



Notification Letter to Parents/Guardians Regarding COVID-19 Exposures at School

January 18, 2022

Dear Learning Pathways parents or guardians,

Due to the recent coronavirus Omicron variant surge, with guidance from the California Department of Public Health and with the support of the Santa Clara County Public Health Department, it has been determined that this general notification to parents/guardians of COVID-19 exposure is the preferred notification procedure at this time. This process is designed to alleviate the administrative burden of individual or smaller group notifications and provide for a pragmatic testing cadence for the education community. Along with this general notification is the expectation that all students and staff should test once a week. This can serve as the protocol effective today and through at least February 11, 2022.

The health and well-being of the students and staff of Learning Pathways continues to be one of our highest priorities. We are dedicated to maintaining the best learning experience possible while protecting the safety of our students and staff. For the majority of children, the risks from COVID-19 infection are outweighed by the known social and mental health harms of remote learning, even during the current Omicron surge.

On January 12, 2022, the California Department of Public Health released revised guidance for TK-12 settings in which they identified alternative approaches to contact tracing and quarantine. In the event of wide-scale and/or repeated exposures, as we have been experiencing during the current Omicron surge, once weekly testing may be implemented in lieu of traditional exposure notification and contact tracing. This approach makes sense during the height of the Omicron pandemic given that frequent exposures are occurring in school and outside of school, in the community, where exposures are not or cannot be communicated.

Therefore, between January 18, 2022 and February 11, 2022, we will NOT be sending individual close contact notifications. Instead, we will focus on encouraging weekly testing of all students and staff. We will update you when this protocol changes in accordance with fewer exposure events or additional guidance from local and state public health authorities.

Learning Pathways will continue to follow our strict safety protocols, including masking and proper ventilation, to further reduce the risk of in-school COVID-19 transmission.

What does this mean for you and your child?

- Your child and your child's teachers may remain in school unless they develop symptoms or test positive for COVID-19. Being exposed to somebody with COVID-19 does not necessarily mean that your child or your child's teacher will become infected. Vaccination and wearing a mask can reduce the chance of infection even if exposed.
- Your child should be tested for COVID-19 once a week. By testing weekly, anyone who has a COVID-19 infection can be identified, even if they do not have symptoms. To access weekly testing resources, contact your health care provider or find a community testing site near you. Also, any FDA-approved over-the-counter (at-home) tests may also be used. Note that, if your child tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 90 days, antigen testing (vs. PCR) is recommended.
- If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19 or tests positive for COVID-19, please make sure they isolate at home immediately and notify us right away. When you notify us, we can take additional steps to keep our school community safe.
- Your child must continue to wear a mask indoors in the school and community per school, local, and state requirements. Follow school policies to protect against COVID-19. High quality masks with the best fit and filtration will provide the best protection for your child and the school community.
- If you haven't done so yet, your child should get vaccinated against COVID-19. If your child is 5 years of age or older, please schedule a vaccination appointment as soon as possible. If your child is 12 years of age or older, a booster dose is recommended five months after the second dose. A COVID-19 vaccination remains the best way to protect against the spread of the virus and against severe disease. Make an appointment to get vaccinated or contact your child's doctor or healthcare provider to learn more.

Please contact us if you have questions or concerns.

Call us at 408-559-7284, email us at office@learningpw.com, or visit our website www.learningpw.com for updates.

As always, thank you for your consideration and cooperation.

My very best to you and your families,

Todd Becker (Mr. Todd)

Owner

Learning Pathways Preschool and Kindergarten