



840 North Main Street
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October 20, 2020

Dear Parents, Staff and Community Members:

The Intensive Education Academy has been notified that two members of our school community were each in contact with people outside of our school community who tested positive for the coronavirus (COVID-19). These are two distinct instances that are not related to each other. Both individuals have been instructed to remain home in quarantine as a precautionary measure.

As these IEA community members have been in close contact with infected individuals but are not experiencing symptoms and have not tested positive for COVID-19, the Health Department does not recommend IEA take any additional action at this time.

As we have shared, COVID-19 is spread mainly via person-to-person contact through contaminated air droplets from coughing and sneezing by an infected person. As with controlling the spread of other viruses, we urge everyone to discuss the following preventive measures with your children and family members:

- Wash your hands frequently, but especially after using the restroom and before preparing or consuming food. Using soap and hot water, wash for about 20 seconds. Be sure to also wash your fingertips. When soap and water are not available, use hand sanitizer.
- Avoid coughing or sneezing into your hands or in the air. Always try to cough or sneeze into a tissue, then throw the tissue away. If you don't have a tissue, cough/sneeze inside the elbow of your arm.
- As much as you can, avoid touching your eyes, mouth, and nose.
- Wear a face covering (mask) whenever there is a likelihood that you or your family members will be in the presence of others.
- Maintain social distancing (at least 6 feet) between yourself and others when outside of your home.

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

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Below is the list of COVID-19 symptoms for which everyone should monitor in their family members:

- 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

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

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

Staff and students exhibiting any of the above symptoms, or feeling ill, should remain home and call their medical provider to report their symptoms and ask about testing prior to seeking in-person care at a clinic, physician's office, or hospital.

For more information on what to do if you or a family member has possible symptoms, a diagnosis, or exposure to COVID-19, please see *Addendum 5: Interim Guidance for Responding to COVID-19 Scenarios in Connecticut School Districts*, available here:

<https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/COVID19/COVID-19-Resources-for-Families-and-Educators/Addendums-and-FAQs>

We remain in contact with West Hartford-Bloomfield Health District and will provide you with updates if needed. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at jforman@ie-academy.org or 860.236.2049.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Forman
Executive Director

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