Health and Safety Policy- SCS Response to COVID-19

In response to the current situation of the COVID-19 pandemic, these procedures will be put in place at Seacoast Charter School to mitigate the risk of our school community contracting the virus.

Parents and non-essential visitors will not be permitted in our school at this time, and essential visitors will be required to be screened and wear masks. All families will be required to read and review our policy before starting school if they are attending for in-person learning.

Families will be asked to refrain from sending their children to school if they are experiencing the following symptoms:
- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

If students are at home sick or are sent home from school with any of the symptoms listed above, they will need one of the following to return to school:
- Doctor’s note
- Proof of a negative COVID test
- Symptom free for 10 days

Screenings:
Upon arrival, students will be asked screening questions. Parents/Guardians are responsible for answering these questions before coming to school each morning as well. Temperatures will be taken and if a student has a temperature of 100 or higher, they will be sent home. Staff will also answer the same screening questions and will take temperature upon arrival.
Screening questions are:

1. Do you or your child have any symptoms NOW of COVID-19? Or, has your child had any of these symptoms in the last 14 days? (fever, chills, cough, sore throat, respiratory illness, difficulty breathing, or loss of taste or smell)
2. Have you or your child had close contact with someone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 within the last 14 days?
3. Have you or your child traveled in the prior 14 days using public transportation?
4. If my child(ren) develop(s) any of the above symptoms I will keep them home, notify the teacher and Head of School, and seek medical care to obtain a physician’s note or negative COVID test stating it is safe to return to school.

Staff Training:
Staff will be trained on recognizing the symptoms and protocols for dealing with COVID-19 symptoms before school resumes. We will add three days for professional development at the beginning of the school year for teachers to prepare for responding to COVID, in-person and remote learning.

Masks:
- All students in grades kindergarten through grade eight will be required to wear masks in classrooms, common areas, as they enter and exit the building, and in bathrooms. Mask breaks will be given when students are adequately able to social distance by four to six feet outside.
- Masks will be encouraged for PreK, when appropriate.
- Disposable masks will be available for visitors who will be required to wear a mask and do not have their own.
- Each classroom will be stocked with additional disposable masks and reusable masks for students and staff as needed.

Reporting:
If any student or family member of one of our students thinks they may be infected with the virus, they will report to their child’s teacher. The teacher will report to the Head of School. If any staff member or student thinks they may be COVID positive, they need to report immediately to the Head of School. The Head of School will report immediately to public health by calling 603-271-4496 (after-hours call 603-271-5300 and ask for the public health nurse on
call). After the report is made, communication to our school community will take place. The communication plan outlined [here](#) will be put in place.

**Positive Tests:**
Individuals who test positive will remain anonymous in accordance with HIPPA and FERPA guidelines. Students and staff who test positive for COVID-19, will be required to provide a negative test result in order to resume school. If students or staff have exposure to anyone who has tested positive, they are also required to quarantine for 10 days after symptoms started.

If a school receives a report of a teacher or student testing positive:
- All parents and staff will be notified and students will engage in remote learning for 2 days
- A deep cleaning will be executed, according to CDC guidelines.
- School will resume in 48 hours.

**Travel:**
If families travel to an area that has a high prevalence of COVID-19, they will be required to quarantine for 10 days.

**State Ordered Closures and Transition to Remote Learning:**
If we see a local spike in cases of COVID-19, local or state health officials might recommend that we close schools for a period of time. If schools are closed for more than two days we will transition to a remote learning environment.