



2021-2022 Health Guidelines

Tazewell-Woodford Head Start is committed to keeping children safe and healthy. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, guidelines are followed from the Office of Head Start, Tazewell and Woodford County Health Departments, Center for Disease Control, Department of Children and Family Services and the State of Illinois.

Children and adults at all sites are **required to wear masks regardless of vaccination status**. Children receive multiple mask breaks throughout the day while eating, napping and when playing outside. All classrooms are equipped with air purifiers, and toys and surfaces are cleaned frequently.

Parents are encouraged to keep their child at home with any sign of illness. If a child exhibits any of the following symptoms, they must stay at home until they are symptom free for at least 24 hours. If a child is absent more than three days, a doctor's note is needed to return to school.

Children should be kept at home if they exhibit any of the following:

- Nausea, Vomiting or Diarrhea within the last 24 hours
- Earache or Ear Drainage
- Sore Throat
- Persistent Cough
- Runny Nose with yellow or green discharge
- Oral temperature of over 100 degrees. **A child's temperature should be normal for 24 hours without medication before returning to school.**
- Headache or stomachache in combination with other symptoms
- Unidentified Rash or Communicable Skin Rash - A child may return after proper treatment.
- Pinkeye (conjunctivitis) in one or both eyes. The whites of the eyes will appear pink or red and feel painful and itchy. There may be yellow, green or white matter in or around the eye or lashes.
- Lice (live or nits) – Students must be checked by administration before returning to school.

COVID-19 Exposure and Quarantine

Tazewell-Woodford Head Start follows the guidance of the Health Department in the quarantine of individuals with or exposed to COVID-19.

- If an individual is vaccinated, no quarantine is required after exposure as long as the person remains symptom free.
- An unvaccinated individual, including all students at Tazewell-Woodford Head Start, will be required to quarantine for 10 days after exposure to COVID-19.
- If a child tests positive for COVID-19 in a classroom, all the children in the classroom will be required to quarantined for 10 days. Vaccinated staff will report to work as long as they remain symptom free and will provide activities and remote learning opportunities for children.
- Anyone testing positive for COVID-19 will require a note from the Health Department or Doctor and be symptom free to return.

Parents are encouraged to keep children home at any sign of illness. Tazewell-Woodford Head Start Staff is committed to keeping children safe. We appreciate your cooperation in keeping our children and community as safe as possible. Please contact us with any questions or concerns.

****These procedures are subject to change at any time with new guidance from the Health Department, Department of Children and Family Services or Office of Head Start*



Dear Parents,

With the recent spike in COVID-19 cases, we want to ensure you that we are doing everything possible to keep your child safe. We believe that the best place for your child to learn is in the classroom. We are in constant contact with the Health Department to make sure we are following the most current guidelines.

We ask that you help us keep our classrooms open and children in school so, please:

- Keep your child home if they are feeling ill
- Keep your child home if they have been exposed to a positive case of COVID-19
- Wear a mask when dropping off or picking up your child
- Send your child on the bus or to school with a mask
- If your child will be absent, please call to let us know the reason
- Please let us know the results of any COVID-19 tests

The CDC recently shortened their quarantine time periods, but schools are continuing to follow the same guidelines. Previously, our classrooms were quarantined for 14 days. We are changing to the following:

Situation	Quarantine Period
Child Tests Positive for COVID-19	Child can return after 10 days with a note from the doctor or Health Department. Child must be symptom free for 24 hours with no medication.
Positive Case in Child's Household	Child must quarantine for 10 days. If the child does not test positive during the quarantine period, the parent can choose for the child to isolate for an <i>additional</i> 10 days or receive a negative COVID-19 PCR Test after the 7 th day of original exposure.*
Positive Case in Classroom	Classroom will be closed for 10 days.
Child Showing Symptoms of Illness	Requirements will be different based on symptoms. Parent should contact the Tazewell-Woodford Head Start Health Coordinator to determine when the child can return.
Child Travel	If a child travels, they must quarantine for 10 days if the state where they travel is the darkest color on the following map and is darker than Illinois. This indicates a high number of COVID-19 cases in the state. https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#cases_last7-count
*Please Note: All testing must be done through an authorized testing site. No Home Rapid Tests will be accepted.	

We appreciate your cooperation and hope that this surge of cases ends quickly. Know that we want your children in the classroom and will work to keep them as safe as possible.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at 309-699-6843.

Stay well,
Your Head Start Staff