

Dear Families,

Our current policy requires that if your child has COVID-19 they can return to school after 10 days of isolation if they are symptom-free. We follow this practice because young children cannot strictly adhere to masking for the second 5 days of the isolation period. In addition, there are times throughout the day when none of the children wear masks in the classroom. These times include meals, naps, and outside play.

However, the CDC provides guidance for removing masks sooner than day 10 with two sequential negative tests. The guidance states:

- If you have access to antigen tests, you should consider using them. With two sequential negative tests 48 hours apart, you may remove your mask sooner than day 10. [Click here](#) to learn more about the guidance.

Therefore, if your child (2 years+) is in isolation, they can test after day 5 and return to school on days 8 or 9, if they have two sequential negative tests 48 hours apart and are symptom-free without the use of fever-reducing medications. This would allow your child to return to school before day 10.

We must receive a photo of both tests with the date written on the actual test cassette. Please see the attached photo for an example.

Be well,  
Natalie Feagin  
Executive Director  
[www.thecliftonschoool.org](http://www.thecliftonschoool.org)