

# TA Prep Health and Safety Practices and COVID-19 Guidelines

## Face Masks

- All teachers, staff, students, and visitors will be required to wear face masks in the school building at all times. Masks are optional outdoors.
- We highly recommend using the N95 or KN95 masks or something that is comparable. We ask that all wear masks that are 2ply or greater and fit snugly over the mouth and nose. Cloth masks not acceptable unless double masking with surgical mask

**Masks with vents, bandanas, or gaiter facial coverings will not be allowed.**

- Additional masks **will not be provided** for teachers, staff, and students should they need a replacement. Please make sure to send an extra mask with your child. Students who come to school without a mask will not be able to enter the building.

## Limited Access

- Parents, guardians, and visitors will be allowed entry into the building on a limited basis.***
- All parents, guardians and visitors must check in the front office and obtain a visitor's pass.
- To speak with the business manager, principal or registrar please **make an appointment**.

## Hand, Bathroom, and Personal Hygiene Practices and Education

- Hand sanitizing stations have been set up throughout the building, classrooms, and offices.
- Handwashing will be encouraged throughout the day and required before and after lunch.
- Students will be instructed in proper mask wearing, proper handwashing, and how to properly cover their cough and sneeze.
- Students (teachers for lower grades) will wipe their own desks.

## School Supplies

- Each student will have a designated place to keep their own supplies.

## Lunch Procedures

- Students will eat in the cafeteria. Students ordering lunch will receive a boxed lunch.
- All lunches brought to school must be **PEANUT AND NUT FREE**.
- Students will be required to wash their hands before and after lunch.
- Sharing of food will not be allowed.

## Air Purification

- Air purifiers set up in classrooms and office areas to enhance air quality.

## Physical Education

There will be precautions in place to ensure students can have P.E. safely.

- Sanitizing equipment before and after use
- Maintaining social distance (as much as possible)
- Limiting shared use of equipment
- Modified game rules to help keep everyone safe
- Extra break times to recover
- More individual activities

## Illness Policy

Maryland state guidelines require that students MUST be fever free (less than 100 degrees) and without vomiting or diarrhea for 24 hours to attend school. Students should remain at home where they can rest comfortably and have the individual care that they require. Please do not send ill children to school after premedicating them with Acetaminophen or Ibuprofen.

If the student has a fever (greater than 100.4), frequent cough, vomiting, diarrhea or pain, they must stay home until they are 24 hours past the last episode of the symptoms mentioned below and without the aid of fever reducing or antidiarrheal medication. A note from your Health care provider will be requested to return to in person instruction.

If there are specific requests when a student returns to school, please provide a written Doctor's order from your Healthcare Provider to the office.

**Students must be picked up from school, 40 minutes from the time the school calls the parent or guardian. We will not be able to accommodate a delay in this process.**

## COVID-19 Guidelines

The symptom list for COVID-19 mimics common issues such as seasonal allergies and gastrointestinal upset. Parents must be in tuned to how their students are feeling each day before arrival to school. Please do not bring students to the school if they have mild to moderate symptoms of any kind.

The symptom list for children has expanded this year as several illnesses mimic the same symptoms of COVID-19. You should keep your student home if:

- They or anyone in your house is positive for COVID-19.
- You have any of the following symptoms:
  - Fever (100 or greater) or chills
  - Loss of taste or smell
  - Diarrhea or severe gastrointestinal upset
  - Cough or Runny nose
  - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
  - Moderate to severe headache
  - Vomiting
  - General malaise or feeling ill
  - Sore throat
  - Moderate to severe symptoms of seasonal allergies
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## Positive COVID-19 Cases

TA Prep will be following Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) updated guidelines regarding COVID-19 isolation and quarantine. In summary the guidance states the following:

- If a person tests positive for COVID -19 or have symptoms regardless of their vaccination status they should stay home up to 5 days from the positive test or onset of symptoms
- If a person has been exposed to someone with COVID -19 and have no symptoms they should stay home for up to 5 days
- If a person has been exposed to someone with COVID -19, but are fully vaccinated/boosted and have no symptoms they do not need to quarantine but monitor for symptoms and continue to mask, distance, test, etc.

As a result of this updated information and to continue to make the health and safety of our school community a priority, we will do the following:

- Follow the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Service updated guidelines
- Ask parents to email registrar@taprep.org so that the office is aware of students who are fully vaccinated (if you choose not to inform the office, we will need to make decisions based on your child not being vaccinated moving forward)
- Notify parent/guardians of any school wide cases

If staff or students, or the family of staff or students test positive for COVID-19, you **must** communicate this to the school.