

## **SANB Respiratory Illness (COVID-19/Influenza/RSV) Response Plan 2023-24 School Year**

St Anthony New Bright Schools will continue to follow directions from public health authorities when it relates to contagious illnesses. Respiratory infections such as COVID-19, Influenza (and Influenza-like Illnesses), and RSV impact our schools due to illness absences of students and staff. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has recently (March 1, 2024) [updated their isolation directions](#) for those with COVID-19 to align with other respiratory illnesses.

### **If your student in grades K-12 tests positive for COVID-19, influenza, or RSV, OR has symptoms of influenza-like-illness (ILI) or gastrointestinal illness:**

- Parents/guardians should report the COVID-19, influenza, ILI, etc., case to their **school attendance line**, just as they would any other illness. (Please state the illness for our tracking purposes.)
  - Wilshire Park: 612-706-1204 [hsiggelkow@isd282.org](mailto:hsiggelkow@isd282.org)
  - St. Anthony Middle School: 612-706-1034 [msoffice@isd282.org](mailto:msoffice@isd282.org)
  - St Anthony Village High School: 612-706-1108 [mkurak@isd282.org](mailto:mkurak@isd282.org)
- **Students and staff should stay home when they are sick.**
  - They can return when they are fever free for 24 hours (without the use of fever-reducing medications) AND symptoms have improved. (\*See below for definition)
  - It is recommended that students and staff wear a mask for 5 days following these illnesses, especially if they will be near people who are susceptible to severe illness.
- Parents/guardians/staff may still consult the District Wellness Coordinator, Lori Watzl-King, RN, if they have questions or need advice regarding returning to school. [lwatzl-king@isd282.org](mailto:lwatzl-king@isd282.org).
- The nurse will not routinely be following up with each case of COVID-19.
- The Minnesota Department of Health has stated that they will continue to make at-home COVID-19 test kits available to schools through the end of this school year, so parents/guardians/staff can still access these by contacting health services.
  - Health Office Wilshire Park: 612-706-1205
  - Health Office SAMS/SAVHS: 612-706-1107
  - Lori Watzl-King, RN, LSN: 612-706-1263, 612-706-1077, [lwatzl-king@isd282.org](mailto:lwatzl-king@isd282.org)

### **For children who attend All Day Preschool, Half Day Preschool, or ECFE at St. Anthony Community Services, please call 612-706-1166 to report your child's absence.**

- If your child's absence is due to a confirmed illness such as COVID, Influenza, Strep, etc., contact our staff so we can implement notification procedures, required by the Department of Human Services, to inform families the illness has been confirmed in their child's classroom.

We will report to MDH when/if 10% of our students (in one school) are absent due to [COVID-19](#), [influenza](#), [influenza-like-illness \(ILI\)](#), [RSV](#), or [gastrointestinal illness](#) (nausea, vomiting, diarrhea).

We cannot know how COVID-19 will change in the future. Large outbreaks of COVID-19 or influenza could result in further communication or changes in our communicable diseases plan.

Questions can be directed to Lori Watzl-King RN, LSN, District Wellness Coordinator [lwatzl-king@isd282.org](mailto:lwatzl-king@isd282.org).

\*Symptoms Improved: A person feels well and is able to return to normal activities. Any lingering symptoms such as a cough or runny nose should be mild or infrequent.