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Dear Member of the **I.S. 119 - QUEENS - Q119 at 74-01 78 AVENUE** Community:

In this letter you will find information about when students and staff can return to school after experiencing symptoms of COVID-19. This guidance reflects the expertise of the NYC Department of Health & Mental Hygiene (DOHMH), the New York City Department of Education (DOE) and the NYC Test + Trace Corps (T2).

When Is It Safe to Return to the School Building?

Any student or staff member who has tested positive for COVID-19 can return to school only after:

- Isolating for 10 days **AND**
- Being fever-free for 24 hours without the use of medication **AND**
- Is experiencing overall improvement in symptoms

Please note:

- For people with symptoms, the infectious period generally begins two days before symptoms start and continues for ten days from when symptoms begin.
- For people with no symptoms (asymptomatic), the infectious period is estimated to begin two days before COVID-19 testing to ten days after testing.
- One may continue to receive a positive COVID-19 test result for up to three months even though they are no longer infectious.

If a student or staff member showed symptoms but tested negative for COVID-19, they can return to school only after:

- Being fever free 24 hours without the use of medication **AND**
- Overall symptoms are improving

If a student or staff member did not get tested for COVID-19 but showed symptoms, they can return to school only after:

- At least 10 days have passed since symptoms started **AND**
- They have been fever-free for 24 hours without the use of medication **AND**
- Overall symptoms are improving

If a student or staff member is considered a close contact of an individual who has tested positive, they can return to school only after:

- Quarantining for 10-days since their last exposure to that case (even if you receive a subsequent negative COVID-19 test result)

Students in quarantine should participate in remote learning to the extent possible.

How can I stay updated?

To help New Yorkers quarantine, the NYC Test + Trace Corps partners with community-based organizations to connect individuals to resources like food, medicine, and health care. To connect with resources, you can call **1-212-COVID19 (212-268-4319)**.

For additional information on COVID-19, visit schools.nyc.gov/coronavirus or call 311.

Thank you for your cooperation. Health and safety will always come first in New York City public schools, no matter what.

Sincerely,

Jeanne Fagan

Principal