

## 3/16/22 HPS COVID Guidance and Protocols

### **Masks:**

- Masks are optional in schools and buses based upon currently low-infection rates in the area and updated guidance from the NYSDOH and Governor Hochul.
- Masks can still be worn by individuals that feel more comfortable wearing one.
- Masks are required for individuals that test positive for COVID-19 when returning from isolation on days 6 -10.
- Masks are strongly recommended for individuals with a known exposure to COVID-19. It is recommended that a mask is worn for 10 days, and testing occurs on day 5.

### **COVID-19 Testing:**

- If you are experiencing COVID-19 like-symptoms, please stay home and test. All results need to be submitted to the portal on the district's website using this link: [Student COVID Test Reporting](#) or email the COVID Coordinator, Gail Hunker at [ghunker@hicksvillepublicschools.org](mailto:ghunker@hicksvillepublicschools.org).
  - Test results can be obtained from a testing facility or using a home test kit.
  - Home test kits need to have the child's initials and date written on the kit.
  - All results are to be uploaded to the portal or email to Gail Hunker.
- If you test positive for COVID-19, you are required to stay home in isolation for 5 days and may return to school masked for days 6 -10.
- If you have been exposed to COVID-19 as a close contact it is strongly recommended you test on day 5.
- If you need a COVID-19 home test kit, you can pick one up in your child's school building. Additionally, the Hicksville Aquatic Center is still open for testing members of the community by appointment.
  - COVID-19 test kit and testing location resources can be found on the district's website link: [2021-2022 RETURN PLAN & COVID-19 RESOURCES](#).

### **Close Contact and Notification:**

- Quarantining is no longer required for those individuals that have been exposed to another individual that has tested positive for COVID-19.
  - Those exposed should be monitored rather than being placed in quarantine with the updated guidance from the state.
- The district will continue to notify families in which the individual is exposed to someone who had tested positive for COVID-19.
- Potential exposure does not indicate that there was direct close contact between your child and the positive case.
- The district continues to post the daily positive COVID-19 data on the district's website, which is located on the COVID-19 Positive Case Tracker.
  - Results can be viewed with this link: [COVID-19 Positive Case Tracker](#).