



October 21, 2021

Dear Parents, Staff and Community Members:

The Intensive Education Academy was notified that a member of our school community has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19). The affected person has been instructed to remain home in self-isolation for 10 days and has been provided with additional instructions to follow prior to returning to school.

Contact tracing has been completed. Those who have been identified as close contacts have been notified and will be quarantining and/or monitored as necessary. Questions about who is determined to be a close contact and who needs to quarantine, can be answered by the Connecticut Department of Public Health's [Addendum 5](#) that continues to be updated as necessary. This document can also provide information on what to do if you or a family member has possible symptoms, a diagnosis, or exposure to COVID-19.

Please remember that it is essential that members of our school community, students and staff, stay home if they are feeling unwell or may or if they have come in contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. We remind you to review the [health checklist](#) daily.

This is the time of year when we typically see an increase in cold and allergy symptoms. Unfortunately, many cases of COVID-19 are now presenting with similar symptoms of runny nose, nasal congestion, cough, headache and/or sore throat, even in persons who are vaccinated. For this reason:

- Please call and keep your child home when they have these mild cold- or allergy-like symptoms, contact their provider and request a PCR or molecular COVID test (not a rapid antigen test) before they return to school.
- If your child has asthma or allergies that flare up at this time of year, discuss with their provider the best way to manage their conditions, in order to prevent symptoms that might mimic those of COVID-19.
- Remember that the masking, handwashing and distancing precautions we are taking at school help prevent the spread of colds, flu and other diseases in addition to COVID-19. Practicing these measures in the community as well will help keep us all healthy.

Intensive Education Academy, Inc.

840 North Main Street West Hartford, CT 06117 ■ 860-236-2049 ■ www.ie-academy.org

IEA is a non-sectarian, not-for-profit, State of CT approved special educational facility, and ministry of the Sisters of St. Joseph.



Be especially mindful of monitoring yourself and family members for these COVID-19 symptoms:

- ☐ Fever (100.4° Fahrenheit or higher)
- ☐ Chills or shaking chills
- ☐ Uncontrolled new cough (not due to other known cause, such as chronic cough)
- ☐ Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
- ☐ New loss of taste or smell
- ☐ Other non-specific symptoms such as headache, fatigue, sore throat, runny nose, nasal congestion, body aches, nausea/vomiting/diarrhea

It is vital that the school nurse be informed if an IEA student or staff person is taking a COVID-19 test due to symptoms, has received a positive test result or has been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19. Terri LeDuc can be reached at ieanurse@ie-academy.org or 860-310-2784.

For additional information on COVID-19 symptoms, please see:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>

We are closely monitoring this situation and working with the West Hartford-Bloomfield Health District and will provide you with updates as necessary. As always, if you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at jforman@ie-academy.org or 860.236.2049.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jeff Forman', is written in a cursive style.

Jeffrey Forman
Executive Director

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