



Argyle Central School

Test To Stay (TTS) Protocol

As supported in the December 23, 2021 “Revised Updated Testing and Quarantine Supplemental Information to the “Interim NYSDOH Guidance for Classroom Instruction in P-12 Schools During the 2021-2022 Academic Year”” guidance memo, the Argyle Central School District will be implementing the “Test to Stay” initiative.

Eligibility

- Only those students, faculty, or staff who have been identified as a close-contact due to a school-setting exposure are eligible to participate;
- Both, the COVID positive individual (*index patient*) and the exposed person, must have been consistently and properly masked while in the school building consistent with the NYS reopening guidance;
- The exposed person must be asymptomatic and remain asymptomatic throughout the TTS period;
- If the exposed person develops any symptoms, the TTS process will be stopped and they will be excluded from attending school per the current school guidance;
- The exposed person is allowed to remain in school and ride the school bus, but, per NYS DOH, is prohibited from attending any after-school events or participating in any extra-curricular activities, including: clubs and interscholastic athletics;

Testing

- The exposed person will be tested a minimum of three times over a five-day period following the school-based exposure, unless recognition of the exposure is delayed or a weekend or period of school break intervenes.
- The specific dates of testing will be determined by the school nurse or their designee.
- If the exposed person is unable to adhere to the testing dates, they will be excluded from school.
- The five-day period is measured in calendar days where the date of exposure is considered “Day 0”.
- The first test will be conducted as soon as possible after the exposure is identified. The table below is a guide for the testing schedule and may be adjusted to account for weekends, holidays, and other non-school days. The district reserves the right to require additional testing at our discretion.

Minimum Testing Cadences

Day of First Test	Day of Second Test	Day of Third Test
0 (day of exposure)	2	5
1	3	5
2	5	N/A
3	5	N/A

- Testing will be conducted at the district by the school nurses or by a trained designee.
- Participating individuals will report to the Nurse’s office immediately upon arrival at school to be tested.
- If the test result is positive, the individual will be isolated and required to return home. The district will then contact the Washington County Department of Health to inform them of the positive case and to assist with any school-related contact-tracing requirements.
- At home testing is not allowed for the TTS program.

The TTS program is contingent upon the availability of test kits. If the district does not have the required number of kits to complete the process, the TTS program will be suspended until more tests are available.

Participating individuals must continue to follow any quarantine orders from the Department of Health. Participating in the TTS program does not exempt exposed individuals from quarantine orders, beyond attending school.