**This letter provides guidance for students who have been identified as close contacts of a positive Covid-19 case at the school.**

Dear Member of **William E. Grady Career and Technical Education High School** at **25 Brighton 4th Road** Community:

**Your child has had close contact with an individual in our school community who has tested positive for COVID-19. According to health guidelines, your child must stay home for 10 days following the date of possible exposure and should not return to school until XX/XX/XXXX, unless they are fully vaccinated OR have been recently (within 90 days) diagnosed with COVID and have recovered.**

**Students and staff who are not fully vaccinated and are considered close contacts may test out of quarantine to return to their classrooms after the seventh day; see below for more details.** **Fully vaccinated people are those who have received both shots of a two-shot regimen or one shot of a single shot regimen and the last shot was at least 14 days ago. If you are experiencing any symptoms, you must quarantine even if you are vaccinated.**

We know that this may be stressful, and we are here to support and guide you. You may be contacted by the NYC Test + Trace Corps (T2) with information and updates. Additionally, below you will find guidance that reflects the expertise of the NYC Department of Health & Mental Hygiene (DOHMH), the New York City Department of Education (DOE), and T2.

**Here is what to do now if your child is not vaccinated:**

**Keep your child at home**

* Until **XX/XX/XXXX**, your child can leave home only to visit a medical provider, to get a COVID-19 test, or in the event of an emergency unless they are fully vaccinated. It is important that your child stay home, even if they do not feel sick, to prevent the spread of COVID-19.
* Unvaccinated students who are considered close contacts may test out of quarantine to return to their classrooms after the seventh day. In order to do so, individuals should take a lab-administered COVID-19 test on or after their fifth day of quarantine to re-enter class on the eighth day if they receive a negative test result. All must submit proof of a negative test through the [COVID-19 Vaccination Portal](https://vaccine.schools.nyc/), or by submitting the result to the school on paper or electronically.
* The NYC Test + Trace Corps partners with community-based organizations to connect New Yorkers in quarantine to resources like food, medicine, and health care. To connect with these resources, you can call **212-COVID19 (212-268-4319).**

**Get tested**

* T2 strongly recommends you take your child for a COVID-19 test, whether or not they have symptoms. Testing is free at many sites and available regardless of immigration or insurance status. For information about testing, contact your child’s medical provider, call **311** or visit [nyc.gov/covidtest](https://www1.nyc.gov/site/coronavirus/get-tested/covid-19-testing.page).

**Get vaccinated**

* All New Yorkers age 5 or older are eligible to be vaccinated for COVID-19. If someone is fully vaccinated, they do not have to miss school, sports or work if there is a case in their classroom. People who are between 5 and 17 years old are eligible for the Pfizer vaccine only; all older ages are eligible for all three vaccines. Find a vaccine site today at <https://vaccinefinder.nyc.gov/>. There is no cost to be vaccinated.

**Look out for symptoms**

* People with COVID-19 have reported a wide range of symptoms, including fever/chills, cough, difficulty breathing, and new loss of taste or smell. Most people with COVID-19 have mild to moderate symptoms and recover on their own. Some people have no symptoms at all. Less commonly, COVID-19 may lead to severe complications, hospitalization or death.
* In rare cases, some children have developed multisystem inflammatory syndrome (MIS-C), a health condition associated with COVID-19 that can result in serious illness. Symptoms may include fever lasting several days, red or pink eyes, swollen hands and feet, rash, diarrhea, vomiting, abdominal pain, red cracked lips, or red bumpy tongue that looks like a strawberry.
* Talk to your child’s medical provider if your child develops symptoms that could be from COVID-19. If your child does not have a medical provider, call 311.

**How can I stay updated?**

We will continue to closely follow directions from public health experts and proactively update you on any measures we are taking. **To ensure we can reach you via text and email, please create a New York City Schools Account (NYCSA) as soon as possible by visiting schools.nyc.gov/nycsa.**

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 these resources, you can call **1-212-COVID19 (212-268-4319).**

For additional information on COVID-19, visit [schools.nyc.gov/coronavirus](http://schools.nyc.gov/coronavirus) or call 311.

Sincerely,

Tarah Montalbano