



**Florida School for
the Deaf & the Blind**

Do More. Be More. Achieve More.

FSDB *Cares!* **COVID-19 Protocols**

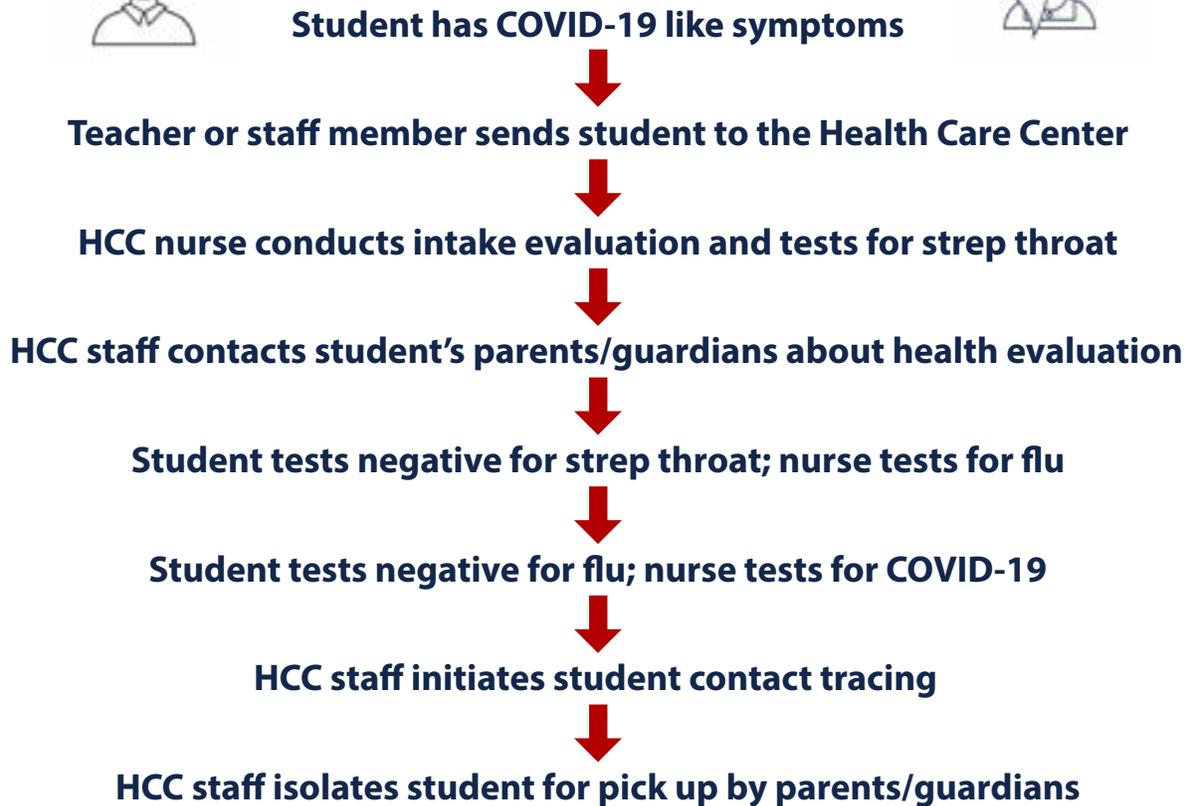
For Students, Families & Staff Members



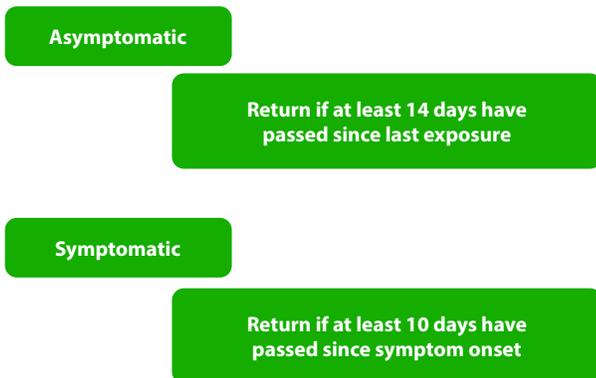
*2020-21. Subject to change when public
health guidelines are updated.*

What if a **STUDENT** has symptoms?

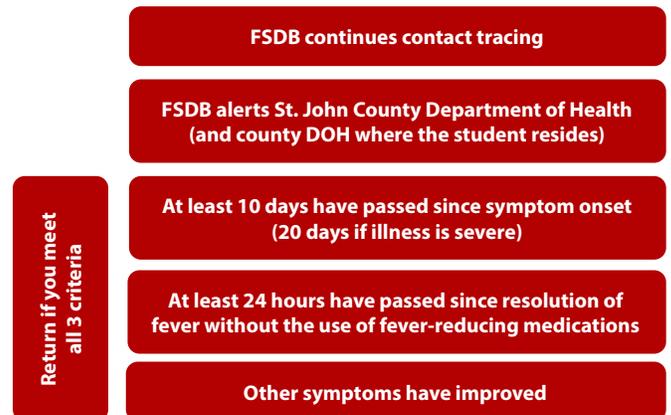
Step-by-Step Scenario



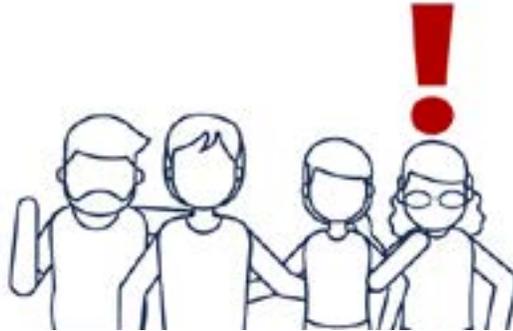
COVID-19 test is negative



COVID-19 test is positive



What if a **FAMILY MEMBER** tests positive?



Step-by-Step Scenario

- 1** Teacher or staff member at FSDB sees or hears student comment that a family member at home has COVID-19
- 2** Teacher or staff member notifies school administration about the student's comment
- 3** School administrator sends student to the Health Care Center for evaluation
- 4** HCC administrator reaches out to student's parents/guardians and advises that if their child lives at home or has contact with a family member who is COVID-19 positive, then their child will be advised to self-isolate away from that person for 10-14 days
- 5** School administrator explains to parents/guardians that during isolation their child would continue to receive education via the Innovative Learning Environment (ILE) model
- 6** HCC administrator follows up with parents/guardians to explain symptom-free conditions for return to school

What if a **STAFF MEMBER** tests positive?



Step-by-Step Scenario

- 1** Staff member tests positive for COVID-19
- 2** Staff member alerts his/her school administrator and Human Resources about test results; they in turn inform administrator of Allied Health & Related Services
- 3** FSDB alerts St. Johns County Department of Health and the county DOH where the staff member resides regarding positive test
- 4** FSDB initiates contact tracing
- 5** FSDB alerts other staff members and/or students' families who may be advised to self-isolate for 10-14 days
- 6** If the staff member is a teacher, a substitute will be called to fill in during the person's absence

What if I have COVID-19 symptoms?

Symptoms & Follow Up

New onset cough or shortness of breath OR at least two of the following:

- Fever of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher
- Chills
- Diarrhea
- Difficulty breathing
- Loss of taste or smell
- Muscle pain
- Nausea
- Sore throat
- Vomiting

If a person has a new symptom (e.g., loss of smell only) with no other diagnosis to explain it, they should stay home and talk to their health care provider about testing for COVID-19, even if it is the only symptom they are experiencing.

Symptomatic Decision Tree



Communications Protocol

Questions Regarding Positive Cases

Notification will be sent by FSDB if there is a positive case. FSDB will alert any families if a student has prolonged contact with a positive case. If the school receives phone calls/messages regarding this case, they should tell parents/guardians the following:

School Message to Parents/Guardians:

“ FSDB has been notified of a possible positive case of COVID-19; however, this information is protected by law through HIPAA. FSDB is conducting contact tracing and will advise parents/guardians by phone call and letter if their student had prolonged contact with a positive case. FSDB is in contact with local and state Departments of Health. Please refer to our 2020-21 FSDB Reopening Plan for the protocols in place for a positive case. We continue to recommend wearing masks when social distancing is not possible and also continue thorough hand-washing procedures to help stop the spread of COVID-19.



Sample Notification Letter to Parents/Guardians



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Sept. XX 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We have been notified that an FSDB staff member has tested positive for COVID-19. The St. Johns County Health Department has been notified and FSDB is conducting contact tracing to determine who has been in close contact with this individual. We will notify you if your child qualifies as being in close contact and needs to quarantine. Close contact is defined as any individual who was within six feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes starting two days before illness onset (for asymptomatic individuals, two days prior to positive specimen collection) until the time the person is in isolation.

COVID-19 is a respiratory illness mainly spread from person-to-person, through respiratory droplets. The most common symptoms associated with COVID-19 are fever, cough, chills, sore throat, congestion/runny nose, diarrhea, fatigue, headache, loss of taste or smell, muscle or body aches, nausea/vomiting, and shortness of breath or difficulty breathing. Our intent with this notification is to make you aware of the signs and symptoms of COVID-19. Please monitor your child for symptoms, and if they develop, keep your child at home, consult with his/her pediatrician or medical provider and inform your child's school of his/her status.

FSDB is working with the local and state Departments of Health to monitor for any additional cases. FSDB continues to implement its health and safety protocols including our enhanced cleaning and sanitizing procedures to assist in proactively preventing the spread of COVID-19 and other illnesses. Please know that all areas used by the infected staff member has been thoroughly cleaned and disinfected. Our household department focuses especially on frequently touched surfaces in student areas.

As a reminder, the best way to prevent illness is by limiting exposure to the virus. Please discuss with your child the importance of incorporating prevention practices into his/her daily routine including:

- Maintaining social distancing (at least six feet) as much as possible
- Washing hands often with soap and water for 20 seconds
- Using hand sanitizer when soap and water are not available
- Wearing a cloth face covering when unable to social distancing (e.g., on buses, arrival/dismissal times, class transition times, in restrooms, etc.)

FSDB is following its protocols as outlined in our 2020-21 FSDB Reopening Plan to keep our campus as safe as possible for staff and students. Again, please monitor your child for symptoms and we will follow up shortly regarding our contact tracing results. Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at 904-827-2535 or gustetics@fsdbk12.org

Sincerely,

Dr. Stan Gustetic
Administrator of Health & Related Services

Dr. Michael Soberano
Medical Director