COVID Test to Stay Policy

Moorestown Friends School
May 1, 2022

Test to Stay (TTS) is a protocol that allows asymptomatic close contacts who are not up to date on their COVID-19 vaccinations to continue in-person learning instead of having to stay home for the first five days after exposure. This protocol, endorsed by the New Jersey Department of Health, can be used to minimize disruption to learning, while keeping the community safe.

Moorestown Friends School is implementing the Test to Stay protocol as an option for eligible students. To participate in TTS, students must not have any symptoms of COVID-19, must test negative two times after exposure (immediately following report of exposure and on Day 5), and must communicate with the nurse's office and have clearance to participate in the TTS protocol. At-home rapid tests* may be used for TTS. Other options of testing include pharmacies, health care providers, or other local health agencies, with all negative test results sent to the school nurse.

In the case of a potential outbreak of COVID at MFS, we may suspend the TTS protocol and require quarantine for a minimum of 5 days. If a child is not able to consistently wear a mask at school, the TTS protocol will not be available and quarantine will be required. TTS is also not available for household close contacts (such as siblings).

If your child is identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19, please contact the nurse's office immediately at nurse@mfriends.org, so that we can determine if your child is eligible for TTS. Then, the following steps will be taken:

- 1. The child must be tested for COVID immediately after learning of exposure, with test results sent to the school nurse (a photo of an at-home test is sufficient). Test results must be received and confirmed by the nurse before sending a child to school.
- 2. The child must be tested again the morning of Day 5 after exposure (day of exposure is considered Day 0) with a negative result sent to the school nurse in order to return to school that day.
- The child must wear a well-fitting mask indoors and outdoors through Day 10 after exposure. This includes all school activities, including sports and other extracurricular activities. To eat/drink, a student may remove the mask but should maintain 6 feet of distance from others.
- 4. The child must quarantine at home when not in school.
- The parent/guardian must monitor their child for symptoms of COVID-19. If symptoms are present, the child may not participate in TTS and should quarantine at home and seek diagnostic testing.

^{*}Tests may be ordered for free from COVIDtests.gov or purchased at local pharmacies and may be covered by some health insurance plans. MFS does not provide or cover the cost of test kits.