

DATE

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Charles Ellis Montessori Academy considers the health and well-being of our students, teachers, and staff to be of the utmost importance. Today we were alerted to a student/teacher/staff member who was diagnosed with COVID-19. We have been working closely with local public health officials to ensure the proper recommendations are followed to isolate the student/teacher/staff diagnosed with COVID-19, identify close contacts, and clean and disinfect areas of the school building.

Your child was identified as a CLOSE CONTACT to someone diagnosed with COVID-19.

A close contact includes being within 6 feet of a person with COVID-19 for 15 minutes or more during 24 hours OR having direct contact with secretions from a person with COVID-19 (being coughed on, kissing, sharing utensils or water bottles, etc.). As a result, your child is at risk of infection.

For your child's safety and the safety of the public, the Georgia Department of Public Health requires that you actively monitor your child's health for COVID symptoms and keep him/her quarantined at home from TODAY through DATE (see #3 below for earlier release).

All close contacts are instructed to take the following steps during the quarantine period:

1. Quarantine. Your child should quarantine at home from **TODAY** through **DATE** (see #3 below for earlier release), except in case of emergency, a physician's appointment, or to be tested for COVID-19. He/she should not attend school, extracurricular activities, or public activities during this time.

2. Check for fever (100.4 oral, 99.4 touchless thermometer) and symptoms. Twice a day, check your child's temperature and assess him/her for the below COVID-19 symptoms using the following checklist:

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fever, chills, sweating | <input type="checkbox"/> Headache | <input type="checkbox"/> Sore throat | <input type="checkbox"/> Fatigue |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cough | <input type="checkbox"/> New loss of taste or smell | <input type="checkbox"/> Congestion or runny nose | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing | <input type="checkbox"/> Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea | <input type="checkbox"/> Muscle or body aches | |

3. Get tested. If your child has no symptoms, the PCR test should take place no earlier than **the 5th day of quarantine, DATE**; it will take two to three days for the result to return. Register or make the appointment now for that date (the Civic Center is an option <https://covid19.gachd.org/covid-19-testing-at-the-savannah-civic-center/>). If the test is negative and your student has remained asymptomatic, he/she can return to school **after seven full days of quarantine on DATE**, but you will continue to monitor your child for fever (check temperature 2X/day) and symptoms through Day 14, **DATE**. A copy of the test result needs to be sent to me electronically (preferably an attachment) before your student can return to the building; you will receive confirmation from me. If you choose not to have your child tested, he/she will be quarantined at home **through day 10, DATE**, but you will monitor through day 14.

4. Those fully vaccinated against COVID-19 do not need to quarantine and testing at day 5 or later is optional. However, your student will need to quarantine until a copy of his/her COVID-19 vaccination card is received by me via email; you will receive confirmation.

5. If your child develops COVID-19 symptoms, isolate him/her, alert the teacher and me, and obtain a rapid COVID-19 test immediately. Additional contact tracing may need to be done by the school.

6. Siblings of those identified as close contacts can come to school, however, if the exposed student is unable to quarantine, everyone needs to wear a mask in the home. If the child that is a close contact becomes symptomatic, or tests positive, then the siblings and everyone in the household would stay home and quarantine.

Please refer to the following guidance documents from the Georgia Department of Public Health for additional quarantine recommendations: Quarantine Guidance (<https://dph.georgia.gov/contact>) Return to School Guidance <https://covid19.gachd.org/returning-to-school-after-covid-19-exposure-or-infection/>

Charles Ellis Montessori Academy and the Georgia Department of Public Health will continue to work together to monitor the situation. If you have any questions, please contact me at 912-395-5470 Ext. 1, or Email: Christine.O'Boyle@sccps.com.

Sincerely,

"Nurse Chris"

Christine F. O'Boyle, BSN, RN

Charles Ellis Montessori Academy