



Abby Kelley Foster Charter Public School

10 New Bond Street Worcester, MA 01606

Phone: (508) 854-8400 Fax: (508) 854-8484

www.akfcs.org

April 15, 2021

To our Abby Kelley Families,

With the return to in-person learning we, the Abby Kelley Nurses, have updated the **District Health Protocols & Expectations**. These updated protocols, for the health and safety of our students, staff and families, have been put in place and updated with the guidance and recommendations from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Department of Public Health (DPH).

If a member of your household has been tested for COVID-19, as you await the results, we strongly advise you and your family members to quarantine, students SHOULD NOT be sent to school, until you have a negative test result. Your results will determine your next steps; continuing to quarantine, this would include **ALL** members of the household or resuming normal activities, while remaining aware of any developing symptoms.

We ask families to take the following steps DAILY before sending students to school in-person:

- Check your student's temperature and screen for **ANY** symptoms of illness. **Symptoms may include (but are not limited to):**
 - Temperature of 100.0° or higher
 - Sore throat
 - Cough (not due to other known cause)
 - New loss of taste or smell
 - Chills
 - Vomiting
 - Head and/or body aches
 - Diarrhea
 - Nausea
 - Runny nose and/or congestion (not due to allergies)

Students with **ANY** of these symptoms that do not meet school protocols **MUST** remain at home and your Primary Care Physician should be contacted for further instruction. Please notify your student's nurse or teacher by email or call the front desk at your student's school when your student will be absent and the reason for absence.

If a student becomes ill while at school the following steps will be taken:

- If a student exhibits illness in regards to the above symptoms while at school, the Parent/Guardian will be called for **immediate pickup**. If we are unable to reach the Parent/Guardian, the Emergency Contact will be called.

Abby Kelley Foster Charter Public School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, gender identity, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, disability, or homelessness and all students have equal access to the general education program and the full range of any occupational/vocational education programs offered by the district.



Abby Kelley Foster Charter Public School

10 New Bond Street Worcester, MA 01606

Phone: (508) 854-8400 Fax: (508) 854-8484

www.akfcs.org

- Parents/Guardians **MUST** have their students picked up within **30 minutes** of contact from the School Nurse. **If your student is not picked up within 30 minutes and it is determined by the School Nurse the student is rapidly declining in health, the student will be transported by Ambulance to UMass Memorial Medical Center (55 Lake Ave N., Worcester). All expenses for transport and treatment will be the responsibility of the Parent/Guardian.**
- If your student needs to stay home due to illness or is sent home from school with any of the above symptoms, you will need to contact your Primary Care Physician for COVID-19 testing and /or other diagnosis prior to returning to school. A student's negative result must be received and reviewed by the school nurse prior to readmittance to the school. If your student has a **negative test** for COVID-19, but is experiencing **ANY** of the above symptoms, they must remain at home until all symptoms have resolved and they are **fever-free for at least 24 hours, without the use of fever reducing medication.**
- If families choose not to be tested, symptomatic students may return to school **10 days from the start of symptoms** as long as symptoms have improved and the student has been **fever-free for at least 24 hours, without the use of fever reducing medication.**
- If your student has a **positive test** for COVID-19, parents/guardians **MUST** notify their school nurse with a copy of the results immediately. **Positive students MUST remain home for a full 10 days and be fever free for at least 24 hours and show improvement in all other symptoms.** Students are encouraged to continue their learning remotely, when possible during this time, upon conversations with their Principal and classroom Teacher. A note from your Primary Care Physician stating that they may return to school **IS REQUIRED for any student to return to school following a COVID-19 diagnosis.** This doctor's note must be received and reviewed by the school nurse prior to readmittance to school.
- If your student has been in close contact with someone who has had a **positive test for COVID-19**, your student **MUST** stay home. Students are encouraged to continue their learning remotely during this time. **Students will be permitted to return to school* only if the following criteria are met, on day 8 following their contact with the individual(s):**
 - The student is **tested on day 5 or later** following their last contact and receives a **negative test.**
 - The student has had **no continued exposure to the positive individual.**
 - The student **has not exhibited any symptoms** of COVID-19.
 - The student is screened daily at home, for symptoms for 14 days after exposure.

***If a student is not tested, they must remain home for the full 14 days after the date of last exposure, and are encouraged to continue their learning remotely during this time.**

We, the School Nurses, are available to support families who experience any of these situations to advise you on when

Abby Kelley Foster Charter Public School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, gender identity, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, disability, or homelessness and all students have equal access to the general education program and the full range of any occupational/vocational education programs offered by the district.



Abby Kelley Foster Charter Public School

10 New Bond Street Worcester, MA 01606

Phone: (508) 854-8400 Fax: (508) 854-8484

www.akfcs.org

your student should return to school, please contact us. **These policies are subject to change due to ongoing recommendations and guidance from DESE, DPH and CDC. We will communicate all changes to you as quickly as possible.**

As part of a community effort here at Abby Kelley, to keep our families and communities safe, please continue to stay updated and adhere to the [Massachusetts Travel Advisory](#).

Thank you for your cooperation, patience and dedication to supporting our efforts to maintain safety and wellness in our schools. We continue to support you and are available to answer any questions, concerns and/or provide clarification at any time.

[Melissa Joubert](#), Elementary School Nurse [Wendy Piscitelli](#), Middle School Nurse [Sara Ramirez](#), High School Nurse

Abby Kelley Foster Charter Public School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, gender identity, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, disability, or homelessness and all students have equal access to the general education program and the full range of any occupational/vocational education programs offered by the district.