

SmartStart Day School Covid-19 Handbook

Welcome to SmartStart Day School. Our goal is to provide a safe environment for children that fosters physical, social, emotional, and cognitive development while still being COVID-19 safe. Because COVID-19 is extremely contagious and is spread mainly from person-to-person contact, SmartStart has put in place preventative measures, not limited to the list below, to reduce the spread of COVID-19. However, SmartStart cannot guarantee that you, or anyone you come in contact with, will not become infected with COVID-19.

Every family is required to self-monitor on a regular basis for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 (symptoms typically include fever, cough, and shortness of breath), get tested, quarantine and contact SmartStart as soon as symptoms start.

Drop Off and Pick Up

Parents are to drop off their children in their respective classrooms and remain outside the classroom. Please hand your child and their belongings to their teacher or place the child's belongings inside by the door.

Parents are to do a daily health check on their children and fill-out a health attestation each morning and either email it to the SmartStart director or bring a copy and hand it to their child's teacher.

The sign-in sheets are outside each classroom. Please bring your own pens if possible. SmartStart will also provide pens and sanitize in between uses. We will also sanitize the door knobs as often as possible.

Mask Policy

All children 2 and up are to be provided with two clean, labeled masks daily. SmartStart is committed to educating kids on the importance of mask-wearing and reminding them to wear their mask at all times. However, due to the nature of being a child, SmartStart cannot guarantee that all children will wear their mask at all times. All parents are required to wear a mask while on SmartStart grounds, indoor and outdoor. All staff are required to wear a mask while on SmartStart grounds, indoor and outdoor, except when eating or drinking.

During lunch and nap time, children will be spaced out as much as possible depending on classroom size and set-up.

Sick policy

Any child presenting a fever of 100.4 or higher will be isolated to a separate part of the classroom and sent home immediately for at least 24 hours.

If a child is presenting two or more of the following symptoms in 24 hours: diarrhea, vomiting, sore throat or runny nose, feeling unusually tired or lethargic, mouth sores, rashes, he/she will be sent home for 24 hours.

Once a child is sent home sick, he/she will need to present a negative COVID-19 test before coming back. If the child has tested positive to COVID-19 within the previous 3 months, he/she will not need to provide a negative result as this may be a false positive. The child will still need to stay home for at least 24 hours or longer if symptoms persist. Please do not give your child fever suppressing medicine before sending your child to school.

Covid-19 Testing Policy

Any child who is sent home sick will need to present a negative COVID-19 test upon coming back to school.

After a prolonged school closure or absence, each family will need to return to school with a negative COVID-19 test for everyone in their household. A prolonged school closure or absence is defined by a closure of 5 days or more, including weekend days.

Please see the Travel section for COVID-19 testing requirements regarding traveling out of the area.

Positive Cases

There are many circumstances of COVID-19 positive cases that may come up, below you will find some of them.

If an attending child or staff member tests positive for COVID-19, SmartStart will follow the King County Department of Health instructions regarding decisions of individual classrooms or school closures. Each family will need to present a negative COVID-19 test for their entire household before returning to SmartStart.

Any family that has a positive test result will need to email SmartStart their test results and quarantine for their recommended amount of time and fill out a health attestation before coming back.

If a household member of an attending child will test positive for COVID-19, please let us know immediately. SmartStart will isolate the child and wait for his/her immediate pick-up. SmartStart will inform everyone who came in contact with the child. The child will need to do a COVID-19 test immediately and quarantine for 14 days before coming back to SmartStart. If the child tested negative initially, the child will need to present a second negative COVID-19 test taken within 5 days prior to him/her coming back to SmartStart. SmartStart may temporarily close the classroom or the school, depending on the Department of Health recommendations.

If a household member of an attending child comes in contact with someone who tests positive please let us know immediately. SmartStart will inform everyone who came in contact with the child. The entire household needs to present a negative COVID-19 test before the child can come back to SmartStart.

SmartStart will consult and follow the King County Department of Health recommendations for any other circumstances of positive COVID-19 results.

Notification of Symptoms

If a child or staff member goes home with symptoms of shortness of breath, loss of smell, and/or loss of taste, everyone who came in contact with that person will be notified.

Travel

If a family travels out of state, you are required to return with a negative test result for everyone who has traveled in the household, before coming back to school.

If a family travels internationally or to a community in the U.S. that is experiencing a sustained spread of COVID-19, they will need to quarantine for 14 days and present a negative result before coming back to SmartStart. The test may not be taken any earlier than 5 days before the child's first day back.

FAQs

1) Does the whole family need to test negative in order to come back to school before a prolonged closure?

Yes, please. If the child tested negative but a family member tested positive, the child will need to quarantine for 14 days before coming back to SmartStart.

2) What kind of test will SmartStart accept? Anytime a test will be needed, we will accept the results from a PCR nasal swab test.

3) My household has been testing negative. When should we get our last Covid test before coming back to school?

SmartStart will accept a negative COVID-19 test done within 5 days before our first day back.

4) Do we need to send our test results?

Yes, please email Shonny a copy of your test result at shonny.figures@smartstartschool.net within 5 days of re-opening. If you already let us know you tested positive, and have been quarantining, please make sure you emailed us a copy of your positive test result.

3) My child tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 3 months. Will he/she need a negative COVID-19 test if he/she is sent home sick?

Because kids who already tested positive can keep testing positive for up to 3 months following their original test, without being infectious, they are not required to bring in a negative test if they are sent home sick. We will be following our usual protocol of having kids stay home for at least 24 hours or until symptoms clear up.

3) My child tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 3 months. Will he/she need a negative COVID-19 test after a prolonged closure/absence or after traveling?

Because kids who already tested positive can keep testing positive for up to 3 months following their original test, without being infectious, they are not required to bring in a negative test after a closure/absence or after traveling. They will still need to sign a health attestation before coming back and quarantine per our travel policy.

4) Some of our household members have already been vaccinated. Do they still need to get tested?

If someone tests positive at school SmartStart

will require only one negative test from fully vaccinated household members. Our international/high COVID-19 area travel policy will also apply to fully vaccinated parents.