

Aristotle Preparatory-ILLNESS POLICY

Dear Parent/Guardian,

This year more than ever we appreciate your partnership in helping Aristotle Preparatory maintain a healthy school environment. The health and safety of our students is of utmost importance therefore we request the following of all our Aristotle Preparatory families.

To minimize the spread of contagious disease we ask that each morning prior to bringing your student to school you do the following: Take your child's temperature, look for signs of being ill such as: being more tired than usual, sluggish, fever, chills, headache, complaints of sore throat, congestion or runny nose, new onset of cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, nausea, vomiting or diarrhea, chest pain, aching joints and/or muscles, loss or change in smell and taste, and any new unidentified rashes. Please do not send your student to school if they have any of these symptoms.

We also ask that if you are contacted to pick your child up from school for any of the listed ailments, you or a designated emergency contact pick your student up as soon as possible but **no more than 1 hour after being notified**.

- **Fever/Temperature:** Your child has a temperature of 100 degrees or higher. They may return to school **AFTER** being symptom and fever-free for at least 72 hours **without** the use of fever reducing medication such as Tylenol or Motrin.
- **Vomiting and/or Diarrhea:** Please keep your child home until they are symptom free without medication for at least 72 hours. Your child must be able to consume his/her regular diet without any problems.
- **Pink eye:** Your child may return to school **AFTER** a full 24 hours of antibiotic or a doctor's note.
- **Strep-throat:** Your child may return to school **AFTER** antibiotic treatment has been initiated and symptom-free for 72 hours.
- **Chicken Pox:** Please keep your child home until all blisters have formed scabs. Typically, children miss 5-6 days of school for the disease to run its course. Please notify the front office if your child has been diagnosed with Chickenpox.
- **Lice:** Students with lice should NOT attend school until they have been treated. Before returning to class, the student along with the parent must do a lice check with the Health Aide.
- **COVID Like Illness and COVID 19:** The following guidelines have been put in place in response to the Governor and Public Health Officials requirements and recommendations to reduce the spread of Covid-19.



Students with new onset of symptoms or who have been sent home from school for symptoms consistent with COVID-19 or Influenza, should follow up with their health care provider and must remain home for 72 hours after symptoms have resolved.

Students and staff being treated for COVID-19 may **not** return to school until

- a minimum of 10 days from the onset of the illness has passed **and**
 - they have been symptom free without use medications for 72 hours **and**
 - they have been cleared by their licensed medical provider and/or public county health representative.
- *A negative test is not required to return to school
- **Or** have tested negative and been symptom free for 72 hours without medications

If anyone in your household is positive for COVID-19, we ask that all household members do not come onto the campuses during the positive members isolation period. This includes but is not limited to attending school and any activities such as homework pick up, sports, before and after school programs, and church services held at some of our campuses.

Please contact the attendance line promptly if your child is being treated for COVID-19. **Your candid and rapid reporting of illness** is being requested as it is our best chance at minimizing the spread of illness in our community. Your student's Personal health information is confidential. Aristotle Preparatory will act in accordance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) privacy rules. Per mandatory state reporting guidelines, the families residing county public health department will be notified by Aristotle Preparatory.

With your partnership, Aristotle Preparatory commits to providing an alternative instructional plan for your student(s) during this time. Your campus administration and teachers will discuss options with you, as a team you will be able to determine the most appropriate plan.

We encourage Immunocompromised and/or at-risk students such as students with any of the conditions listed below to follow the advice of your medical provider and to communicate appropriate measures to keep your student safe with your campus Health Aide. Alternative education options are available for our immunocompromised students. Please notify your campus Health Aide and/or Director of any complex medical needs so that we can set up a meeting to create an Individualized Health Care Plan.

- Asthma/chronic lung disease, Diabetes, Adrenal disease, chronic kidney disease treated with dialysis, hemoglobin disorders, Liver disease, serious heart conditions, Cancer, Bone marrow transplant, Solid organ transplant, Stem cell treatment, Genetic immune deficiencies, HIV, use of oral or intravenous corticosteroids or other medicines called immunosuppressants that lower the body's ability to fight some infections (e.g., mycophenolate, sirolimus, cyclosporine, tacrolimus, etanercept, rituximab).

COVID-19 vaccinations are now available for individuals ages 16 years and up. Vaccination side effects, local and systemic, are expected and evidence that the vaccine is working. Local side effects include injection site soreness, redness and swelling. Systemic side effects include *fever*, muscle aches, and headache. Other known side effects of the vaccination are fatigue, joint pain, and vomiting. Side effects may occur after both doses of the vaccine and are usually stronger after the 2nd dose.



Consistent with guidance issued by the CDC, individuals experiencing post-vaccine side effects consistent with COVID-19 vaccination can return to school without viral testing, if: (1) they feel well enough to learn, (2) they are afebrile (i.e., do not have a fever), (3) their side effects are limited to those associated with COVID-19 vaccination (muscle aches, headache, joint pain, vomiting, fatigue.) If an individual's COVID-19 vaccination side effects persist and exceed past 72 hours from vaccination, they should be excluded from school and viral testing should be considered.

Post vaccinated individuals experiencing cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, change in taste or smell, and/or a fever of 100.4 or higher should NOT return to school. These symptoms indicate possible COVID-19 infection and are not considered side effects of the vaccination. The recommendation is to obtain viral testing if these symptoms occur.

Aristotle Preparatory's goal is to keep school as "normal" as possible for your students, your support and compliance is an integral part of making this possible. Thank you for doing your part in preventing the spread of illness throughout our Aristotle Preparatory community.

Sincerely,
Aristotle Preparatory Health Department