



Concord Christian Academy Illness and Exclusion Policy

Although some illnesses do not require exclusion, there are instances where an illness requires a student to be excluded from school to prevent the spread of infection and to allow the child time to rest and recover. When making the decision to send a child home, please understand that we must take into consideration your child's health as well as that of the other children, staff, and faculty. In addition, COVID-19 presents a different set of circumstances for the 2020-'21 school year. All exclusion criteria have been obtained from the most recent guidance from the Centers for Disease Control, The National Association of School Nurses, and most importantly, the NH Department of Health and Human Services. Please remember that as more is understood about COVID-19, or circumstances change within our local community or school itself, our policy may be updated to reflect better guidance of which CCA will make every effort to be forthcoming with these changes. Accommodations for remote learning will be made available to every student experiencing a period of extended absence related to COVID-19. Please read the five potential scenarios below in which exclusion from school is mandated by CCA.

Scenario One: All Faculty, Staff, and Students MUST stay home if exhibiting any *new or *unexplained symptoms of COVID-19 infection EVEN IF MILD:

- Fever of 100 degrees F or higher
- Chills
- Muscle or body aches
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

**A person with a history of migraines, allergies, asthma, etc. may not be excluded, only if symptoms are consistent in presentation with documentation of a pre-existing medical condition and correlating typical presenting symptoms on file in the health office. These situations will be addressed on an individual basis with communication between school nurse, parent, and healthcare provider. Medical documentation*

may be requested by the school nurse to allow for re-admittance to school if other diagnosis is confirmed for an individual.

The Individual MUST stay home from school until the following criteria are met:

- Written documentation is provided of a negative PCR or antigen test result ([in accordance with NH DHHS guidance](#)) AND person is fever-free, without fever-reducing medication, for at least 24 hours and other symptoms are improving.

OR

- Individual provides written medical documentation that specific symptoms are chronic (not new) and part of a pre-existing medical condition.
- If symptoms are new and testing is not conducted, the individual will be treated as a suspected COVID-19 infection and allowed to return to school after [CDC criteria](#) are met:
 - At least 10 days have passed since symptom onset and
 - At least 24 hours have passed since resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and
 - Other symptoms have improved.
- Medical or public health documentation must be provided that self isolation requirements have been met.

Scenario Two: All Faculty, Staff, or Students who report close contact in the prior 14 days with someone who is confirmed to have COVID-19 must stay home from school until the following criteria are met:

- Individual must self-quarantine for 14 days from last exposure, and provide medical or public health documentation that quarantine has been met. An individual cannot test out of a 14-day self-quarantine.

Scenario Three: All Faculty, Staff, or Students who report close contact in the prior 14 days with someone who is suspected to have COVID-19 must stay home from school until the following criteria are met:

- If person suspected of COVID-19 undergoes PCR or antigen testing (in accordance with NH DHHS guidance) and result is negative, individual in close contact may return to school.
- If suspected case is not tested, the individual in close contact should self-quarantine for 14 days from last day of exposure to the individual, unless otherwise specified by NH DPHS.

Scenario Four: All Faculty, Staff, and Students who have traveled outside of the New England States (NH, ME, CT, RI, MA, VT) in the prior 14 days must stay home until the following criteria are met:

- Individual must self-quarantine for 14 days from last day of travel outside of New England. An individual cannot test out of 14-day self-quarantine in NH.

Scenario Five: All Faculty, Staff, or Students who test positive for COVID-19 must stay home until the following criteria are met:

- Individual with COVID-19 can return to school after [CDC criteria](#) are met, and provides medical or public health documentation that self-isolation requirement has been met.

- A follow-up negative test is not required for return to school.

Additional Requirements and Considerations:

If a student becomes symptomatic of COVID-19 during the school day, the following steps will be taken:

- A mask will be placed on the student covering both the nose and mouth.
- The student will be placed in a monitored private location.
- Parents will be notified immediately and a prompt pickup is expected. If a parent is not available, please make sure another emergency contact is readily available to pick up the student.

Communication of a Confirmed or Suspected case of COVID-19:

- All Faculty, Staff, and Student absences related to a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19 in the school community should be promptly and confidentially reported to the school nurse during school hours at 603-228-8888 ext 309 or after hours at malosa@concordchristian.org.
- CCA will coordinate communications of a confirmed case of COVID-19 with public health officials to notify faculty, staff and families, in accordance with proper legal and privacy rights in a timely manner.

Temporary exclusion is recommended when the student has any of the following conditions and does not exhibit any of the above COVID-19 symptoms. A licensed healthcare provider may determine the child's condition does not require exclusion and documentation of such should be provided to the health center:

- Rash: Do not send a child to school with a contagious or questionable rash. He/she will be sent home and a licensed healthcare provider's note will be required for re-admittance.
- Contagious infection requiring an antibiotic: Exclusion to extend for 24 hours after treatment has begun.
- Red, itchy, gooey eyes: If bacterial conjunctivitis, exclusion to extend for 24 hours after treatment has begun.
- Head lice: Exclusion to start at the end of day and extend until treatment has been completed. Please notify the school if you suspect your child has head lice.
- Mononucleosis: Exclusion as per doctor's recommendation
- Norovirus diarrhea and/or vomiting exclusion is required for 24 hours after symptoms resolve without medication; however, a 48 hour exclusion is recommended. A required 48 hour exclusion may be enforced during certain times of the year or if an outbreak occurs.

These lists are not all-encompassing and may be revised as appropriate. A licensed healthcare provider's re-admittance slip may be requested at the discretion of the Headmaster or school nurse. In the event of an outbreak of vaccine-preventable disease at Concord Christian Academy, the State Health Director may exclude unimmunized children from the school for his/her own protection. This exclusion will last until an incubation period from the last identified case of the communicable disease has passed as per the NH Religious Exemption form.

The school is required by law to report specific communicable disease, or suspicion of such, to the Public Health Department in accordance with NH Public Health Laws. A complete list with requirements for reporting can be found at: <https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dphs/cdcs/documents/reportablediseases.pdf>

The health of your child and readiness to learn are greatly intertwined. If your child does not meet any of the above criteria, but in general does not look well, we may ask you to come pick up your child until he/she is able to return to full participation in the classroom.

If a student is a driver and determined able to safely drive home, the school nurse or non-licensed assistive designee will place a phone call to the parent requesting verbal permission for the student to leave school. No student driver, regardless of age will be allowed to leave school due to illness without permission of the parent.

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