

Responding to positive cases of COVID-19

The COVID-19 (coronavirus) virus is an ongoing, constantly developing, worldwide situation with new data on transmission and contagiousness being reported daily. It is not possible to guarantee that no student or faculty/staff member will contract the virus upon the reopening of school despite precautions being taken. SJA is making efforts to comply to the extent possible with the latest guidelines published by the CDC, the Louisiana Department of Health and the Louisiana Department of Education for schools. We are also consulting with our assigned Regional Medical Director for East Baton Rouge Parish. SJA has developed the policies contained herein based on these available resources with the understanding that new information on the virus may result in the need for modification. Therefore, these policies will be subject to change.

Exposure is defined as close contact (within six feet) of a period of 15 minutes or more with

1. A person who is confirmed positive for COVID-19 and has symptoms with a confirmed positive test for COVID-19 and with whom the contact was made during the period of two days before symptom onset through 10 days since symptoms first appeared; or
2. A person who is confirmed positive for COVID-19 but has not had any symptoms and with whom the contact was made two days before the positive person was tested through 10 days since the specimen was provided for the positive test.

Examples of “close contact” include, but are not limited to

- You provided care at home to someone who is sick with COVID-19;
- You had direct physical contact with the person (touched, hugged or kissed them);
- You shared eating or drinking utensils;
- They sneezed, coughed or somehow got respiratory droplets on you.

Symptoms include fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficult breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting and diarrhea.

Parents of students with increased risk for severe illness should discuss with their healthcare provider the school’s plan for returning to school.

SJA reserves the right to require a student or employee to be tested for COVID-19 before allowing the student or employee to return to SJA or any SJA events.

Student or employee has been exposed to a person who has a confirmed positive test for COVID-19.

- The student or employee must notify the school nurse.
- The student or employee should not come to SJA’s campus or events for 14 days after their last contact with a person who has COVID-19.
- The student or employee should contact her/his healthcare provider.
- If the student or employee is tested for COVID-19, the student or employee should notify the school nurse.

Student or employee is symptomatic and tests positive for COVID-19

- She/he cannot return to SJA’s campus for at least 10 days since the symptoms first appeared and at least one day (24 hours) with no fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and symptoms have improved.
- OR
- Resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and improvements in respiratory symptoms (e.g. cough, shortness of breath) and results are negative from at least two consecutive respiratory specimens collected more than 24 hours apart.

Student or employee is not symptomatic but does have a confirmed positive test for COVID-19

- She/he shall not return to SJA until 10 days have passed since the date of their first positive COVID-19 diagnostic test assuming they have not subsequently developed symptoms since their positive test.
- OR
- Results are negative from at least two consecutive respiratory specimens collected more than 24 hours apart.
- If an individual develops symptoms after testing positive, follow the guidance above for “student or employee is symptomatic and tests positive for COVID-19.”

If a student or employee is confirmed positive for COVID-19, SJA will determine which employees and students may have been exposed and inform those individuals of the possible exposure.

SJA cannot guarantee that no student or faculty member will not contract the virus while on campus. All members of the SJA community are asked to take steps outlined in this addendum to try to reduce the risk of transmission.

If a student or faculty member must stay home to quarantine, we will use Microsoft Teams for synchronous learning.

