



Dedham Public Schools UPDATED COVID-19 GUIDELINES

IN-PERSON LEARNING REGULATIONS NOW IN EFFECT:

In order to keep providing students with the opportunity to attend school in-person, it is critical that our families continue to follow safe practices when it comes to COVID-19. These regulations were established in agreement with the Dedham Board of Health. They are now in effect for all faculty, staff and students of Dedham Public Schools until further notice.

Thank you for your continued cooperation, transparency, honesty and communication.

IF A STUDENT IS DESIGNATED AS A “CLOSE CONTACT”

If a student has been identified and determined to be a “**close contact**” by a DPS nurse or DPH contact tracer they **must quarantine for a full 14 days before returning to Dedham Public Schools**. They may join their class for learning remotely until the quarantine period is over.

IF A STUDENT HAS TRAVELED OUTSIDE OF MASSACHUSETTS

If a student has traveled outside of Massachusetts for any reason (including a vacation home), they must **EITHER**:

Stay home and participate only by remote learning for 10 days upon return.

- OR -

Produce a negative COVID-19 test result (PCR only) taken at least 5 days after they return to MA, before returning in-person.

PARTICIPATING IN SOCIAL GATHERING OUTSIDE A HOUSEHOLD CIRCLE

Students **SHOULD NOT** participate in any **social gatherings** with members outside of their **household circle** for longer than 15 minutes without appropriate distance maintained.

CLOSE CONTACT

Individuals who have been officially designated by trained contact tracers, and indicate exposure to a known COVID-19 positive individual within 6 feet for 15 minutes or more during a 24-hour period.

SOCIAL GATHERING

Events with individuals who you normally do not interact with on a regular basis and are interactions not already governed by current DPH guidelines (like sports teams).

HOUSEHOLD CIRCLE

Frequent, recurring contacts, including: Members of an immediate household; Individuals with whom students have been regularly interacting; Co-parenting arrangements involving individuals living in more than one home location.

THE FOLLOWING ARE EXAMPLES OF WHAT ARE **NOT** CONSIDERED “SOCIAL GATHERINGS”:

If a student participates in organized activities that maintain appropriate DPH protocols, these are not considered a social gathering and the student may join the classroom in-person after completing their weekly Health Attestation Form:



Organized sports practice, games or competitions (in-state)



Organized group activities, such as Scouts, Dance or Art Classes



Visits to Medical Appointments, Grocery Stores, or Local Businesses

The intent of these increased regulations is to discourage social gatherings where the majority of COVID-19 transmissions are occurring in the community. These requirements and examples are not exhaustive and will never effectively define every possible individual situation. Please contact your school nurse or principal if more specific clarification is needed due to individual circumstances.

PLEASE STAY SAFE! WEAR YOUR MASK. WASH YOUR HANDS. KEEP YOUR DISTANCE.