



December 10, 2020

Dear Princeton Day School Families,

The COVID-19 pandemic has shown that each of us, individually and institutionally, must be adaptable and willing to change habits and practice in order to continue to be safe and still provide some semblance of 'normal life' here at home.

### **Close Contact**

Most recently, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has published new recommendations for mandatory quarantine for individuals who find themselves in close contact with someone with COVID-19. The new recommendations are the result of collected data, past observations and statistical analysis. The CDC summary can be found [here](#) and the updated quarantine policy [here](#). The objective of these new guidelines is two-fold: to mitigate risk and decrease transmission of the infection; and to be reasonable enough to promote and ensure compliance for those who need to abide by the rule.

PDS will abide by the CDC quarantine guidelines. There are two options for students identified as close contacts:

- **Option 1**

The student should self-quarantine for 7 days and test for COVID after that period of time. They can return to campus after 7 days and with a negative COVID test. **The parent/guardian of the student must speak with a representative from the Health Office and receive official clearance before returning to school.**

- **Option 2**

The student should quarantine for 10 days. No COVID test is required if the student quarantines for the full 10 days. **The parent/guardian of the student**

**must speak with a representative from the Health Office and receive official clearance before returning to school.**

If you have been identified as a close contact, you must email the Health Office at [healthoffice@pds.org](mailto:healthoffice@pds.org) and include the day of exposure. Our Health Office staff will be in communication so that you know when your child may resume in-person learning. If your child is tested and has a negative result, we must have an electronic copy emailed to the Health Office prior to a return to campus. As always, we deeply appreciate your cooperation with this policy.

### **Travel**

The new quarantine guidelines are reflected in the post-travel recommendations as well. The CDC and the NJ state health department recommend restricting all unnecessary travel at this time, but should you and your family have to go out-of-state, new CDC recommendations are:

- **Option 1**

The traveler should self-quarantine for 7 days and test for COVID after that period of time. They can return to campus after 7 days and with a negative COVID test.

- **Option 2**

The traveler should quarantine for 10 days. No COVID test is required if the traveler quarantines for the full 10 days.

Our new school guidelines are reflected at [PDS Reopens](#).

On behalf of the health office staff, I thank you all again for your continued commitment in keeping everyone safe at school. Our school doors stay open only because of your effort and compliance.

Sincerely,

Maritoni Calon Shah, MD  
Director of Wellness Services  
Princeton Day School