

PARENT/GUARDIAN LETTER FOR COVID-LIKE SYMPTOMS

Dear Parent(s) or Legal Guardian(s) of: _____

To protect the safety and health of students and staff, Florida Department of Health in Sarasota County (DOH-Sarasota) has COVID-19 exclusion guidance for schools that recommends sending home or denying entry of any student exhibiting symptoms/conditions consistent with COVID-19.

Today your child presented to the school clinic with the following symptom(s):

Section 1: Presenting symptoms:

- ☐ Temperature (100.4) or higher (SLA's morning temp check will remain at any temp over 99.7°)
- ☐ Sore throat
- ☐ New uncontrolled cough that causes difficulty breathing (for students with chronic allergic/asthmatic cough, a change in their cough from baseline);
- ☐ Diarrhea, Vomiting, or Abdominal Pain
- ☐ New onset of severe headache, especially with a fever
- ☐ Loss of taste or smell
- ☐ Other: _____

Section 2: Close Contact/ Potential Exposure:

- ☐ Had close contact (within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes) with a person with confirmed COVID-19
- ☐ Traveled to or lived in an area where the local, Tribal, territorial, or state health department is reporting large numbers of COVID-19 cases
- ☐ Live in areas of high community transmission while the school remains open

Please ensure your child meets the criteria below before returning to school.

Return to School Guidelines

☐	Student answers YES to any question in Section 1 and NO to Section 2	Student will be excused from school until symptom-free for 24 hours, without fever reducing medications.
☐	Student answers YES to any question in Section 1 and YES to any question in Section 2	Student should be referred to their health provider for possible testing. Students with negative test results may return once symptoms have improved in accordance with existing school illness management policies.
☐	Student diagnosed with COVID-19 OR answers YES to any question in Section 1 and answers YES to Section 2, without negative test results	Student can return to school if fever-free for 24 hours, without the use of fever-reducing medication AND symptoms have improved AND 10 days since symptoms first appeared.

For Positive COVID-19 test or Exposures, please follow up with DOH Sarasota at 941-861-2873 to obtain a return to school letter for your child.

If your child has emergency warning signs: trouble breathing, persistent pain or pressure in the chest, new confusion or inability to arouse, or bluish lips or face seek emergency care immediately.

Contact our School Nurse at lisa.cafarelli@sarasotacountyschools.net or call 941-485-5551 for any questions or concerns.