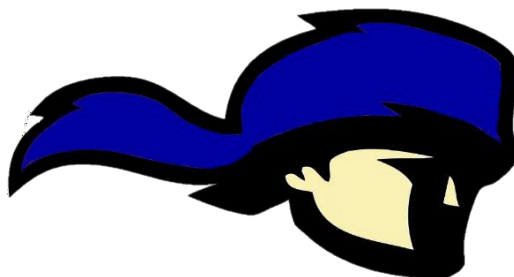




REOPENING PCSD

2021

Poughkeepsie City School District Contact Tracing and COVID-19 Testing Plan





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“We are champions of children who inspire and nurture the whole child by providing innovative, high-quality educational opportunities that prepare all students to embark on individual paths of success in a globally diverse community.”





Contact Tracing

COVID-19 remains a serious public health threat to the residents of Dutchess County, NY. Recently, the Governor of New York State has approved that both public and private K-12 schools will be able to open for the upcoming school year and was given guidance documents to develop plans to safely re-open with many COVID-19 mitigations. One of those mitigations is to have a plan for contact tracing when a positive case is reported in a school setting. The process for contract tracing in Dutchess County schools is described by the steps listed below:

1. **Report the confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19 to the Dutchess County Department of Behavioral and Community Health (DBCH)**

Nurse or designee from school to contact DBCH.

The Nurse or designee will have the following case information prepared:

- Demographic information required to begin investigation including full name, date of birth, and physical address;
- Guardian/caregiver information including full name, phone number, and email address
- Date of symptom(s) onset;
- Positive test date and healthcare provider, if available;
- Name and date of birth for each household member, if known and/or obtainable;
- Recent travel history within past 14 days and location(s);
- Last day student was in school;
- Names of potential contacts during 48 hours prior to symptom onset including classes, extracurricular activities; and Mode of transportation to and from school during past 48 hours prior to symptom onset. As a secondary contact for case reporting and other questions, schools may call the COVID Call Center at 845-486-3555.

2. **Index case (or proxy) will be interviewed by DBCH staff**

This is to ascertain the incubation period (14 days before the onset of symptoms or positive test) and exposure period (48 hours before symptom onset and or positive test) to elicit contacts.

3. **DBCH staff will interview contacts of index case as needed**

DBCH staff may require line lists with relevant contact information of potentially exposed individuals as well as clarify information based on the interview of the index. An exposure is defined by CDC guidelines. Each instance of exposure will require review and investigation by DBCH staff.

4. **DBCH to issue quarantine orders as needed**

Based on investigative activities those that are considered exposed will be notified to quarantine for 14 days. They will be entered into the NYS COVID-19 program and notified by NYS Contact Tracers and receive letters of quarantine. Schools may have already sent the individual home to begin the quarantine prior to the formal notice of quarantine.

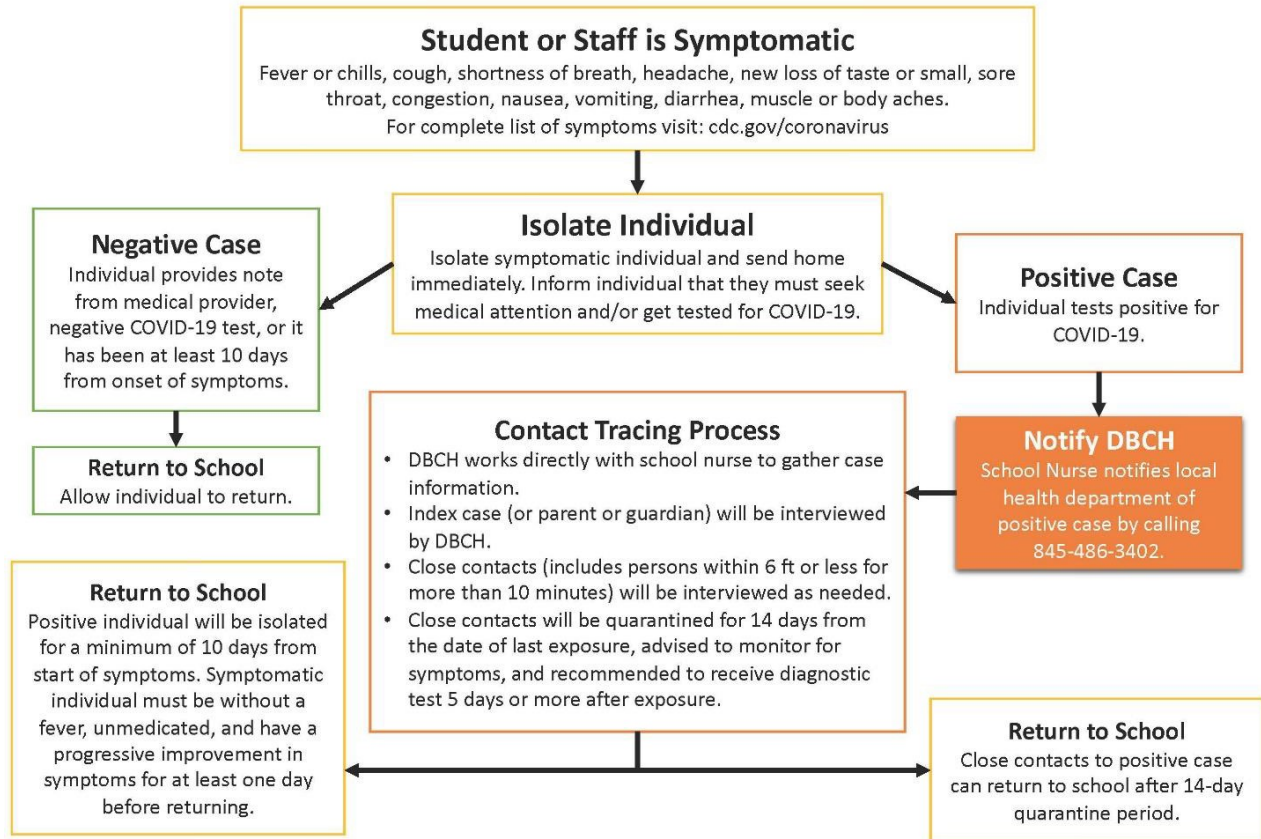
5. **Schools to communicate with parents and students**

The school may wish to communicate the positive case via a "Dear Parent" Letter to impacted groups or the district at large.



Dutchess County Workflow Contact Tracing Diagram

Dutchess County Protocol for Symptomatic or Positive COVID-19 Student or Staff



COVID-19 Testing

COVID-19 remains a serious public health threat to the residents of Dutchess County, NY. Recently, the Governor of New York State has approved that both public and private K-12 schools will be able to open for the upcoming school year and was given guidance documents to develop plans to safely re-open with many COVID-19 mitigations. One of those mitigations is to have a plan for COVID-19 testing for individuals in a school setting. Information about testing in Dutchess County is described below.

Symptoms of COVID-19

Symptoms of COVID-19 may appear 2-14 days after exposure and include: fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and diarrhea.

Types of COVID-19 tests

There are two different types of tests – diagnostic tests and antibody tests.

A diagnostic test can show if you have an active coronavirus infection and should take steps to quarantine or isolate yourself from others. Currently there are two types of diagnostic tests which detect the virus – molecular tests, such as RT-PCR tests, that detect the virus's genetic material, and antigen tests that detect specific proteins on the surface of the virus.

- An antibody test looks for antibodies that are made by your immune system in response to a threat, such as a specific virus. Antibodies can help fight infections. Antibodies can take several days or weeks to develop after you have an infection and may stay in your blood for several weeks or more after recovery. Because of this, antibody tests should not be used to diagnose an active coronavirus infection. At this time researchers do not know if the presence of antibodies means that you are immune to the coronavirus in the future.

How to be Tested for COVID-19

1. Contact your primary care physician to receive a prescription to visiting a testing site; or
2. Contact a testing site to schedule an appointment.

Testing sites in Dutchess County

Several sites have opened in Dutchess County offering diagnostic and/or antibody testing. Including:

- [CareMount Medical Group](#)
- [Emergency One UrgentCare](#)
- [MidHudson Regional Hospital](#)
- [Nuvance Health](#)
- [Pulse-MD Urgent Care](#)
- [Rite Aid Pharmacy](#)

The most up to date list of providers offering testing and the specific criteria for testing at each site is and will be maintained on Dutchess County's website at dutchessny.gov/coronavirustesting

Be sure to review and understand the full list of requirements for each site **BEFORE** visiting.



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