

# Onondaga Central School District

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Dear OCS Families,

Our world has changed, and our schools must adapt accordingly.

In preparing for children and staff to return to school, we all have an important role in keeping our community safe. The medical staff at Onondaga Central feel it is important to alert you to some important changes in practice.

During this unprecedented time it is more important than ever to keep your child home from school if they are sick. Especially if they are exhibiting any of the following symptoms of Covid-19 as listed below from the CDC:

- Fever or chills
- Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea
- Cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Headache, fatigue, muscle aches or body aches
- Sore throat, congestion or runny nose
- New loss of taste or smell

OR recent exposure to anyone suspected of or diagnosed with Covid-19;

OR have traveled internationally, or to states listed by the New York State Department of Health as having a significant degree of community-wide spread of Covid-19.

Please notify the school nurse whenever your child will be absent.

***It is important to note, if your child presents in the school health office with any of the above complaints, our nursing staff MUST send them home unless they have written documentation from their health care provider that would explain their symptoms.***

***If your child is sent home by your school nurse,  
IN ORDER TO RETURN TO SCHOOL IT IS REQUIRED:***

***"at a minimum, documentation of evaluation by a health care provider (health care provider note clearing a person to return to school), a negative COVID-19 test, and symptom resolution, or if COVID-19 positive, release from isolation as required by the Department of Health and NYSED."***

Sincerely,



Andrew Merritt, MD  
Medical Director  
Onondaga Central School District