



## Voyager Academy UPDATED COVID-19 Guidelines (As of 2/28/22)

\*Updates in red

As the pandemic evolves, the NC Department of Health and Human Services and Durham Department of Health are committed to providing the most effective and appropriate public health guidance for the current phase of the pandemic. According to these agencies, the best tools right now are:

- getting vaccinated against COVID
- getting a booster dose of the COVID vaccine when eligible
- wearing a well-fitting mask
- testing after exposure
- staying home when sick and getting tested

In addition to these recommendations, NCDHHS and DDH no longer recommends contact tracing and has eliminated the mandatory exclusion of students from school, regardless of vaccination status, after a known exposure to COVID-19 as of February 21, 2022.

Please find the **UPDATED isolation and quarantine guidelines** for Voyager Academy as of February 28th, 2022

### **Below is the list of possible COVID symptoms as defined by the CDC and NCDHHS:**

- temperature above 100.4F or chills
- cough
- headache
- sore throat
- congestion or runny nose
- fatigue, muscle or body aches
- nausea or vomiting
- diarrhea
- shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- new loss of taste or smell

### **If a student has any SYMPTOMS listed above, regardless of vaccination status**

- The student should stay home from school and extracurricular activities and get PCR tested.
- The student should stay away from others while awaiting the test result.
- If a student is unable to or unwilling to be tested, follow the guidance below as if the student is positive.
- Please refer to the Voyager Academy Sick Child Policy for full details.

### **If a student tests POSITIVE, regardless of vaccination status, and**

- **Does not have symptoms** – isolate from others and stay home from school and extracurricular activities for **5 days**. Student may **return to school AFTER the 5<sup>th</sup> day**. Student does not need a negative COVID test in order to return to school after the 5<sup>th</sup> day.
- **Have symptoms** – isolate from others and stay home from school and extracurricular activities for at least **5 days** AND THEN UNTIL student is fever-free for 24 hours and symptoms are improving. Student does not need a negative COVID test in order to return to school.
- **Upon returning to school, students MUST wear a mask indoors and outdoors AND maintain physical distance from others while eating for an additional 5 days.**

## If a student is EXPOSED to someone with COVID-19

- Students who have been notified of an exposure should:
  - Wear a well-fitting mask for 10 days after the last known exposure
  - Be tested immediately if symptomatic OR on day 5 after exposure if asymptomatic (unless the person tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 90 days).
- Students, regardless of vaccination status OR location of exposure, are not required to quarantine or be excluded from school and extracurricular activities UNLESS they are having symptoms.
- Students who develop symptoms after a known exposure, regardless of vaccination status, must stay home and should get tested.
- Although a mandatory quarantine/exclusion from school is no longer recommended statewide for people who have been exposed and have no symptoms, Voyager Academy will allow asymptomatic students to stay home from school for 5 days after a recognized exposure if they choose to do so.
  - Please notify your child's building principal, teacher(s), and the school nurse if you intend to keep your child home after an exposure.
- Voyager Academy will begin offering on-campus, post-exposure rapid antigen testing for students that have had a known exposure to COVID-19 AND have no symptoms.
  - This new service is optional. It is designed to allow students to remain learning in-person after an exposure to COVID-19, while also promoting early detection of a new COVID infection.
  - All testing will be performed with our school nurse, Ms. Skoff. Post exposure testing will be performed separately from Voyager's weekly surveillance testing program.
  - **\*\*Students MUST be symptom free AND have had a known, recent exposure to COVID-19 to participate in this service. If a student has any symptom listed above they will be referred to PCR COVID testing\*\***
  - Parents may request that their child be post-exposure tested by emailing Ms. Skoff (School Nurse) [cskoff@voyageracademy.net](mailto:cskoff@voyageracademy.net) for further details.