

DAAS COVID-19 Return to School Sick Day Policy

The purpose of this policy is to outline the DAAS sick day guidelines. These guidelines have been carefully considered to address and promote the safety, health, and welfare of our community. These procedures have been thoughtfully developed with local, state, and national guidance to ensure best practice.

1. Sick Day Guidelines

a. Symptoms Requiring Absence

- i. Active vomiting or diarrhea
- ii. Fever/chills/generalized body aches

1. **In light of recent events, fever threshold will constitute 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher per [WHO recommendation](#).**

2. If presenting with COVID-19 symptoms (**fever, cough, shortness of breath**),

- a. Have parent/guardian call DOH Hotline at 888-535-6136 for guidance regarding presenting symptoms *if* testing for COVID-19 is warranted and for further recommendations PRIOR to going to the doctor unless medical emergency.
 - i. Encourage video conferencing.
- b. [Per the DOH and the CDC](#), as well as [the NASN](#), these guidelines have been recommended for stay-at-home isolation:

i. Symptom-based strategy

1. 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared
2. No fever for 72 hours (3 full days) without the use of fever reducing medication
3. Other symptoms have improved such as cough and shortness of breath
4. Other option also includes 2 and 3 above PLUS two negative tests spaced at least 24 hours apart (this may facilitate quicker return).

ii. Time-based strategy

- a. This strategy is intended for individuals who have tested positive but are asymptomatic.
- b. The CDC recommends 10 days of home isolation after a positive test due to recent updates about duration of viral shedding

- iii. If an individual has been EXPOSED to a COVID positive individual, the [CDC recommends 14 days of quarantine after exposure](#) based on the time it takes to develop illness if infected.
 1. The CDC addresses the possibility of varying quarantine times by stating that “it is possible that a person *known* to be infected could leave isolation earlier than a person who is quarantined because of the *possibility* they are infected.”
- iv. The first 24 hours of various antibiotic treatments (i.e. strep throat, pink eye, etc.)
- v. Undiagnosed, new, and/or untreated rash or skin condition (i.e. generalized hives, wound with purulent drainage, etc.)
- vi. Doctor’s note requiring an individualized plan of care to stay home.

DAAS COVID-19 Return to School Sick Day Policy

b. When to Return

- i. If diagnosed with COVID19, **with or without** positive test and/or symptoms, please refer to [CDC protocol](#) for return to school or work. ***This may need to be considered for family and/or household members who are positive of COVID19, as carriers can be asymptomatic.***
- ii. First month after school re-opens
 1. Active vomiting or diarrhea - 72 hours since last episode
 2. Fever - 72 hours fever-free without the use of fever-reducing medication IF not diagnosed COVID positive or presumed positive.
 3. After 24 hours on antibiotics for variety of bacterial causes
 4. Doctor's note of clearance for various student-specific medical conditions
- iii. After first month
 1. Same as above, with the exception that the 72 hour period is reduced to 24 hours symptom free.

c. School Support

- i. Students, faculty, and staff will be highly encouraged to stay home if they are sick. If an individual presents to school with the above-mentioned "Sick Day Guidelines" symptoms, they will need to go home until clearance criteria for school return is met.
- ii. *Academic*
 1. Detroit Academy of Arts & Sciences will continue to support students with acute or chronic health conditions. Short-term absences will be handled on a case-by-case basis with the student in touch with their corresponding Divisions. Long-term absences will be evaluated if criteria is appropriate for medical leave or other potential medical accommodations.
- iii. *When to Visit Health Office*
 1. Student may independently ambulate to office for variety of individualized needs, so long as **none** of the following symptoms are present:
 - a. Confusion/ "doesn't seem to be them self"/disorientation
 - b. Decreased level of consciousness
 - c. Shortness of Breath/Respiratory Distress
 - d. Dizziness/Lightheadedness
 - e. Spinal Cord Injury/Head Injury complaining of neck pain - DO NOT MOVE POSITION
 - f. Vision impairment
 - g. Diabetic "Lows"
 - h. Hemodynamic compromise
 - i. Individualized triage judgement call of faculty/staff or based off reported condition as directed by school nurse
 2. Students need to stay in place for in-person evaluation and/or wheelchair ride to office if any of above-mentioned criteria are met, or per faculty/staff best judgement.
 - a. If it is an emergency, 911 should NEVER be delayed. Activate EMS and delegate as appropriate.

DAAS COVID-19 Return to School Sick Day Policy

3. In order to prevent potential exposure to infectious diseases, promote isolation, and decrease office congestion please note that students do **NOT** need to present to Health Office with the following common situations:
 - a. Paper cuts, small abrasions, picked scabs - have them wash hands and apply band aid if needed.
 - b. Minor headaches and/or fatigue - allow them to get snack/drink water first. Better after 20 minutes?
 - c. Mild stomach ache and/or nausea - allow to use the restroom, drink water, and have snack first. Better after 20 minutes?
 - d. Localized bug bite - if no allergy history and not spread over large area of skin, apply cool paper towel to area to help prevent scratching
 - e. Anxiety/Stress/Psychosocial Issues - if not affecting breathing or medical health try snack, redirection, or please refer to counseling or other applicable services for collaboration.