

Dear Talbot Park Preschool Families,

The VDH has recently updated the COVID guidelines for child care centers. We have attached the updates for your viewing. The preschool board approved that starting 07/25/2022, we will be following the new VDH guidelines. However, we will not be using the test to stay in all situations. Here are the new updates. Thank you for your understanding as we navigate this.

COVID-19 Policies
Talbot Park Baptist Preschool and Daycare
Updated July 25th, 2022

Masks: In general masks are not routinely recommended in these settings, indoors or outdoors, except during isolation as specified below. Any individual who wishes to continue to mask, including those who face higher risk from COVID-19, may do so as an option. Masking is never recommended in these settings while the individual is eating, drinking, sleeping, or for children under the age of 2. If a staff member or visitor in the building has any covid like symptoms even if they test negative will be asked to wear a mask during symptoms as well as if they have had an exposure.

Isolation and Quarantine Guidance

- Symptomatic persons (regardless of vaccination status) should begin isolation at home and undergo testing as recommended by their healthcare providers. The day symptoms began should be counted as day 0.
- Persons who test positive (regardless of vaccination status) should isolate themselves at home for at least 5 days. If they are asymptomatic or symptoms are resolving and they have been fever-free for 24 hours, they may return to programming after Day 5, provided:
 - If the individual is able to mask, they should do so through Day 10.
 - If the individual is unable or unwilling to mask during this time (including children under age 2), VDH recommends a negative test on or after Day 6 in order to return to programming OR the person should remain home through day 10.
 - Schools with the resources to do so may consider offering rapid testing on-site to symptomatic individuals and/or distributing at-home rapid antigen test kits for testing at home. If a student has becomes sick at school, arrange for the student to be picked up, while the student waits in a separate isolation room/area.
- For exposed but asymptomatic persons (regardless of vaccination status), quarantine is no longer recommended for the above settings. These individuals may continue to attend programming as long as they remain asymptomatic. For 10 days after an exposure if a child that was exposed continues to attend school, but starts to show any COVID-19 symptoms they will need a negative test to return.

o Exposure is defined as being within 6 feet of a person who has COVID-19 for a total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period, or having direct contact with respiratory secretions from an infected person.

- **Exposure in the home:**

If a student or staff person in this group has ongoing household exposure to a person with COVID-19, the student must isolate for 5 days during the family members quarantine time and then must test on day 6 and provide a negative test before returning to school. Then test on day 10 to make sure the child is not asymptomatic. They do not need to test on day 7, 8, and 9 as long as they are experiencing no symptoms.

These policies are not all inclusive and there may be times that the health department supersedes these in specific situations. Also if there is an outbreak among staff, we may need to quarantine the class in order to have time for staff to return to work.

The following documents are resources from the VDH:

<https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/see-the-numbers/covid-19-data-insights/cases-among-children/> <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/protect-yourself/exposure/>

<https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/protect-yourself/isolation-quarantine/>

<https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/content/uploads/sites/182/2022/01/K-12-COVID-19-Parent-Flowchart.pdf>