY.

Other considerations include:

- Closing off areas used by a sick person and not using these areas until after cleaning and disinfection has occurred;
- Opening outside doors and windows to increase air circulation in the area;
- Waiting at least 24 hours before cleaning and disinfection. If waiting 24 hours is not feasible, wait as long as possible;

- Clean and disinfect all areas used by the person suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19, such as offices, classrooms, bathrooms, lockers, and common areas;
- Once the area has been appropriately cleaned and disinfected it can be reopened for use; and
- Individuals without close or proximate contact with the person suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19 can return to the area and resume school activities immediately after cleaning and disinfection.

- *When there is a confirmed positive case* – the individual will:
  - Student should immediately be placed on isolation at home for at least 10 days. School staff should assist the local health department in contact tracing efforts by providing a list of probable close contacts (defined as being within 6 feet of the infected student for at least 10 minutes). The identification of close contacts should begin 48 hours before the student became symptomatic, or 48 hours before the student was tested for the COVID-19 virus if asymptomatic. Identified close contacts should also remain at home for 10 days of quarantine from the date of last exposure to the infected student.
  - Close Contact: close contact is defined as being within six feet of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 for a prolonged period of time (ten minutes or more). One would also be considered a close contact if someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 coughed or sneezed on you.
  - Inform school staff (School staff will notify Suffolk County Health Department)
  - Go or stay home
  - Isolate for at least 10 days following the onset of illness (Required by SCHD)
  - Conditions of return:
    - At least 72 hours since recovery - no fever and no symptoms, and
    - At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared, and
    - Letter from the Suffolk County Health Department to end isolation, call 311 and ask for a letter or visit: https://health.suffolkcountyny.gov/CovidReleaseLetters/
    - A negative COVID-19 test result is preferred.
    - Medical assessment cleared to return to school/work encouraged.

- *When a person is a suspected case or has COVID-19 symptoms* – the individual will:
  - Students and staff with symptoms of illness should not attend school. It is recommended that individuals and/or families consult their medical provider to determine if COVID-19 testing is warranted.
  - Inform school staff (reported directly or through pre-entry screening process)
  - Go or stay home
  - Isolate for at least 10 days following the onset of illness (Required by SCHD)
  - Conditions of return:
    - At least 24 hours since recovery - no fever and no symptoms, and
    - A negative COVID-19 test result

        - If a negative test result is received before the end of the 10 day isolation, then the individual can come back to work/school as long as they are symptom free, including no fever, for at least 24 hours
        - Medical assessment cleared to return to school encouraged
    - If the health care provider does not suspect COVID-19, and a test is not administered, a note from the provider with an alternate diagnosis other than COVID-19 is required. (A diagnosis of unconfirmed acute illnesses, such as viral upper respiratory illness (URI) or viral gastroenteritis, will not suffice for students/staff to return to school) (May return prior to end of 10 day period)

When a person comes in contact with a person positive for COVID-19 (while symptomatic or 48 hours prior to symptoms) – the individual will:

- Inform school staff (reported directly or through pre-entry screening process)
- Go or stay home
- Quarantine for 10 days from last date of contact with the positive case

Conditions of return:

- No Symptoms:
    - Students and Non-Essential Workers: Must complete full 10 day quarantine even if negative COVID-19 test result received in that time
    - Essential Workers: May return without having quarantined provided they self-monitor, practice all of the safety precautions, and quarantine at home
    - Staff must provide proof from health care provider of COVID-19 related absence to be eligible for Emergency Sick Pay
- Develop Symptoms After Contact:
    - See "Has COVID-19 Symptoms" above

- *When a person comes in contact with a suspected case (a person exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms)* – the individual will:
    - Self-Monitor and practice safety precautions
    - Await suspected case's COVID-19 results:
        - Suspected Case tests Negative - Contact continues to practice Social Distancing
        - Suspected Case tests Positive - see "A Person Comes In Contact with a Person Positive for COVID-19 (while symptomatic or 48 hours prior to symptoms)" above

- *When staff are required to quarantine or be in isolation:*
    - Staff members required to quarantine or be in isolation must report it to their direct supervisor and the Office of District-wide Administration (covid@hhh.k12.ny.us or 631-592-3028)

- Staff will be advised of options for use of sick time and eventual return to work
- Staff ending quarantine or isolation must contact DWA via email or phone in order to get clearance to return to work in a building. DWA will contact staff members' direct supervisors.

- *When students are required to quarantine or be in isolation:*
  - Students returning from quarantine or isolation must report to the Nurse's Office, and submit any required documentation, prior to resuming in school activities. Nurse's Office staff will email the students' teachers and administrators advising them that students are cleared to return.