



# COMSEWOGUE SCHOOL DISTRICT CONTACT TRACING & TESTING PROTOCOLS

2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR

Below are the contact tracing and testing protocols that Comsewogue School District will use during the COVID-19 pandemic. Please read the protocols carefully and thoroughly. [Information from the Suffolk County Department of Health can be found here.](#)

## CONTACT TRACING

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The Suffolk County Department of Health (SCDOH) is responsible for case investigation and contact tracing in Suffolk County and will support the District with contact tracing. The District will support case investigation and contact tracing efforts by confirming attendance, sharing rosters, and providing any necessary data requested by the agency. The SCDOH typically completes case investigations within 24 hours of receipt of a positive test result.

The District will notify the school community while investigations are underway. The SCDOH provides isolation or quarantine orders to all cases and contacts in Suffolk County. In addition, those under isolation or quarantine will be monitored daily by the SCDOH. When the isolation or quarantine period has ended, a letter from the SCDOH confirming release will be provided to each case and contact. Students and/or staff must provide this letter to their school district in order to return.

COVID-19 test results will come, in most cases, to the SCDOH through the NYS Electronic Clinical Lab Reporting System (ECLRS). If during a case interview the SCDOH identifies an involved student is in school, the SCDOH will reach out to the school administration to inform them of the positive case and conduct contact tracing. If a rapid antigen test is used, the student/family may get the result before the SCDOH. In that situation, the SCDOH will expect the medical office that ordered the test to reach out to them. Case investigation/contact tracing would then proceed after the SCDOH is notified. Contact tracing and quarantining of close contacts is only initiated upon receipt of a positive test result. In addition, only contacts of the case are quarantined, not contacts of contacts.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FROM SCDOH REGARDING TRACING & TESTING

- If the spouse of a faculty member presents with a positive COVID-19 test, the employee would be considered a close contact of the spouse, and would be subject to quarantine for 14 days from date of last contact with the spouse. The employee may return to work after completion of the quarantine period; no test is necessary unless the employee develops symptoms.
- If a faculty member who has widespread access to the building tests positive for COVID-19, the faculty member will be placed under home isolation; if anyone meets the definition of a close

contact with that faculty member, the close contact(s) will quarantine for 14 days. The faculty member may return to work after 10 days of isolation provided that person remains fever-free for the last 72 hours before return without the use of fever-reducing medications and so long as their symptoms (if any) are improving.

- If a parent is notified that he/she tested positive for COVID-19 after the child left the house for the bus stop, already arrived at school, and is in class, the student will be held in the isolation room to be sent home to quarantine. The child is not a case at that point, and therefore there is no action that needs to be taken for any of the other persons mentioned. The SCDOH will not quarantine a contact of a contact.
- If an elementary student tests positive for COVID-19 and the students within the class/cohort remained socially distant or were wearing masks when less than 6 feet apart, the decision to quarantine would be decided on a case-by-case basis. The SCDOH may advise that all of the students in that class/cohort be considered close contacts and be placed on quarantine. If all were wearing face coverings when not 6 feet apart and practicing social distancing, the likelihood that further positive cases are identified from that cohort is minimal.
- The SCDOH strongly recommends that close contacts be tested for COVID-19. Students and staff should consult their medical provider for guidance.
- Students and staff with symptoms of illness should not attend school. It is recommended that individuals and/or families consult their medical provider to determine if COVID-19 testing is warranted. You may return to school with either: a written doctor's note stating that it is safe to return to school, a negative COVID-19 test or after the quarantine days are completed. Note: notification and contact tracing is initiated upon receipt of a positive COVID-19 test result. No action is taken for suspected cases.
- Students and staff who test positive for COVID-19 should follow the established Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)/New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) guidelines for ending isolation. All residents who test positive are monitored daily by the SCDOH contact tracing staff and will receive a letter from the SCDOH confirming release from isolation.

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON NYSDOH CONTACT TRACING PROCEDURES**

If an individual has a positive test for COVID-19, a Contact Tracer from the SCDOH will connect you with the support and resources you may need through quarantine, such as help getting groceries or household supplies, childcare, medical care or supplies. The Tracer will work with you to identify and reach out via phone and text to anyone you have been in contact with while you were infectious to trace and contain the spread of the virus.

- Your caller ID will say "NYS Contact Tracing" (518-387-9993).
- If you get a call from "NYS Contact Tracing" (518-387-9993), PLEASE answer the phone.
- Answering the phone will keep your loved ones and community safe.
- A contact tracer will:
  - NEVER ask for your Social Security number
  - NEVER ask for any private financial information
  - NEVER ask for credit card information
  - NEVER send you a link without proper authentication procedures

# HELPFUL RESOURCES ON CONTACT TRACING

<https://www.coursera.org/learn/covid-19-contact-tracing?edocomorp=covid-19-contact-tracing>

<https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/new-york-state-contact-tracing>

[https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2020/05/13114\\_covid19\\_contacttracing\\_051420\\_0.pdf](https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2020/05/13114_covid19_contacttracing_051420_0.pdf)

## TESTING

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The District will assist families, students, and staff with COVID-19 testing as necessary. The District will work closely with the SCDOH to support testing.

Individuals who have questions regarding eligibility or access for testing should call the New York State COVID-19 Hotline at 1-888-364-3065 or visit the [NYSDOH website](#). Please call the testing site or your health care provider before you go for testing.

If you go to a test site run by New York State, there is never any charge for your test. If you go to a test site operated by local governments, private companies including pharmacies and medical practices or not-for-profit organizations, you are advised to check with the testing site and your insurer in advance of being tested to confirm you will not be responsible for any fees associated with your test.

Suffolk County has a comprehensive network of family health centers that serve the uninsured and underinsured. [More information can be found here](#).

In addition, [COVID-19 testing sites can be found here](#).

### LOCAL TESTING SITES

- City Urgent Care- Rocky Point
- Elsie Owens Health Center Urgent Care Clinic and Drive-thru
- Go Health Urgent Care - Port Jefferson Urgent Care Clinic
- Mather Hospital
- City Urgent Care- Port Jefferson Station
- PM Pediatrics Urgent Care – Selden
- Go Health Urgent Care Center – Riverhead
- LI Urgent Care – Manorville
- City Urgent Care- Selden
- Rite Aid Selden
- Suffolk County Riverhead Center Drive-thru
- Pro HEALTH Urgent Care – Riverhead