

## **Fully Vaccinated Staff with Positive Household Members or Close Contacts**

This policy applies to fully vaccinated SPS staff who either 1) have someone in their household who has recently tested positive for COVID-19 or 2) who themselves are a close contact to a positive case in the community.

SPS will follow the CDC and DESE guidelines on this issue:

- ASYMPTOMATIC fully vaccinated staff do NOT need to quarantine. They can return to school.
- Fully vaccinated staff should be advised to avoid contact with the positive household member as much as possible.
- Fully vaccinated staff should monitor themselves for symptoms for 14 days post-exposure. If symptoms develop, even a fully vaccinated individual should stay home and get a PCR test or rapid antigen test for COVID-19.

-if **positive**, the fully vaccinated staff member is considered a confirmed case and should isolate for a minimum of 5 days from symptom onset. Staff can return once symptoms have improved and there has been no fever (without the use of fever-reducing medication) for 24 hours.

-if **negative**, the fully vaccinated staff member can return to school if symptoms improve and he or she is fever free for 24 hours, without the use of fever-reducing medications such as acetaminophen or ibuprofen, or if a medical professional makes an alternate diagnosis.

The CDC also recommends that vaccinated individuals who are ASYMPTOMATIC get tested 5 days after exposure.

A free **PCR test** can be obtained at the Somerville Health & Human Services Department, 50 Evergreen Avenue, across from Winter Hill Community School. Special hours have been set aside for students and their families, but you will need to notify your School Nurse if you plan to go: Tuesdays, from 1-2 pm and Thursdays, from 3-4 pm. Later hours are available by appointment. For more information, please visit the city website: <https://www.somervillema.gov/covid19testing>.

In addition, there are test sites in other communities and home tests that can be sent overnight. Please visit the state website for more information: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/find-a-covid-19-test>.

**Fully vaccinated staff should continue to participate in weekly pool testing. They are non-eligible for the district's Test & Stay protocol.**

*Reviewed 12/30/21*