

# Santa Fe Indian School



## COVID/Communicable Illness Mitigation Plan School Year 2023-2024

*(will be updated as needed)*

### SFIS RESPONSE TO COVID-19 AND OTHER COMMUNICABLE ILLNESSES

This plan is subject to change based evolving health and safety guidance for mitigating coronavirus.

Updates will be communicated to the SFIS community in accordance with the SFIS Emergency Communication Plan.

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## COVID-19 Vaccine Mandate

Staying up-to-date with vaccinations for COVID-19 is the best protection against the disease and is the most effective COVID-19 mitigation strategy. The higher the percentage of fully vaccinated people in a community, the more protected all members of that community are, and those they interact with will be. For that reason, the SFIS Board of Trustees unanimously approved a COVID-19 Vaccine Mandate for students and staff for SY 21-22. This mandate remained in effect for SY 22-23, and will continue for SY 23-24. To be considered compliant students and staff should be up-to-date COVID-19 vaccinations according to the [CDC](#).

**As of June 7th, 2023, up-to-date COVID-19 vaccination includes:**

- 1 updated (bivalent) vaccine for those aged 6 years and older.
  - Students are considered “up-to-date” immediately after receiving the bivalent booster.
- Those aged 65+ (and/or are immunocompromised) may receive additional doses.

**This mandate is applicable to all SFIS students and staff. SFIS students and staff can submit for an exemption, however, only students that are fully up-to-date with the vaccine mandate as noted above may reside in the SFIS dorms. Students with medical exemptions, or who are not up-to-date, will not be allowed to reside in SFIS dorms, but may continue to attend as day students\*.**

\*You can check the [“When are you up-to-date?” tool on the CDC website](#) to confirm your student’s booster eligibility.

## FACE MASKS

### ***Mask Mandate at SFIS***

- Mandated mask wearing will be determined by recommendations provided by the SFIS Communicable Illness Mitigation Team (CIMT) composed of SFIS Health Center medical staff, the Emergency Response Coordinator, academic program leadership, and other key directors and coordinators..
- When notified about outbreaks identified in tribal communities the CIMT will convene and determine if masking level at SFIS should be adjusted\* based on available data.
- COVID data collected by the SFIS Health Center will serve as an additional Community COVID Level, upticks in COVID will be based on internal data regarding COVID (+) cases on campus.

\*Adjustments to masking level on SFIS campus will be communicated in accordance with the SFIS Emergency Communication Plan.

| Masking (SFIS students and staff) |                        |                     |                                   |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Community Level                   | Low                    | Medium              | High                              |
| Masks                             | No masking requirement | Masking recommended | Masking mandated in indoor spaces |

## GATHERINGS

- Class gatherings and all-school assemblies may resume as normal in accordance with masking level at the time of the gathering. When applicable, consideration will be given to holding these events outside.
- Staff meetings can be held virtually or in-person while ensuring masking level is maintained in accordance with masking level at the time of the meeting.

### Extracurricular Activities / Sporting Events

SFIS has implemented a phased approach to allow spectators to attend extracurricular and sporting events on campus. We have identified four phases for spectator attendance. Event attendance has resumed Phase Four: 100% capacity for SY 23-24, however, SFIS reserves the right to reimplement lower phases at times of high transmissibility of illness as determined by the Communicable Illness Mitigation Team with Superintendent approval.

Note: Transition from one phase to another is subject to sudden change based on current COVID/Communicable Illness trends.

| Extracurricular Activities / Sporting Events   |  |   |  |
|--|--|---|--|
| Phase One  | Phase Two  | Phase Three   | Phase Four   |
| 25% capacity for SFIS staff and students. No SFIS family members or outside spectators are allowed in this phase | 50% capacity for SFIS staff, students, and SFIS family members.  | 75% capacity for spectators/visitors  | 100% capacity  |
| Physical distancing from others of at least 6 ft indoors and 3 ft outdoors will be required.                     | Family members must sit together with household groups maintaining a 6ft distance from other spectators. | Spectators/visitors must sit together with household groups maintaining a 6ft distance from other spectators. | No physical distancing required.   |
| Masks are required at all indoor events except when eating/drinking.   | Masks are required at all indoor events except when eating/drinking.                                     | Masks are required at all indoor events except when eating/drinking for everyone aged 3 and older.            | Masks are required at all indoor events except when eating/drinking for everyone aged 3 and older. |
| Eating and drinking is allowed with physical distancing.   | Eating and drinking is allowed when seated with household groups.  | Eating and drinking is allowed when seated with household groups.   | Eating and drinking is allowed.  |

## COVID-19 TESTING PROGRAMS at SFIS

### SFIS HEALTH CENTER TESTING FOR SYMPTOMATIC STUDENTS

SFIS School Health Center is utilizing a rapid antigen test, which provides results in 15-30 minutes, to test students who present with COVID-19 like symptoms. The School Health Center test is a diagnostic test to determine if a student has COVID-19.

Depending on the severity of symptoms, the school nurse may still determine that the student who is ill will be sent home, even if they test negative for COVID-19. SFIS will continue to send home students with symptoms of illness (including, but not limited to fever, sore throat, moderate-severe headache, moderate-severe coughing, nausea, diarrhea, and vomiting) as the student may have another communicable illness or condition, as well as to send home students who are not feeling well enough to attend school.

If a student becomes ill after hours when the School Health Center is closed, parents/guardians will be notified to pick up their student and follow the Communicable Illness Guidance Tree for return.

If a student tests positive for COVID-19, the parent/guardian will be notified to come and pick up their student immediately. The student will be isolated in a comfortable waiting area monitored by an SFIS staff until pick up. The test results are also reported to NMDOH and tribal Emergency Operations Centers upon request from tribes. Students sent home for illness or reported ill to the school will be reported to the Student Attendance Tracker maintained by the SFIS Health Center staff, Student Living Staff, and Academic office attendance trackers.

**CRITERIA for TRANSITIONING TO DISTANCE LEARNING**

A decision to transition to Distance Learning will be based on transmission of COVID-19 or other significant communicable illnesses on SFIS campus, and/or any staff shortages that may arise.

The following monitoring system will guide transition decisions:

**Monitoring System for Transmission Rate**

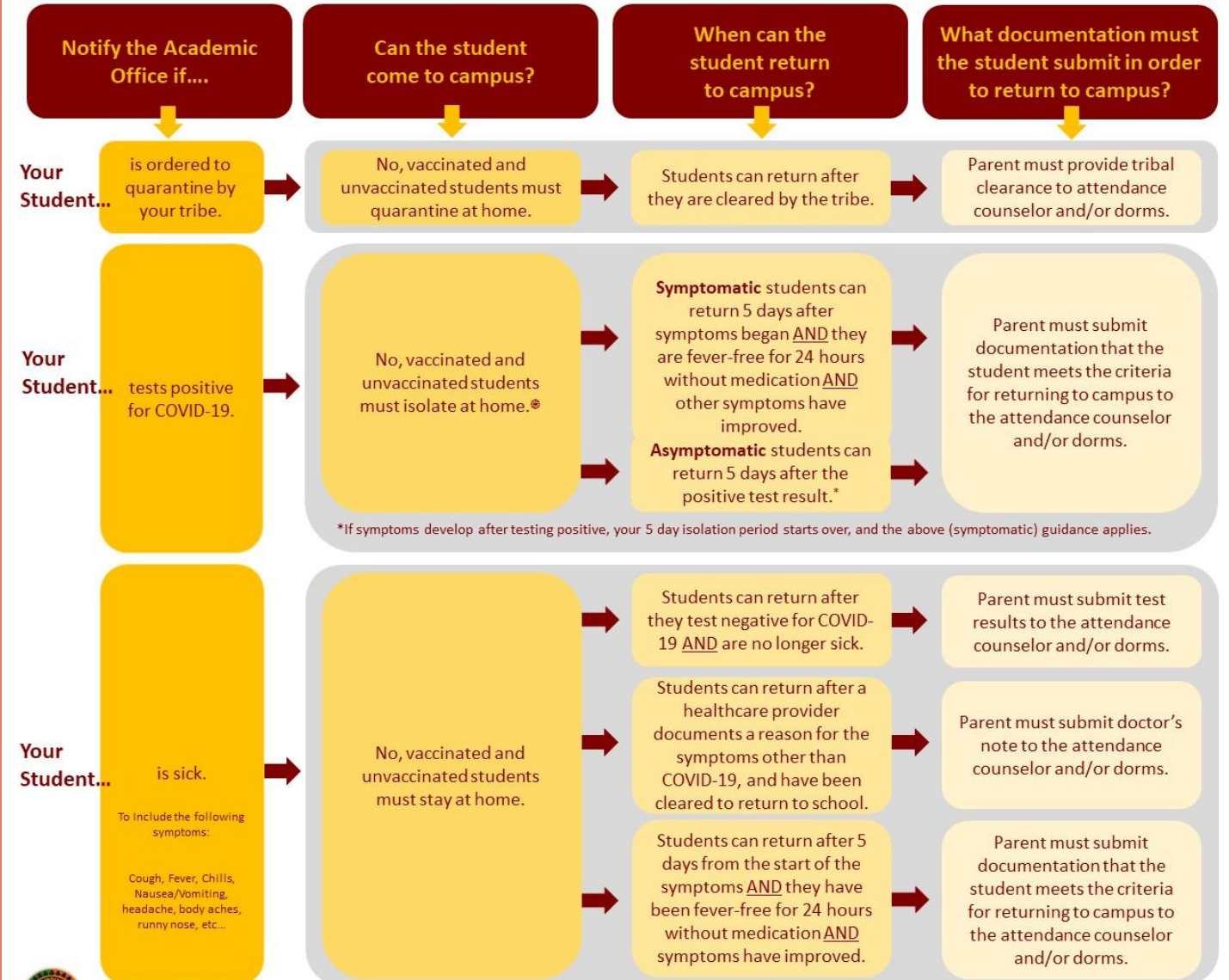
| Indicators                    | Low  | Moderate   | Substantial  | High  |
|-------------------------------|--|--|--|---|
| <b>On-Campus Transmission</b> | Isolated cases<br>No evidence of transmission  | Minimal evidence of transmission to close contacts   | Substantial evidence of transmission to close contacts   | Substantial evidence of transmission beyond close contacts  |
| <b>SFIS Response</b>          | Continuation of SFIS COVID/Communicable Illness Mitigation Plan, and operating procedures. | Consider more restrictive and/or additional hygienic practices and procedures.<br><br>Consider moving to a more restrictive phase for gatherings/spectators on campus. | Consider more restrictive and/or additional hygienic practices and procedures.<br><br>Consider moving to a more restrictive phase for gatherings/spectators on campus.<br><br>Consider partial or schoolwide transition to Distance Learning for a limited period of time. | Consider temporary suspension of in-person extracurricular activities.<br><br>Consider moving to a more restrictive phase for gatherings/spectators on campus.<br><br>Consider a schoolwide transition to Distance Learning for a limited period of time. |

Note: Moderate and Substantial Levels will be based on transmission of significant communicable illnesses from the originating case to close contacts (i.e., secondary transmission). The High Level will be based on transmission of significant communicable illnesses from those identified as close contacts and, then, transmitting to others (i.e., tertiary transmission).

# SFIS STUDENT COMMUNICABLE ILLNESS GUIDANCE TREE

## SFIS STUDENT COMMUNICABLE ILLNESS GUIDANCE TREE

ALL STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO FOLLOW THE SFIS GUIDANCE TREE



\*If symptoms develop after testing positive, your 5 day isolation period starts over, and the above (symptomatic) guidance applies.



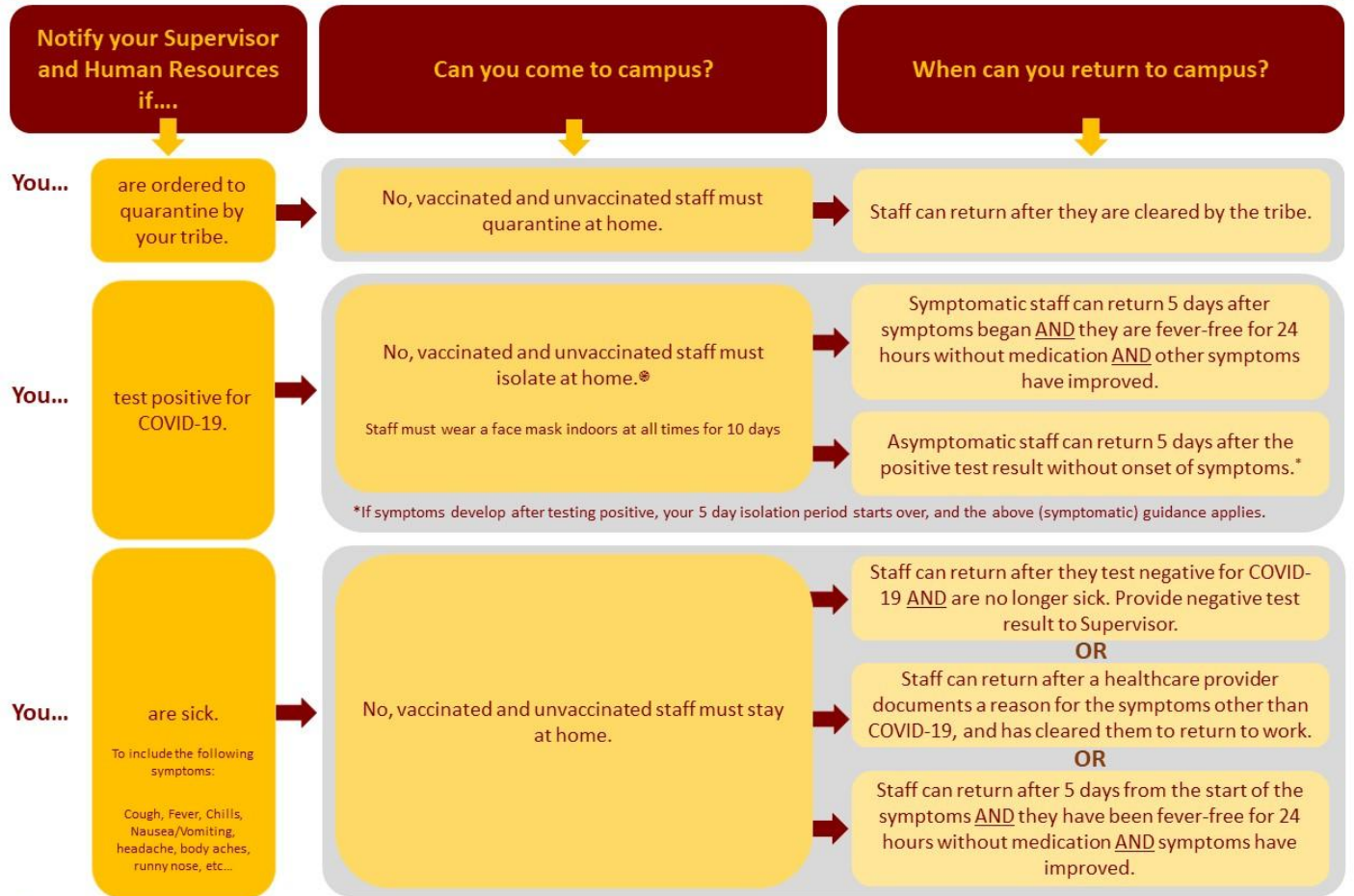
\* Does not apply to students who have tested positive within the last 60 days, have completed the 5 day isolation, and are asymptomatic.

07/06/23

# SFIS STAFF COMMUNICABLE ILLNESS GUIDANCE TREE

## SFIS STAFF COMMUNICABLE ILLNESS GUIDANCE TREE

ALL STAFF ARE REQUIRED TO FOLLOW THE SFIS GUIDANCE TREE



® Does not apply to staff who have tested positive within the last 60 days, have completed the 5 day isolation, and are asymptomatic. 07/06/23