As the school year begins, your school staff are preparing for a new school year. We are updating our processes to ensure a safe return to school. We ask for your cooperation. Many symptoms resemble a multitude of illnesses and only your child's healthcare provider can diagnose the exact cause of the symptoms.

When a child becomes sick during the school day, the parent will be notified to pick up the child within 45 minutes. The symptoms that may result in a child being sent home from school include fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea, vomiting or diarrhea. The student will rest in a supervised waiting area. The child will be permitted to return to school after the following criteria has been met:

> Criteria:
>
> - *At this time, A minimum of 24-hours have passed AND
> - The last 24-hours must be fever-free without fever-reducing medications AND
> - All symptoms must have improved.

*Depending on local circumstances, the amount of days a student must stay home could range from 24-hours, 72-hours, or ten days. The school nurse will communicate to you the earliest date the student may return. We encourage you to consult your healthcare provider about your child's symptoms.

If your healthcare provider feels that your child is ready to return to school before the specified date on the home instructions, please request a doctor's note with a the return date specified.

Additionally, the Hall County School District will no longer contact trace if a positive case of COVID-19 is identified at school. The district is however, required to report to the Department of Public Health any positive cases. We ask your cooperation in promptly notifying your school nurse or principal of any student COVID infections.

We encourage you to promote the health of your child by teaching him or her to prevent the spread of infection. These strategies include:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick, except to get medical care.
- Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue and throw the tissue in the trash.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces and objects, like tables, countertops, light switches, doorknobs, and cabinet handles).
- (CDC, March 15, 2022)

If you have any questions, please reach out to your principal or school nurse.

(Rev. 7/22)