



January 18,2022

In response to the guidance provided by the Agency of Education and the Vermont Department of Health, Franklin West schools have updated our procedures for responding to positive cases of COVID in our schools. The latest guidance shifts schools from health related activities like contact tracing and testing. We will continue to inform our community about COVID positive exposures in our schools, but will shift responsibility for testing to families.

When the school receives information about a student or staff member who has tested positive for COVID, we will notify any person who had a similar schedule to the impacted person that they are a presumptive contact. We will make test kits available to families of the presumptive contacts for home testing. As long as a presumptive contact does not exhibit symptoms or receive a positive outcome on a home test, they can continue to attend school and school activities.

Families can pick up tests from school or have them sent home with their students. Families will administer the test and, based on the results, send their student to school (negative and no symptoms) or keep them at home (positive and/or symptoms). Our plan returns to a reliance on families to not send students to school when they are sick.

Your Franklin West nurses have created [this flowchart](#) to help clarify the process. Please remember to keep your children home when they are sick, wash hands, and wear masks. Thank you for your continued support, patience, and flexibility.

Sincerely,

JOHN T. TAGUE

John T. Tague
Interim Superintendent