

Nellie H. Stokes Elementary School LAUNCHES COVID-19 “TEST TO STAY” PROGRAM

Help keep our children safe — and schools open statewide.

Click below to authorize in-school testing for your child.

<https://my.primary.health/l/caesar-rodney-schools>

Dear Nellie H. Stokes Elementary School Parent,

Along with preventing COVID-19 by vaccinating all children age five and older, testing is an important way to identify and stop the spread of the virus in our community and maintain in-person instruction throughout the school year. As you may know, we have partnered with the Delaware Division of Public Health (DPH) to give your child access to free, weekly COVID-19 tests through the In-School Testing program. Starting December 6, 2021, Nellie H. Stokes Elementary School will also provide testing for students who may have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 and have been instructed to quarantine through a new Test to Stay program.

This Test to Stay program is offered as an adjunct to our current COVID-19 In-School Testing program. To be eligible for the Test to Stay program, students will first need to be signed up in our current In-School Testing program. Test to Stay, which follows DPH guidance, would allow a student to attend school even if they have been exposed to COVID-19 as long as they meet the following these criteria:

- They show no symptoms
- They correctly wear a mask indoors when at school
- They continue to quarantine when not at school
- They test negative daily (during the school week) as part of the Test to Stay program

To learn more about the program and why it’s important to enroll your children, please see the attached Frequently Asked Questions document and [visit the COVID-19 school testing website](#).

COVID-19 cases are still a significant concern in our community—and testing through programs like ours is one of the best ways to identify them and stop the virus from spreading. And remember, *the more students we can enroll, the more effective it will be*. If your child is not yet vaccinated, enroll your student in In-School Testing program now, so they can participate in Test to Stay and they can benefit from the education, socialization, and opportunities every Delaware child deserves.

Thank you.

Mr. Freeman Williams
Principal, Nellie H. Stokes Elementary School