

YWCA Richmond

Sprout School COVID-19 Student Policy Update Effective May 16, 2022

Dear Sprout School Parents,

The Sprout School remains committed to keeping our school community safe and healthy, and as we have learned over the past two years, there will be periods of time that cases of COVID-19 decrease, and times when they increase, as this disease mutates to new variants. We continue to work with the Virginia Department of Health to incorporate its guidance with regard to childcare centers. Until there is a viable vaccine for children under the age of 5, we will remain diligent in updating our policies as needed.

Therefore, please see below for our current policy regarding COVID-19 exposure and/or illness for students at the Sprout School. Also, please know that we reserve the right to change this policy as needed and will communicate those changes to you at least three days in advance of implementation.

Covid Exposure

Your child has been exposed if they have:

- Been within 6 feet of a person who has COVID-19 for a total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period, or
- Had direct exposure to respiratory secretions (e.g., being coughed or sneezed on, sharing a drinking glass or utensils, kissing), or
- Been living with a person who has COVID-19.

If your child has been exposed at home, you need to inform your Sprout School Center director immediately and follow the guidelines below.

If your child has been exposed at school, your center director will let you know via the Remind app and/or by telephone as soon as we learn of the exposure.

Either way, if your child has been exposed, then the following procedures must be followed:

- You may choose to keep your child at home for 5 days and if they have not developed any symptoms, they may return to school on the 6th day, OR
- You may choose to observe our “Test to Stay” procedures, which are as follows:
 - You must do a rapid test at home for each of the 5 days and **if your child tests negative**, they can come to school that day. We will not be able to provide tests for children and a new test must be done each day.
 - You must write the date directly on the actual test result in permanent marker and provide a photo of the test result to your Center Director.
 - **If your child tests positive, they cannot come to school and must quarantine for 10 days.** After 10 days, they can return to school if they are symptom free and have a doctor’s note clearing them of illness.

Since it is difficult to project when we will be informed of a positive test/exposure, we may still need to close for one day, but it is our goal to be able to stay open safely. We will also need to close if too many of our staff test positive and we are unable to be in compliance with State licensing ratio regulations.

Remember, we all have a shared responsibility to our Sprout School students. Thank you for your commitment to keep our school community safe from COVID-19. Please reach out to Kathleen Eastman at Keastman@ywcarrichmond.org, if you have any questions or concerns along the way.