

Wellness Policies & Procedures (2022-23 School Year)

If you read nothing else, please just take a moment to re-engage with the reality that by joining GRCP you are part of a community. In this ecosystem we are codependent on each other to actively evaluate the physical and emotional readiness of a child to join the school setting every day. If the child you care for is showing signs or symptoms of being unwell please be conservative and keep them out of school.

Families receive two substitute sick days to use at their discretion monthly. When a family would like to use a sick day they should notify the Cooperative Director to adjust the student's schedule accordingly. Adjustments are dependent on staffing levels and alternative solutions may need to be considered. Sick days can only be used in substitute for additional school time and families will not receive tuition refunds in the event of illness or compensation for unused sick time at the EOY.

In order to prevent the spread of contagious diseases in our school, please keep your child home if they are showing any of the following symptoms:

- diarrhea and/or vomiting (within the previous 24 hours)
- fever (100 or greater, within the previous 24 hours)
- severe coughing
- consistently runny nose (not due to allergy)
- pink eye (conjunctivitis)
- blistered and/or infected skin patches
- head lice or nits

In the event that you drop the child you care for off at school exhibiting signs and/or symptoms of illness; or, return them after a sick event while still experiencing symptoms of that illness, expect to be contacted to pick your child up as soon as possible. Upon arrival, it is our norm to offer constructive feedback on how to evaluate these symptoms in alignment with the GRCP wellness policy in the future.

Patterns of repeated misjudgment after coaching will be evaluated, and teachers, the child's parents/guardians, and potentially select members of the Board, if appropriate, may meet to develop a plan for addressing the issue, listing a timeline for specific improvements. If problems persist beyond that timeline, the Board may suspend or expel the child from the program. Such action may be immediate and will be made at the Board's discretion. This action will be automatically triggered in the event that a family is contacted three times after mis-evaluating their child's wellness in alignment with the GRCP policy.

COVID Specific Policies

***Please note, these policies may change depending on updates to CDC guidance, local or regional guidance and transmission rates, and/or local outbreaks. Families will be given as much notice as possible and no less than 24 hours in the event of a policy change.**

Key Definitions

Quarantine - separates and restricts the movement of people who were exposed to a contagious disease to see if they become sick.

Isolation - separates sick people with a contagious disease from people who are not sick.

Fully Vaccinated - someone that is up to date with all COVID-19 vaccines and has received all doses in the primary series and all boosters recommended when eligible.

Large Gatherings - bring together many people from multiple households in a private or public space.

They are often planned events with a large number of guests and invitations. They sometimes involve lodging, event staff, security, tickets, and long-distance travel. They might be conferences, trade shows, sporting events, festivals, concerts, or large weddings and parties.

All definitions sourced from the CDC website and checked on 8/19/2022. These will be updated/verified quarterly unless a major change dictates a more immediate need.

1. Travel & Large Gatherings

GRCP recommends reviewing and following current CDC guidance related to domestic or international travel or large gatherings. As outlined, following a period of travel using public transportation or in the event that your family participates in a large gathering please take the conservative route and test prior to rejoining the GRCP community upon your return and/or in the event that the student develops signs and symptoms. Both antigen and/or PCR tests are acceptable.

2. Masks/Face Coverings

GRCP recognizes that masks are a tool to mitigate the spread of infectious diseases AND the ability of the student body to effectively don masks for an extended period varies greatly across ages, developmental levels, and individual preferences. Due to the prevalence of signs and symptoms of any active infection teachers may implement mask wearing at their discretion to mitigate spread at any time. Any anticipated mask mandates greater than a single day will be communicated to GRCP members.

3. Signs and Symptoms of Active COVID Infection

Please refer to the current CDC guidance in the event that your child tests positive or you suspect an active infection and follow the procedure for quarantine or isolation. **As of 8/22/2022 the calculator is offline due to CDC updates. When it comes back online it is an excellent tool to dictate the next steps in the event of suspected or confirmed active infection.**

As of 8/11/2022 quarantine is no longer required for close contacts. That said, we thank you in advance for using your judgment as a caregiver and sometimes choosing to take the more conservative route by keeping the child you care for at home or taking a moment before drop off to administer another antigen test. An example of this might be if everyone else in your household has a confirmed active infection.

Please note; as mask efficacy is unreliable as a blanket management strategy for GRCP students due to developmental levels, students must remain out of school until **either** of the following criteria are met:

1. Seven days (five days plus 2 antigen tests spaced 48 hours apart) following a confirmed test or symptom onset (day 0 is the day of the positive test and/or the day of symptom onset). Specifically:

Day 0: day of the positive test result and/or symptom onset

Days 1 - 5: Practice isolation. The student must remain out of school during this time.

Day 5: administer the first antigen test if the student is symptom and fever free without the use of fever-reducing medication for the last 24 hours. If it is negative;

Day 7: administer the second antigen test 48 hours later. If it is negative the individual can return to school. Please submit all test results (a photo will do) to the GRCP Director prior to the student's return.

2. 10 days if you choose not to implement the above testing protocol and if all symptoms have resolved and they have been fever free without the use of fever-reducing medication for the last 24 hours.

For any active COVID infection please notify the GRCP Cooperative Director via email as soon as possible. All test results must be submitted to the Cooperative Director prior to the student's return to school.