

## 2.05 COVID-19 Testing

Somers School District is not equipped to conduct testing in the event of a large-scale outbreak. We have a standing relationship with the Putnam County Department of Health and in the event that testing is required, we will defer to the Putnam county DOH for any required or relevant information. This information will be disseminated through our communications platform.

Testing is readily available in our community. Students, staff or visitors requiring COVID-19 testing should contact their health provider, a local urgent care, federally qualified health center or visit the NYSDOH website to locate a nearby testing facility <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/find-test-site-near-you>.

A list of testing sites can be found on the WCDOH health website (<https://health.westchestergov.com/2019-novel-coronavirus>) under the testing, results and treatment tab. Students, faculty and staff can also call the NYS COVID-19 hotline at 1-888-364-3065 for assistance locating a testing site.

## 2.06 Contact Tracing

Contact Tracing Assessing and informing those with potential exposure is a fundamental control strategy for minimizing spread within a group or camp population. CDC defines close contact as interactions within 6 feet for more than 10 minutes.

Somers Central School district will notify the state and local health department immediately upon being informed of any positive COVID-19 diagnostic test result by an individual within school facilities or on school grounds, including students, faculty, staff, and visitors of the Somers Central School District.

To assist the local health department with tracing the transmission of COVID-19, Somers Central School District has developed and maintained a plan to trace all contacts of exposed individuals in accordance with protocols, training, and tools provided through the New York State Contact Tracing Program.

Districts may assist with contact tracing by:

- Keeping accurate attendance records of students and staff members
- Ensuring student schedules are up to date
- Keeping a visitor log that includes date and time address and phone number, and where in the school they visited
- Assisting the local health departments in tracing all contacts of the individual in accordance with the protocol, training, and tools provided through the NYS Contact Tracing Program
- Informing local health department of staff member testing positive regardless of county of residence.
- For all contact tracing, the DOH will require the name, address, and phone number as well as the name and phone number of the guardian of a student.

If/when COVID-19 cases are discovered, in consultation with the Westchester County Department of Health, Somers Central School District will do the following:

- Close or quarantine locations of potential exposure for 24 hours, if possible
- Clean and disinfect locations as necessary
- Provide DOH with information as required

Ill students and staff will be assessed by the school nurse or medical director in their absence. They will be sent home for follow-up with a health care provider. A doctor's note will be required to return.

Modified school operations may be considered prior to instituting school-wide closures to help mitigate a rise in cases.

Confidentiality must be maintained as required by federal and state laws and regulations. **Staff should not try to determine who is to be excluded without guidance and direction from the local health department.**