

Coventry Public Schools
Launching into Healthy Learning
Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and
Continuity of Services Plan 2022-23

Coventry Public Schools is foremost dedicated to the health and safety of our students, staff, and families. We recognize that in-person learning provides the greatest benefit to children for their academic, social, emotional, and physical well-being. This plan is intended to help deliver in-person learning as safely and consistently as possible throughout the academic year. As the COVID-19 pandemic changes and transitions to become a more normal part of maintaining wellness in our communities, we will continue to adjust our response in accordance with the recommendations published by the Center for Disease Control (CDC), the State Department of Public Health (DPH), the Connecticut State Department of Education (SDE), and the Office of Early Childhood (OEC). We work closely with our local health department Eastern Highland Health District (EHHD) to monitor and respond to community transmission levels and any local outbreak as necessary. Coventry Public Schools plan for the 2022-23 academic year is in line with the above agencies recommendations including:

Implementing a Test-Mask-Go Strategy for Mild Illness

Regardless of an individual's vaccine status, the Department of Public Health recommends that a student may come to school if *all* of the following apply:

- Present with only *mild* respiratory disease symptoms such as infrequent cough, congestion, runny nose, sore throat, etc.
- Do not have a fever (temperature is less than 100°F) without using fever reducing medication.
- Test negative for COVID-19 prior to school every day of symptoms, and one final test on the day symptoms have completely resolved.
- Recommends that individuals wear a mask while symptomatic to prevent the spread of respiratory illness.

Informing Families When to Keep Students Home

Individuals with respiratory symptoms should not report to school if experiencing the following:

- A fever greater than 100°F within the last 24 hours.
- Vomiting or diarrhea within the last 24 hours. Although this may not be respiratory disease related, it may reduce the spread of other illnesses.
- Illness that does not allow full participation in the academic day.

Isolating for Individuals Positive for COVID-19

Any individual who tests positive for COVID-19 should complete isolation at home for at least 5 days and it is recommended that they wear a mask for an additional 5 days. Any positive cases must be reported to the school nurse who will advise return to in-person learning dates.

Additionally, the [CDC Q/I Calculator](#) may be consulted.

Student Wellness

As a district, it is imperative that we continue setting the conditions for a safe and supportive learning environment that promotes all students' academic, social, and emotional well-being. Coventry Public Schools will focus on addressing the varying needs of our students, identifying the resources and supports that foster the social and emotional well-being of students, and partnering with parents and families to support students' success in school. Staff will continue assisting students in developing positive relationships with teachers and peers that will position them for success along with instructing them in strategies related to their own resilience, which will be at the center of our approach to wellness and social and emotional learning.

Distributing COVID-19 Home Test Kits

COVID-19 self-test kits are available through your school nurse upon request, or by visiting [COVID.gov/tests](https://www.covid.gov/tests). If needed, please contact your child's school nurse for test kits.

Maintaining Cleaning/Disinfection Protocols

Intensive cleaning and disinfection practices remain in place. This includes frequent cleaning of high-touch classroom and common area surfaces, and the use of UV light sanitizing equipment nightly throughout the academic year.

Ensuring Proper Ventilation

Ventilation Systems in each school building will be maintained and operational to recommended standards as set by the Department of Public Health.

Reporting COVID-19 Cases

Positive COVID-19 case numbers will be reported to the Connecticut DPH for the purpose of monitoring community levels and managing outbreaks as necessary. In addition, bi-weekly notices will be sent to the parent community via the district's *SchoolMessenger* communication system.

Monitoring Community COVID-19 Transmission

The CDC monitors [COVID-19 Community Levels](https://www.cdc.gov/covid19/community-levels/) in each county throughout the country. In order to maximize in-person learning, Coventry Public Schools may implement additional mitigation measures based on these levels if advised by DPH or EHHD. More information can be found on these documents: [DPH/CSDE- Launching into Healthy Learning - Fall 2022](#); [DPH/CSDE Operational Strategies - Fall 2022](#)

Supporting Mask Wearing

Individuals may wear a mask to school either by choice or because they were advised to do so. Whether this is for a defined time period or for the duration of the year, Coventry Public Schools will support individuals wearing a respiratory face covering for these reasons and will not tolerate bullying.

The Department of Public Health Encourages Individual Vaccinations

Vaccinations are available for COVID-19 and influenza for everyone over the age of 6 months. All individuals are encouraged to receive recommended immunizations and boosters to help provide protection against contracting respiratory disease and to reduce the spread of illness in our community. Contact your family's health care provider or walk-in clinic to schedule vaccinations prior to the start of school. CDC COVID-19 vaccination information including where to find immunizations near you can be found here: [CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Information](#)