



Abby Kelley Foster Charter Public School

10 New Bond Street Worcester, MA 01606

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

www.akfcs.org

September 4, 2020

To our Abby Kelley Families,

As we start the school year we, the Abby Kelley Nurses, plan to keep you aware of our **District Health Protocols & Expectations**. These protocols are for the health and safety of our students, staff and families and have been put in place 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). We ask families to take the following steps **DAILY** before sending students to school:

- Parents/guardians will check their student's temperature and screen for **ANY** symptoms of illness daily. Symptoms may include (but are not limited to); a temperature of 100.0° or higher, cough, sore throat, chills, new loss of taste or smell, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, headaches, body aches, runny nose and/or congestion. Student with **ANY** of the symptoms **MUST** remain at home from school and your Primary Care Physician should be contacted for further instruction. Please notify your student's teacher by email or call the front desk at your child's school when your student is ill and will not be participating in classes in any learning model; Full In Person, Remote or Hybrid. If students who are Remote are able to participate in the classes, they may do so.

Should a student become ill while they are at School the following steps will be taken:

- If a student exhibits **ANY** of the above symptoms 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.
- Parents/Guardians **MUST** have their students picked up within **30 minutes** of contact by the School Nurse. **If your student is not picked up within 30 minutes and it is determined by the School Nurse that they are rapidly declining in health, the student will be transported via EMS 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 stays home or is sent home from school with any of the above symptoms, you will need to contact your Primary Care Physician for an appointment for COVID-19 testing and/or other diagnosis. A note from your Primary Care Physician **IS REQUIRED** for any student to return to school. If your student is required to stay home to quarantine and they are feeling well enough, they may continue learning with their remote cohort. If families choose not to be tested, symptomatic students may return to school **14 days from the start of symptoms** as long as their 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, they **MUST** remain home **at least 10 days** and until at least 24 hours has passed with no fever and improvement in all other symptoms. Additionally a note from your student's doctor will be required prior to their return to school.
- If your student has a **negative test** for COVID-19 and still has symptoms, they must remain at home until symptoms have resolved and they are fever free for 24 hours with no over the counter medication. Additionally a



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note from your student's doctor will be required prior to their return to school.

- If your student is in close contact with a person that has tested **POSITIVE** for COVID-19, your child **MUST** stay home for **14 days** following the last day of exposure to that positive COVID-19 person.
- The Mass DPH has mandated **all students in grades K-12 regardless of learning options (Full In Person, Hybrid or Remote)** receive the seasonal flu vaccine by **December 31, 2020**. This will be an **annual required vaccine** for **ALL** students going forward. Please contact your Primary Care Physician to make sure your student is up to date with this and other vaccinations. Please reach out to your School Nurse with any questions regarding these requirements.

These policies are subject to change due to ongoing recommendations and guidance from DESE, DP, and CDC. We will communicate that to you as quickly as we are able. Thank you for all your cooperation, patience, and dedication to supporting our efforts to maintain safety and wellness in our schools. We will continue to support you and are available to answer any questions, concerns and/or provide any clarification.

w. [Melissa Joubert](#), Elementary School Nurse [Wendy Piscitelli](#), Middle School Nurse [Sara Ramirez](#), High School Nurse
508-854-8400 ext. 3604 508-854-8400 ext. 2604 508-854-8400 ext. 4604