

Good Afternoon Families,

Many of us have school aged children who have returned to face to face learning this school year. The current data shows COVID-19 is affecting children more now than earlier in the pandemic. Many schools are quarantining classrooms. If you have a school aged child who is in quarantine due to a direct exposure, your younger child may not attend TCS during the school aged child's quarantine period. If your child who is enrolled at TCS has a direct exposure to COVID -19 they must quarantine for 14 days prior to returning to school at TCS.

We have updated our policy regarding testing of unvaccinated staff. All unvaccinated staff are to be tested for COVID-19 weekly. This is for asymptomatic individuals and for screening purposes only. All staff vaccinated and unvaccinated, who have symptoms related to COVID-19 or who have had a direct contact must be tested.

In addition to COVID-19, we know that RSV is currently spreading in the community. For more information on RSV, please visit <https://www.cdc.gov/rsv/index.html>. Please keep your children home if they are sick or if anyone in the household is sick. Working together we will continue to do our best in maintaining a healthy and safe environment for our children.

Updated Sick Child Policy

If a child has any of the following symptoms, they must be excluded from the child care setting after 48 hours of being fever and symptom-free and receiving a negative COVID-19 test.

- Cough
- Sore Throat
- Muscle Aches
- Difficulty Breathing
- New Loss of Taste or Smell
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Headache
- Fever at or above the threshold temperature of **100.4° F** (including temperatures that would meet this criteria, if not for the use of fever-reducers). *The threshold temperature is **100.4° F**, unless a LOWER threshold temperature is imposed in the local jurisdiction or by the specific center.*

If a child has one symptom alone such as: pink eye, sneezing, or rash, student may return 24 hours after symptoms resolve with a doctor's note and after taking antibiotics, if prescribed. If antibiotics are not prescribed, the child may return 24 hours after symptoms resolve with a doctor's note. If a child has two or more of the symptoms listed above, the child may return 48 hours after symptoms resolve with a doctor's note.

Updated Guidance on Child Exclusion for a Runny Nose (exclusion period reduced from 72 hours to 24 hours): If a child has the symptom of a **runny nose ALONE** (without a fever, another COVID-19 related symptom, or chest congestion), the child should be excluded for 24 hours and can return with a doctor's note stating the cause of the runny nose. If the cause is viral or bacterial; i.e., a cold or ear infection, the note will be good for two weeks (unless new symptoms develop.) If the cause is allergies, the note will be good for 60 days (unless new symptoms develop.)

Be well,
Natalie Feagin
Executive Director
www.thecliftonschoo.org