



School Administrative Unit 21

August 23, 2020

2 Alumni Drive
Hampton, NH 03842
603-926-8992
sau21.org

Dear SAU 21 Parents and Guardians,

Thank you for entrusting us with the health care of your child(ren). We have become an incredibly important team - you, your child(ren), and the school staff can work together to make this school year be the best it can be during this very difficult pandemic.

Here are a few important thoughts we would like to share:

- If your child has a diagnosis of a chronic health condition, that has one or more symptoms in common with COVID-19, please provide the school nurse with documentation from his/her healthcare provider **BEFORE** the start of the school year.
- Without this information, documented in your child's school health record, we will be required to send your child home for any symptom known to be a symptom of COVID-19.

Moreover, please have your child's healthcare provider send in documentation of the diagnosis and the typical symptoms your child may experience.

- If your child presents with symptoms that are typical for their diagnosis, the school nurse will treat him/her, if possible. If he/she responds to the treatment and **shows no other signs of illness**, the nurse will allow your child to return to class.
- For example, a student has a diagnosis of asthma has shortness of breath, but no fever or loss of taste/smell, etc. Their breathing improves with correct use of an inhaler. The nurse may assess that your child may return to class.
- If your child's symptoms do not resolve or are not typical symptoms for their diagnosis, we will contact you to pick your child up.
- If your child visits the school health office with symptoms that you know are due to a chronic condition, but you have not provided the school nurse with the required documentation from their healthcare provider, we will have to contact you to pick your child up.

If your child is sent home for any symptom listed as a possible COVID-19 symptom, there are a couple of possible options available for your child to return to school.

- Contact your child's health care provider. Your child should be tested for COVID-19. They need to remain quarantined until the results return. They may return to school after the negative results are sent to the health office for the school nurse to review for return to school approval.
- If you choose to not meet with a health care provider, your child will need to isolate for 10 days, and remain symptom free for the 24 hours prior to returning to school (no fever, cough, etc.) without any fever-reducing medication.

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South Hampton

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If your child has preventative medication (allergy medication, asthma medication or other preventative medication), it would be helpful to use it as directed, by his/her PCP, to aid in preventing symptoms that might be confused with COVID-19.

We recognize that this is a lot of information, and can be confusing, so do not hesitate to contact your school nurse with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

The Nurses of SAU 21

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