



MERRYHILL MIDTOWN

HEALTH & SAFETY GUIDE



Health & Safety Overview

The health and safety of our stakeholders is always our highest priority. Merryhill Midtown has implemented safety protocols and training in accordance with relevant regulations to mitigate the risk of the spread of Coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 (“COVID-19”) and other illnesses. These safety protocols and training do not indicate that there is no risk of transmission of illness. Families are also responsible for mitigating risks their child may present to their own health or the health of others at the school. Families should consider the risks and share their concerns with their pediatrician or other health care providers.

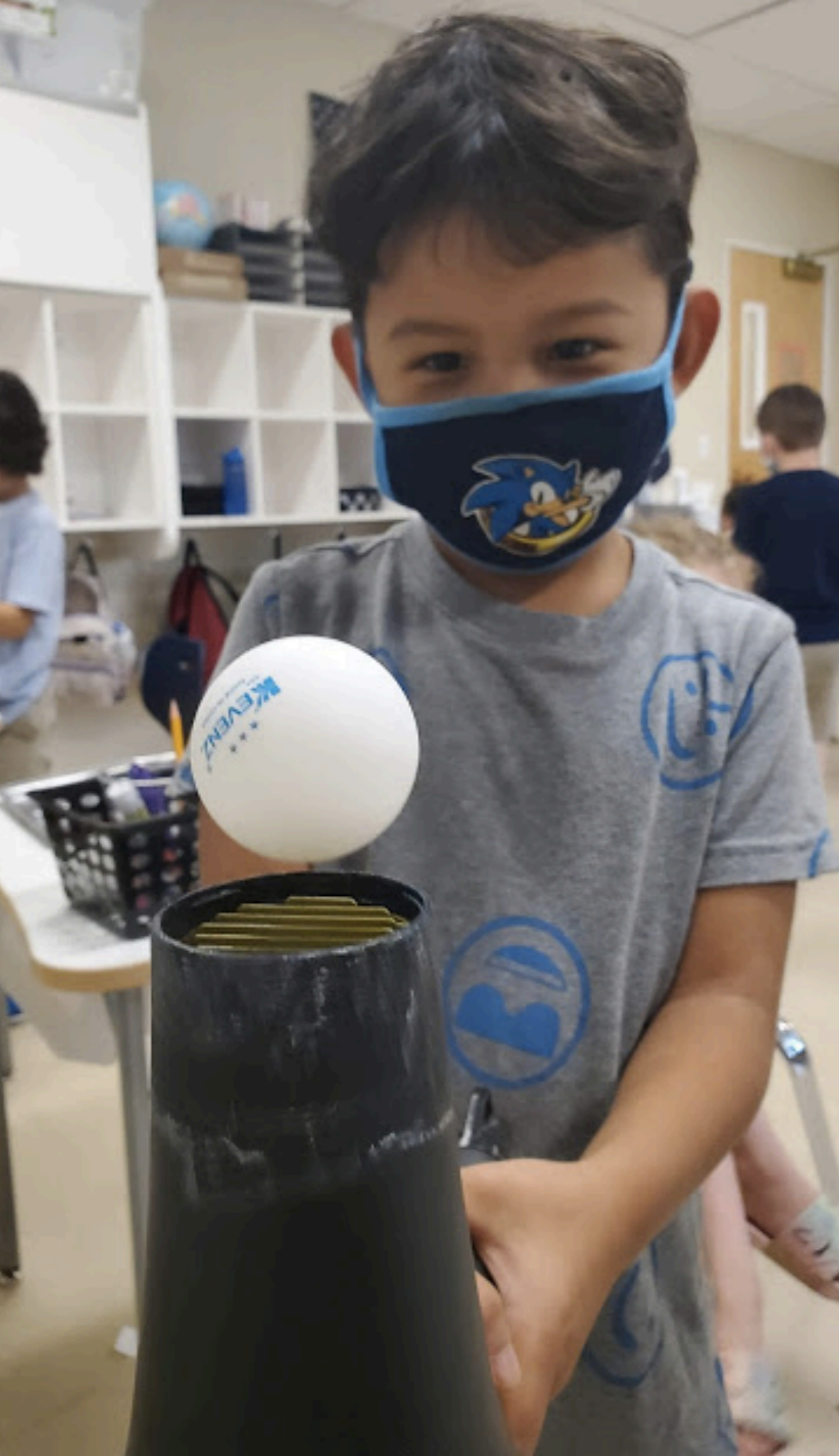
Maintaining a healthy campus requires a collective commitment from all students, staff, and our Merryhill families. We recognize that preventing the spread of illness is a shared responsibility, and our goal is to assist the community with reducing the spread of COVID-19 and other illnesses. Our focus remains the same: to provide an engaging, rigorous, and differentiated curriculum to our students while maintaining a strong connection to our school community. Outlined within this document are the various measures put in place to mitigate the risks. We will continue to update these protocols throughout the year, as necessary.



Sanitizing stations are available throughout the school.

Lunch & Recess

- Personal water bottles must be clearly labeled with child's name. All personal water bottles should be taken home each day to be washed and sanitized. Water bottles can be refilled using the touch-free water bottle filling station.
 - Students may bring a lunch from home or purchase a hot lunch from school. While cold lunches reduce the need for students to access shared microwaves, microwave heating/reheating of food items is available for families that prefer this option.
 - When possible, snacks are consumed outdoors. School provided utensils, plates, and napkins are not be readily available. Please plan accordingly.
 - We encourage disposable snack and lunch containers. Reusable snack and lunch containers should be taken home daily to be cleaned.
 - We are a peanut free, nut-aware campus.
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Physical Distancing

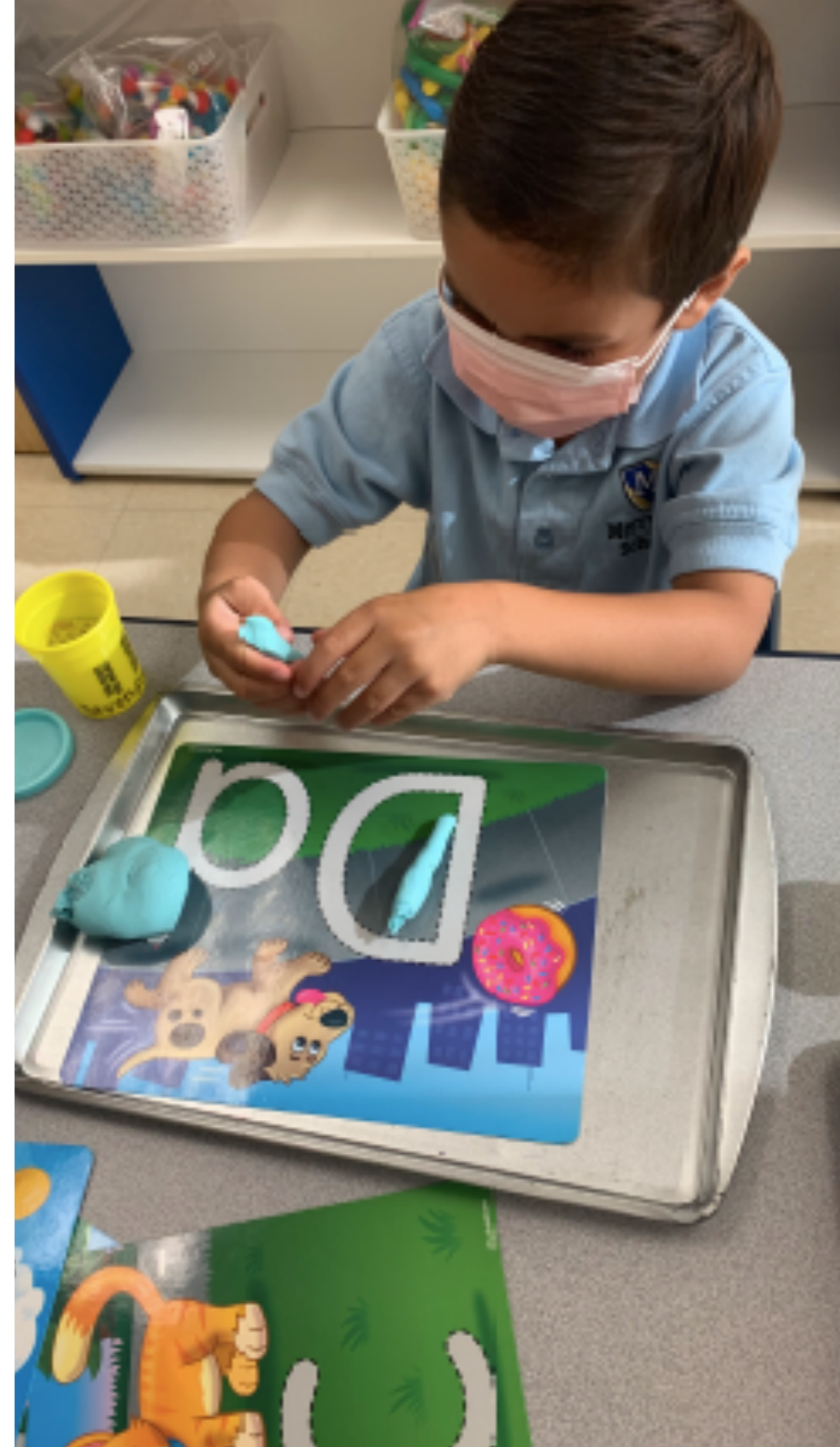
- Students remain in class groupings for academic instruction, specialty classes, and while eating lunch.
 - While eating, space is maximized as much as possible; tables are cleaned between lunch shifts.
 - Building access after 8:20 AM is limited to the front office, except for staff members, guardians of JrK students, and essential vendors. Essential vendors include cleaning services, Cintas (sanitization supplies), EMCOR Maintenance, Lock Smith, Fire Safety, Lifetouch Photography, etc.
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Signage and markings are posted throughout the classrooms, building, and bathrooms to promote healthy hygiene practices.

Face Coverings

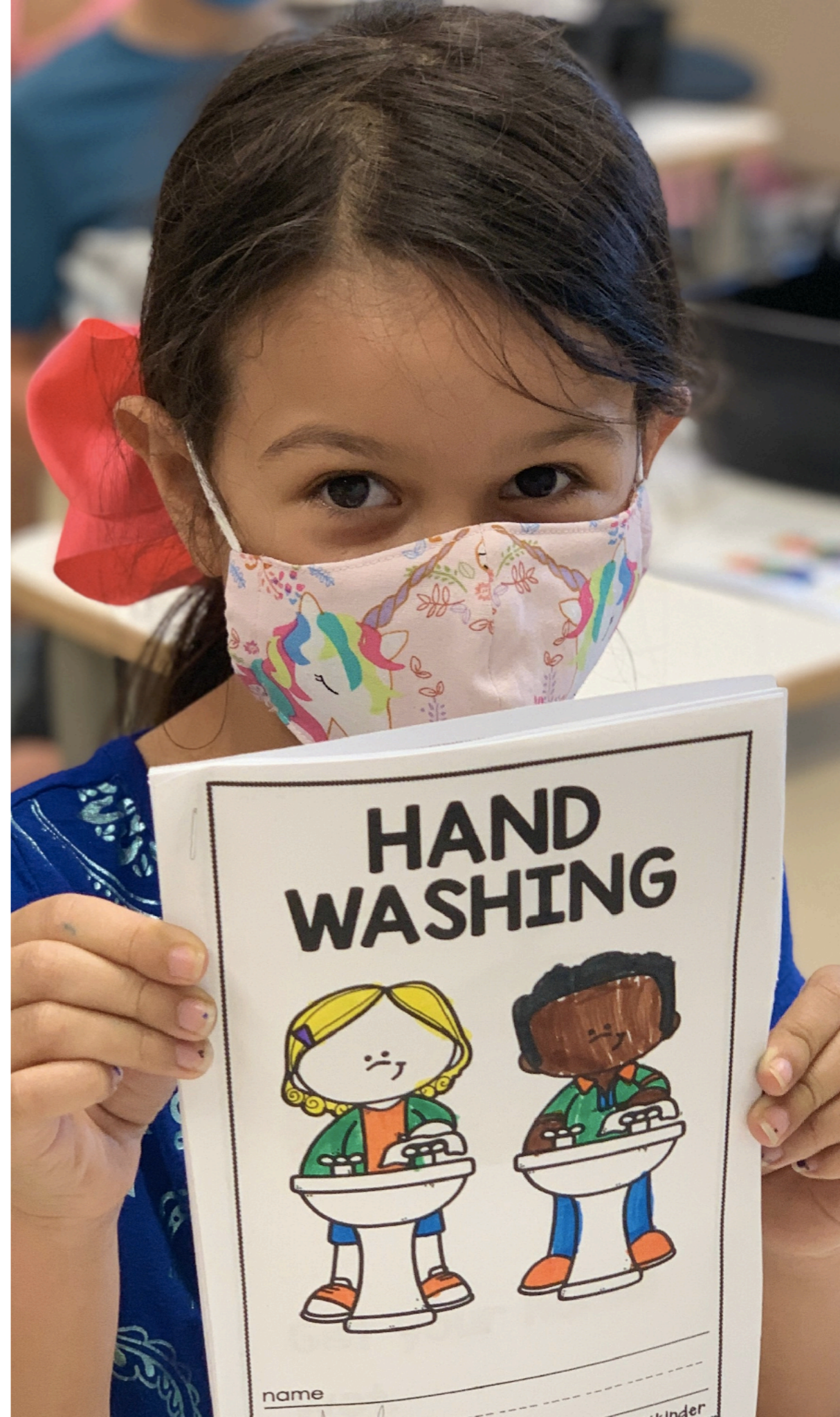
- Face covering recommendations are aligned with CDPH masking guidance for the general public. This guidance follows the use of the [CDC COVID-19 Hospital Admission Levels](#) to help inform masking recommendations.
- Students are encouraged to bring an extra mask to be stored in their cubby or locker, if applicable.
- Bullying or discrimination regarding personal mask-wearing decisions will not be tolerated, and we ask that all students and parents respect their classmates' and families' personal decisions regarding mask-wearing.
- Guidance for mask requirements is subject to change; the local health department has the authority to require masking.



Hygiene Practices

- We continue to emphasize and promote healthy hygiene practices including washing hands, avoiding touching one's face, and covering coughs and sneezes.
- Routines are in place to enable students and staff to wash or sanitize hands regularly.
- Students should wash or sanitize hands before arrival to school, before and after eating, after being outside, and after using the restroom.
- Every classroom is equipped with a hand sanitizer station; additional stations have been placed at main entrances, exits, and throughout the building.*
- Signage and markings are posted throughout the classroom, building, and bathrooms to promote healthy hygiene practices.*
- Touch-free paper towel dispensers are installed in bathrooms.*

**See example pictures on following pages*





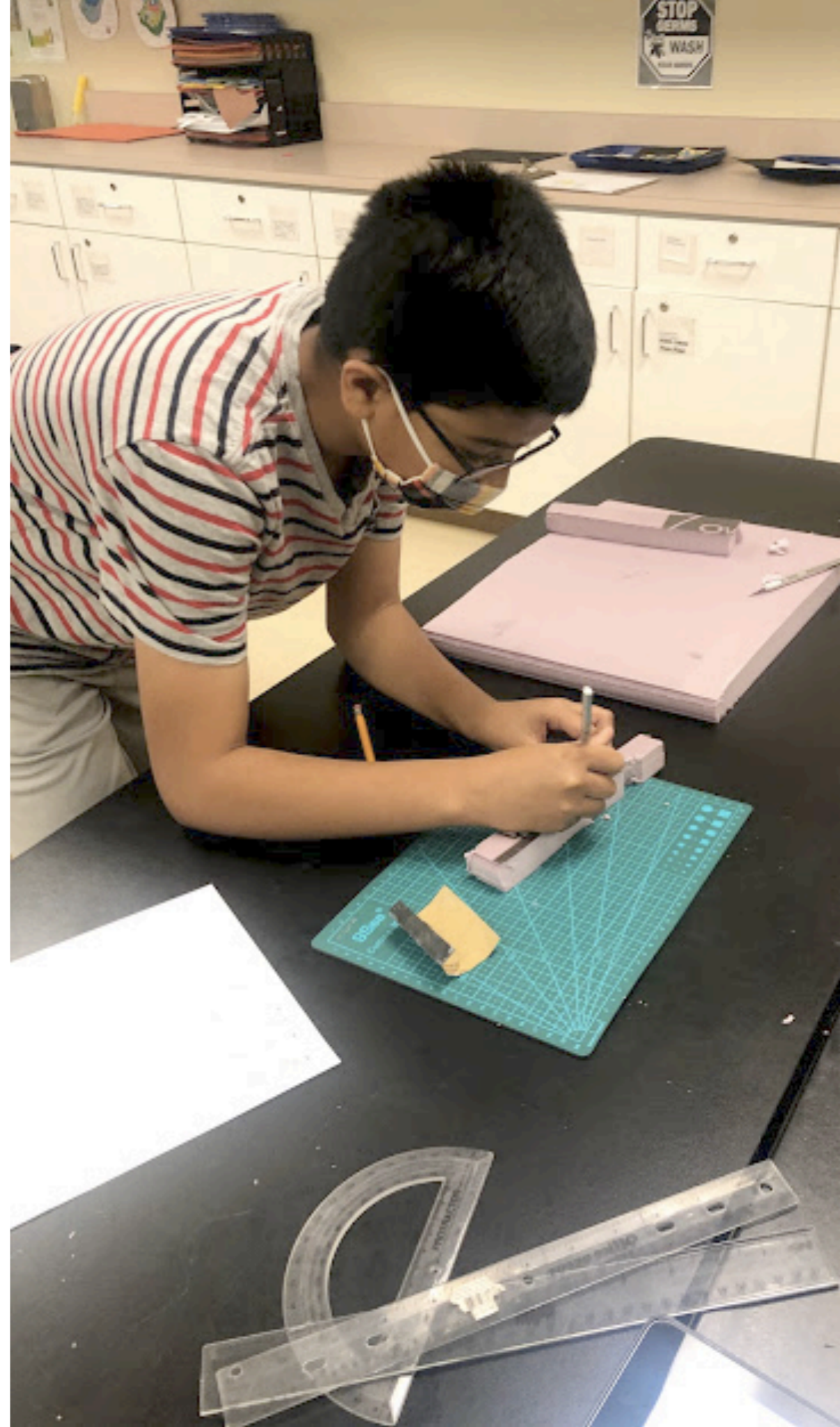
**Hands-free paper towel dispensers
are installed throughout campus
bathrooms.**

Cleaning & Disinfecting

- Each classroom has a caddy of cleaning and disinfecting supplies.
 - Cleaning and disinfecting is conducted multiple times a day and include, but is not limited to, disinfecting high touch areas such as door handles, light switches, sink handles, chairs, tables/desks, playgrounds, bathrooms, and other frequently used spaces.
 - Our janitorial crew completes a full cleaning and disinfecting each evening in addition to mid-day cleaning and sanitization.
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Personal Items

- Each student's belongings, including those brought from home and class materials provided by the school, are stored separately from others' and in individually labeled containers, cubbies, or desk areas.
- Personal belongings, such as backpacks and water bottles, are permitted and should be taken home each day to be cleaned.
- Student iPads should be stored in a sturdy case for secure transport between school and home; families are encouraged to regularly sanitize iPads.
- In an effort to minimize items moving to and from campus, all other personal items should be left at home, including toys, electronics, stuffed animals, etc. All necessary personal items should be clearly labeled with your child's name, including face coverings, if applicable.



NOTICE
ISOLATION
AREA

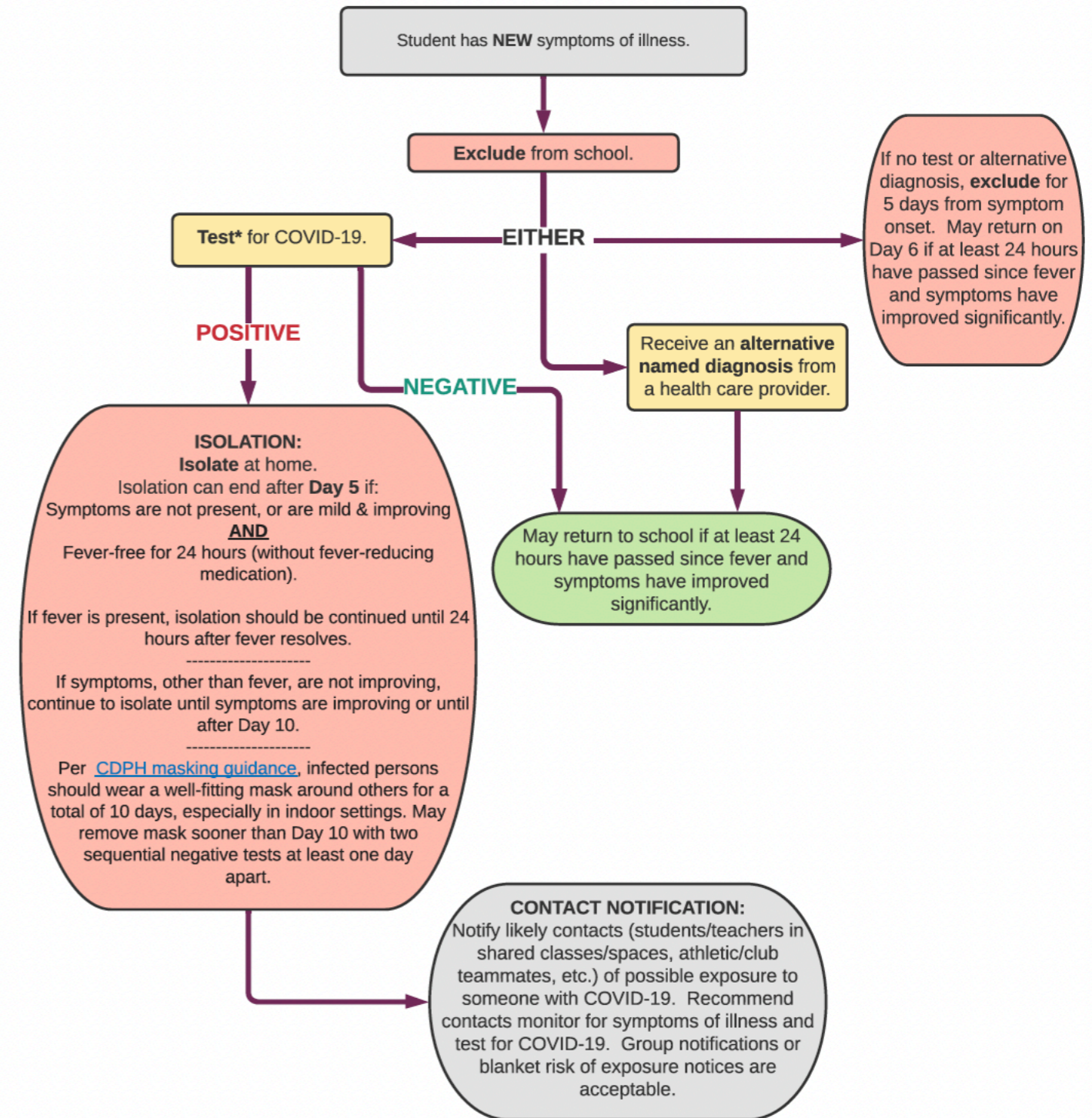
**If a child becomes ill during the day,
he/she moves to the isolation room
while awaiting pick-up.**

Symptoms & Quarantine

- To know if your child is healthy enough to be in school, they should be fever, symptom, and medication free for 24-hours, unless your child has a doctor's note with an alternative named diagnosis.
- Visual wellness checks are conducted throughout the day.
- If a child becomes ill or exhibits symptoms during the day, he/she will move to the isolation room where they will be supervised while awaiting pick-up. The isolation room is thoroughly cleaned and sanitized between use.
- Pick-up for students who become ill is required within 1 hour of notification.
- Please refer to the SCPH Decision Tree for more information about symptoms and quarantine requirements. More details can be found [here](#).

COVID-19 Decision Tree for Children/Students at Child Care, Pre-School, & K-12 Schools

NOTE: This tree is for children/students only. For staff, child care facilities and schools are required to follow all isolation and notification requirements outlined in the [Cal/OSHA COVID-19 Prevention Non-Emergency Regulations](#).



* PCR or rapid antigen test are acceptable. Asymptomatic individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19 are not required to re-test for **30 days** following their initial infection. However, if individuals develop new symptoms following a COVID-19 exposure, they should isolate and test.
Effective March 13, 2023

Symptom & Quarantine Decisions

- Quarantining requirements are aligned with the SCPH and CDPH guidance.
 - In the event of a positive COVID case on campus, the school will work with the county health department to determine necessary next steps and communication.
 - Information communicated to school families, staff, public health officials, and the community is confidential.
 - Maintaining a healthy campus requires a collective commitment from all students, staff, and our Merryhill families. We recognize that preventing the spread of illness is a shared responsibility and ask that if anyone has contracted or has been exposed to COVID-19 or any communicable disease, this be directly reported to our school as soon as possible. Reports should be made by calling our front desk or emailing our Office Manager, marissa.flores@merryhillschool.com.
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NEWTON
BOOTH
ASSEMBLY
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**Thank you for your ongoing
support and partnership!**