

WA Department of Health

<https://doh.wa.gov/emergencies/covid-19>

We now know that COVID-19 is here to stay for the foreseeable future. It's important to understand how to live our lives while keeping ourselves, loved ones and community as safe as possible. How can we do that? By using all the tools we've learned so far: getting vaccinated and boosted, getting tested and staying home if sick or exposed, wearing a mask in crowds, and keeping our distance.

Staying Home When Sick: Children experience many respiratory illnesses, as well as other childhood illnesses, which may prevent them from attending childcare. Frequent respiratory symptoms may lead to young children staying home more often and/or getting tested to prevent the spread of infections to others. Childcare providers are required to send home or isolate from children in care ill individuals with symptoms such as fever, vomiting, diarrhea, or other symptoms listed in WAC 110-300-0205.

Please see the Isolation and Quarantine Calculator for assistance.

The Shyne School

We don't take the decision to close lightly; our goal is always to have the least amount of disruption to care as possible. We work hard to keep covid from crossing our doorway so we do not have an outbreak that will mean teachers get covid and we must close a classroom. Childcare providers may choose to implement more protective policies than what is provided in DOH's guidance. I confer with teachers, other parents and read and re-read the WA Department of Health policies until I feel I understand the science and how to keep our school healthy. You can start symptoms and test negative for a few days but test positive day 3 to 5 of symptoms. If you have symptoms, a new slight runny nose, TEST!

Covid Exposure in your Home: We ask that if you have a positive Covid test in your home that you isolate away from school for 5 days. Exposure is the day of first symptoms or positive test, day "0", Isolate 5 days and test day six and if there is a positive test result, they need to quarantine for 5 to 10 days, until they have two consecutive negative tests (12 hrs. apart) to return to school.

Covid Exposure in the Classrooms: We will not close the classroom for exposure. We will send out a Health Alert. Any children with exposure will need to stay home if they have symptoms and test day three and day five. (Day "0" is the day of exposure). If a child has a positive case, they will need to quarantine for 5 to 10 days or until two consecutive negative tests (12 hrs. apart) to return to school. No symptoms they can continue to attend school, and test day 3 and 5.

Free Covid Tests: <https://sayyescovidhometest.org/> you can order these free every month.

We understand that parents pay high tuition and then need to keep their children home if they are sick or contagious (or had exposure), to isolate/quarantine for illnesses such as covid, for the good of our community. We ask parents to agree to this commitment when joining the Shyne School.

Full day families: We have 7-8 extra days built into our calendar each year. We may have to close due to unforeseen issues for maintenance or snow/storms. We know parents will need to keep ill children home. We only provide care for healthy students. In addition to free extra days each year, families here Sept to Aug receive a one-week vacation credit. This is more generous than other local schools.