



# **NTA Illness Protocol and Standard Operating Procedure August 2022**

We continue to work from a well-child perspective at NTA. We value all our children and want them here daily as much as possible, but we continue to remain vigilant against community-borne illness for the overall health of our student body and staff.

As recommended screening protocols have evolved, so have we. We take our guidance from the Cumberland County Health Department (CCHD).

Fever or not feeling well are often the first signs of illness. Remain vigilant at home for signs of illness before sending your child to school. We no longer screen temperatures of arriving children.

If your child complains to a teacher about not feeling well, their temperature will be checked, and parent notified to discuss current child complaints. Our threshold for concern is a temperature of 99.6 F. This is not a fever by standard definition but combined with feeling ill, it may indicate a rising infection (textbook fever definition is 100.4 F). Even if a child's temperature does not breach this threshold, expect a phone call regarding your child's complaint. If the temperature is 99.6 or greater, we will ask that you come pick up your child. Parents of children sent home for feeling poorly with a temperature of 99.6 or greater are asked to make accommodations to remain out of school the following day. Parents of children who remain out of school for multiple days because of ongoing illness are encouraged to have their child assessed by a medical provider. Children should not return to school until they are fever-free for a minimum period of 24 hours. Your child will not be rescreened for elevated temperature upon return unless the child begins to complain of not feeling well.

Our COVID-19 mitigation plan will remain the same as we ended last school year. A child with COVID will remain at home for 5 days (day one is symptoms onset or positive COVID test date, whichever comes first). The student may return to school on day 6 and strict mask wearing continues for days 6-10. If a child cannot wear a mask, they are to quarantine at home for 10 full days (per guidance from CCHD). As mentioned, a child should be without fever for a minimum of 24 hours before returning to school.

We are still required to track COVID data which is reportable to the health department. The data they require is the affected child's name, child's class, child's date of birth, child's parent name, parent's phone number, and the child's last day at school, and if the positive test was a home test kit or other (medical office, Walgreens, etc.). The health department may or may not contact you, but NTA will ensure that we have the reportable requirements from you.