

Rhode Island Training School Operating Procedure
Prevention, Screening, and Management (including quarantine and medical isolation) of CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)
Updated 1/17/21

OBJECTIVES:

- To provide guidance on the prevention and management of COVID-19 at the Rhode Island Training School (RITS) that prioritizes maintaining the health and safety of all youth and staff at the facility.
- To address and implement relevant guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s “Interim Guidance on Management of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in Correctional and Detention Facilities” (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019ncov/community/correction-detention/guidance-correctional-detention.html>).
- To outline the general considerations in addressing the public health crisis of the COVID-19 pandemic while allowing for differing levels of intervention based on the severity of the situation in the area and in the facility.

Definition of Levels

This procedure will outline steps to prevent and manage COVID-19 across varying levels of risk that will be determined based on internal facility factors (active infections among youth and staff), local prevalence and infection rates, and guidance from the Rhode Island Training School consulting medical providers, Rhode Island Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The State of Rhode Island refers to different phases of “Reopening Rhode Island” after the initial emergency response to the COVID-19 pandemic and includes numerous resources on this website: <https://www.reopeningri.com/>.

- COVID Level **Green** (Green) – Risk has returned to baseline pre-COVID levels
- COVID Level **Yellow** (Yellow) – Lowest level of risk
 - Minimum number of active cases (either none or isolated few) among youth or staff AND reopening process taking place in community (e.g. Phase 3, 4)
 - Minimum interventions that will remain in place throughout the COVID-19 pandemic period
 - All areas of this procedure remain in place EXCEPT those identified only as COVID Level Orange or Level Red precautions
- COVID Level **Orange** (Orange) – Moderate risk
 - Recent infection(s) or exposure within facility among youth and/or staff OR
 - High prevalence in the state with precautionary measures in place

- COVID Level **Red (Red)** – High risk
 - Active infections with evidence of spread within facility among youth and/or staff OR
 - High prevalence in the state, including state of emergency declaration and/or guidance for quarantine/shelter-in-place

The following steps will be taken whenever there is a change in level of response:

- 1) RITS Administration will make a determination for a change in consultation with the RITS Coronavirus Response Team and/or RITS Consulting Medical Providers and/or RI Department of Health
- 2) An email will be sent to all staff and regular vendors with the updated level change
- 3) The posted signs throughout the facility will indicate the new level

Prevention and Preparation

- All youth will be offered influenza vaccines at the time of admission and periodically afterwards with appropriate consent.
- All staff will be encouraged to get a flu shot.
- All staff and regular vendors/contractors will be directed to remain out of work if they have any symptoms of COVID-19, as per Department of Administration and Rhode Island Department of Health guidelines. The list of symptoms associated with COVID-19 is available on the RIDOH website at <https://health.ri.gov/diseases/ncov2019/>.
- Regular cleaning of all areas of the facility will include wiping down with disinfectant as follows:
 - Designated common areas within the facility (lobby, shift coordinators' office, mod central area, youth and staff shared bathrooms will be cleaned at least every 4 hours (COVID Levels Orange & Red) or twice daily (COVID Level Yellow).
 - All occupied youth rooms will be cleaned at least twice daily (COVID Levels Orange & Red) or once daily (COVID Level Yellow).
 - All other areas (classrooms, cafeteria, clinic, administrative offices, etc.) will be cleaned after each use (COVID Levels Orange & Red) or once daily (COVID Level Yellow). Additional professional cleaning may take place based on DOH recommendations following notification of a COVID-19 positive individual in the facility.
 - An "Area Cleaning Checklist" form will be submitted to each area's Administrator at the end of each shift.
- All youth and staff will have access to water, soap, and/or hand sanitizer and will be encouraged to maintain proper hand hygiene, minimize physical contact with others, and cough/sneeze into their sleeves/elbows. Routine use of gloves is discouraged due to the risk of spreading pathogens without the ability to wash or sanitize hands in between activities; gloves may be used while cleaning and then should be discarded.
- Several rooms will be identified, cleaned, and stocked with medical isolation supplies, at any given time, to be ready for a possible youth directed to isolate as referenced below.

- All staff will receive refresher training in Universal Precautions on a minimum quarterly basis, including specific instructions on putting on and taking off Personal Protective Equipment as needed for their individual job responsibilities. Ongoing training and refreshers will be provided by the Training Specialist and the Clinic staff.
- All staff will wear either a cloth face covering or a surgical mask whenever in a common area inside the facility or within 6-feet of other staff or youth either inside or outside the facility, unless granted a medical exception due to underlying medical conditions that would be made worse by wearing a mask. Any active executive orders or directives from the Governor will apply within the facility.
- If available and if preferred over a cloth face covering, surgical masks will be supplied weekly for each staff member. Masks will be stored in a brown paper bag when staff are not working and will be reused until new replacements are distributed.
- Social distancing measures will continue to be implemented and monitored for staff and youths:
 - All meetings will take place in large enough rooms, or with few enough people to maintain a 6-foot distance between individuals. Whenever possible, participants may join from remote locations by phone or video conference.
 - Classroom and mod configuration will be clearly marked to specify a 6-foot distance between youths and staff.
 - Staff will monitor and enforce a 6-foot distance as much as possible between youths for meals, classes, groups, recreation, and other activities including outside on the blacktop, on the field, or in the garden. Youths will participate in these activities in small groups and remain in the same groupings as much as possible.
 - COVID Level Yellow – routine groupings that meet RI Training School staffing ratio requirements
 - COVID Level Orange – up to 8 youth (maximum 10 people including staff)
 - COVID Level Red – 4 or fewer youth (maximum 5 people including staff)
 - When staff must be closer than six feet youth for medical assessment or safety measures, such as pat-down or restraint, staff must wear masks or cloth face coverings, as well as gloves if direct physical contact is necessary. On Levels Orange and Red, staff will also wear eye protection (goggles, face shield, or mask with attached eye protection) during these interactions.
 - When staff must be closer than 6-feet to each other for work-related responsibilities, they must wear masks or cloth face coverings.
 - Youths will be required to wear face coverings in an effort to reduce potential spread via asymptomatic hosts whenever youth is outside his/her room and potentially within 6 feet of another youth or staff, with the following considerations:
 - Youths will receive instruction from staff around how to put on, take off, and safely store the mask when not in use
 - Replacement masks will be provided by the RITS Clinic when a mask is soiled or damaged
 - Only surgical masks provided by the RITS Clinic will be allowed for youth at this time (i.e. no alternative face coverings or N95 masks)
- Certain supplies – including Personal Protective Equipment as well as cleaning supplies – may be difficult to obtain during a pandemic. The Training School will maintain an active list of supplies that are available on-site as well as those that are used on a daily basis. Distribution of supplies will be determined by Administration on an ongoing basis.

- Specific guidelines will be followed to ensure appropriate precautions up to and including temporary suspension for visitation by family members; on-site visits by non-essential vendors, trainees, and volunteers; supplemental educational and programming activities, routine dental care, and off-grounds transport of youth.
 - Decisions regarding limitation or suspension of these activities will be made by RITS and DCYF Administration with guidance from the Department of Health and RITS Medical Consultants.
 - These activities may be allowed with precautions during COVID Level Yellow, reviewed on a case-by-case basis during COVID Level Orange, and limited with the possibility by RITS Administration authorization only during COVID Level Red.
 - Visitation to the facility by family members
 - Family visitation remains a priority for the RITS Administration and every effort will be made to continue in-person visits when this can be done safely and to ensure frequent virtual visits (via video or phone access) when the in-person visits cannot take place for either facility or family reasons.
 - Outdoor visits are recommended if visits occur during COVID Level Red.
 - Specific guidance around precautions taken during in-person visits will be outlined in the “Reinstituting Family Visitations” document written by the RITS Readiness Management Team and updated as appropriate
 - On-site visits by non-essential vendors, trainees, and volunteers
 - Any of the above individuals who spend a significant amount of time with youth in the facility will be expected to follow all of the same precautions outlined above for RITS staff in terms of COVID testing, face coverings, hand hygiene, and remaining out of work if sick
 - Supplemental educational and programming activities
 - Whenever possible, these will be continued by staff already available in the facility and/or remotely via teleconference
 - Appropriate precautions will be taken for certain higher exposure activities that follow any and all guidance provided by the Rhode Island Department of Health for these businesses and activities outside the facility (e.g. barbering, culinary, Harvest Kitchen, arts and music, weight room, etc.)
 - Routine/preventative dental care
 - The Dental Team will follow guidance by the RI Department of Health and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention as outlined in the document titled “RITS Dental Reopening Plan” as written by the Consulting Dentist and approved by the RITS Clinical and Medical Directors
 - Precautions include environmental adaptations (in conjunction with Facilities Maintenance) and increased precautions during appointments that minimize the risk of exposure
 - While an initial dental screening will still take place within the first 7-days of detention as per DCYF procedure, there will be a 14-day monitoring period prior to any non-urgent dental procedures being done (including routine cleanings)

- In addition to the 14-day monitoring period, a negative COVID test may be requested at the discretion of the dentist prior to any filling or aerosol-generating procedure, as well as any lengthy procedures that require extensive exposure for a youth prior to any invasive procedures
- Off-grounds transport of residents for reasons including but not limited to non-essential medical appointments, court hearings, and re-entry activities
 - Any off-grounds transport for any reason is subject to administrative approval
 - Staff transporting youth off-grounds will bring appropriate face covering(s), hand sanitizer, and disinfectant that may be necessary during the visit for youth and staff on the transport
 - Vans used for transport will be cleaned and disinfected thoroughly after each use
 - Youth returning from an off-grounds transport will undergo the same COVID Screening process as outlined above for new intakes
 - Any youth returning from an off-grounds activity that includes time not directly supervised by RITS staff (e.g. a family pass during re-entry court) will be placed on quarantine status upon returning to the facility with removal as per below.

Staff Screening, Testing, and Protection

- All staff will be screened with the “COVID-19 Screening Form” (all Levels) and a temperature check upon reporting to work (all Levels unless deemed unnecessary after a period of time on COVID Level Yellow).
- If staff answer yes to any of the screening questions, the individual will not be allowed to enter the facility, and the Superintendent will be notified immediately to review this screening form with the individual.
- Each staff member who works directly with youths will receive a face mask and paper bag with instructions on how to put on, take off, store, and reuse the mask safely.
- Staff will wear face coverings when working directly with youth
 - In an area with no identified or suspected cases of COVID-19, staff may choose to wear a cloth face covering, or surgical mask provided by the Training School, or alternative mask of their choice
 - In an area under investigation for possible COVID-19 exposure, staff may wear either a surgical mask or an N95 mask (if anticipating an “aerosolizing” situation such as a youth spitting during a restraint), or a cloth face covering if no surgical masks are available.
 - In a unit with known or suspected youths with COVID-19 infection, staff will wear an N95 mask.
- Staff will be identified who may be assigned to work directly with youths who have been exposed to COVID-19 or who have suspected or confirmed infection with COVID-19. These staff members will have access to additional Personal Protective Equipment and:
 - Will be issued an N95 mask after being properly fit-tested, as well as trained on how to use, reuse, and store the mask;
 - Will be trained on how to put on and take off complete Personal Protective Equipment including an N95 mask, face shield or goggles, gloves, and gown;

- Will wear an N95 mask and gloves any time while interacting directly with youths within a 6-foot range or inside their rooms; and
- Will wear an N95 mask, gloves, face shield or goggles, and gown anytime having direct physical contact with a youth on isolation (e.g. physical exam, physical restraint). Sentinel testing of all staff may take place periodically based on guidance from the RI Department of Health, in which case staff will be scheduled for testing and advised as to how to proceed.
- Any staff who test positive or develop symptoms of COVID-19 will not report to work and will be advised by the RI Department of Health around appropriate procedure to end isolation and return to work. Staff testing for COVID-19 will follow these guidelines:
 - Any staff who has been away will be required to have a negative COVID-19 test prior to returning to work (COVID Levels Orange & Red).
 - Any vendors, trainees, or other providers entering the facility will be requested to have a negative COVID-19 test prior to beginning or resuming work in the facility (COVID Levels Orange & Red).
 - All staff, contractors/vendors, and consultants entering and exiting the RI Training School on a regular basis will be required to complete Sentinel Testing every 7 days (COVID Level Red), at minimum, every 14 days (COVID Level Orange), or monthly (COVID Level Yellow), as decided by the RITS Coronavirus Response Team in consultation with RIDOH.
 - Any staff, contract/vendors, and consultants with a documented positive COVID test may not participate in the sentinel testing for 90 days after the initial positive test.
- Staff meetings will be held virtually whenever possible (Levels Red and Orange), with no in-person meetings held on Level Red. During Levels Orange and Yellow, meetings may be held in person when there is adequate social distancing (>6 feet), and all participants are wearing masks.

Youth Screening and Testing

Screening of the youth for COVID-19 using the COVID-19 screening form will be conducted by a nurse (if on-site) or a JPW (during 3rd shift) in each of the following situations:

- New intake to the facility
 - Youth reports symptoms of COVID-19 to staff
 - Youth returns from an off-site visit (e.g. medical appointment, court hearing, re-entry activity, etc.)
1. Pre-screening
 - Whenever the shift coordinators learn about a pending intake, an initial screening will be done over the phone with the referring agency prior to arrival at the facility.
 - Any youth being transferred from a hospital (including an Emergency Department) will have a COVID-19 test requested prior to arriving at the RITS. The results do not have to be back yet. Notification of the On-Call Medical Provider, the Medical Director, or the Clinical Director must be made in order to facilitate obtaining the results and determining whether additional steps are necessary besides routine quarantine.

- An appropriate attempt will also be made to contact a parent, guardian, group home, probation officer, or other responsible adult for collateral information regarding the screening questions, which will be documented on the COVID-19 Screening Form.
 - In the event that there is no collateral information available at the time of intake, the screening process will continue as described below, and any youth who screens “negative” for COVID-19 symptoms or known exposure will be placed in quarantine for 7 days pending negative results of a COVID-19 test.
 - When a **rapid COVID test** has been completed with a negative result prior to intake, the screening and quarantine process will still take place as above, including the requirement of a COVID-19 test sent from the RITS prior to coming off quarantine.
2. Initial Screening (or Screening upon Reporting of Symptoms)
- A screening will be conducted at intake (by nursing staff between 7 am - 11 pm or by the admitting Juvenile Program Worker (JPW) between 11 pm – 7 am) in the sally port while the youth remains in the custody of the transporting agency.
 - The youth will be asked to wear a face covering or mask that will be provided for him/her during the screening.
 - The individual or individuals conducting the initial screening will wear an N95 mask (or a surgical mask if no N95 mask is available, or a cloth face covering if no surgical mask is available) and gloves.
 - The screening will review any potential symptoms of or exposure to COVID-19 as per the “COVID-19 Screening Form.”
 - Results will be documented on the “COVID-19 Screening Form.”
 - Any youth who reports symptoms of COVID-19 at any time while in the facility will be screened as outlined above.

The following steps will be taken immediately with any **youth who screens positive for COVID-19** on the COVID-19 Screening Form or for whom there are concerns for exposure based on the collateral information obtained:

- Place a mask on the youth if one is not already in place.
 - Have the youth wash their hands with soap and water or use hand sanitizer.
 - The JPW conducting the search on the youth will wear full Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to include an N95 mask (or a surgical mask if no N95 mask is available or a cloth face covering if no surgical mask is available), face shield, gown, and gloves while in the room.
 - The youth will be placed in the holding cell (or remain in his/her room on the mod if already admitted) until enough information is gathered to decide, in consultation with nursing and medical providers, whether medical isolation is necessary.
 - The on-call Medical Provider or Medical Director will be contacted for further instruction including consideration for placing the youth in isolation. The Shift Coordinators will be contacted and asked to notify the Nursing Staff, Clinical Director, Medical Director, and Administrator on-call.
3. New Intakes with a **negative screen will be quarantined**
- The remainder of the intake process will follow standard procedure EXCEPT that the staff member conducting the intake (including pat-down) will wear gloves, a mask, and eye protection.

- Once the intake process has been completed, the youth will go to the appropriate mod (Detention for males and C mod for females) and be assigned a room and bathroom on the opposite side of the mod from the other youth.
 - Social distancing and hand hygiene practices will be followed for all youths.
 - New male youths will remain on the Detention mod for 14 days (in quarantine for a minimum of 7 days pending a negative COVID-19 test conducted a minimum of 5 days after detention for all COVID Levels) prior to moving to the adjudicated mod.
 - Newly detained youths will be quarantined (maintained separately) using the following guidelines:
 - ✦ Quarantine will last 7 days pending a negative COVID-19 test (all COVID Levels) from the time of intake or the time of exposure to known contact with COVID-19, whichever happened most recently
 - ✦ Room on the opposite side of the mod from others unless entire mod under quarantine
 - ✦ Private bathroom if possible, otherwise if necessary, a shared bathroom with others on quarantine status
 - ✦ All activities (including education, clinical programming, recreation, and meals) separate from the rest of the population
 - ✦ Temperature and symptom check twice daily by Nursing
 - ✦ Youth will be monitored on a 5-minute watch
 - ✦ Unit Staff will maintain a daily log with any relevant activities or updates, as well as complete a “Rhode Training School Quarantine/Isolation Form” for any individual on quarantine that will be placed in the unit logbook with a copy provided to the Shift Coordinators at the end of each shift. Shift Coordinators will provide a copy to the Clinical Director.
 - ✦ On Levels Orange and Red, any staff members who have face-to-face contact (<6 feet) with youth on quarantine will wear eye protection (goggles, face shield, or mask with attached eye protection)
 - If a youth reports that he/she has tested POSITIVE for COVID-19 within the past 90 days but more than 10 days previously, he/she can bypass the quarantine process (due to the low risk of reinfection or transmission during this time frame) after the following steps take place:
 - ✦ Clinic staff obtains confirmation either from a lab or the RI Department of Health IN WRITING the date of the positive test
 - ✦ The full Nursing Intake Assessment is completed and confirms there are no active symptoms of COVID-19
 - ✦ Approval is obtained from the Clinical Director, Medical Director, or on-call Medical Provider for an order to bypass quarantine
 - Youth will be removed off quarantine status at the end of 7 days pending a negative COVID-19 test (all COVID Levels) upon confirmation with the Medical Provider and/or RI Department of Health.
4. Testing of youth for COVID-19 using a nasopharyngeal or nasal swab will follow the RITS Clinic Operating Procedure titled “Testing for COVID-19”.
- COVID-19 testing will be conducted based on either an order by a medical provider or guidance by the Department of Health, with consideration either for individual risk and medical care or for surveillance purposes.
 - COVID-19 testing will be conducted within 48-72 hours of admission if imminent release is not anticipated to help identify asymptomatic cases that may require medical isolation.
 - Routine COVID-19 testing will not be conducted at the time of release.

- Testing will not be done on any youth with a confirmed positive COVID test within the previous 90 days (due to the unreliability of test results in this population and the low risk for reinfection or transmission)

Please see the grid titled “Categories of Youth during the COVID-19 Pandemic” at the end of this procedure for further guidance around outcomes of the screening process.

Management of Individual Youths with a Suspected or Confirmed Case of COVID-19

- One staff will escort the youth to a designated room while the second staff follows and disinfects all contacted surfaces from intake or initial area to the designated room.
- The youth will be placed on medical isolation in a designated room.
 - Each youth will have their own bathroom. If this is not possible, the bathroom will be disinfected after each use. If multiple youth test positive, they can share one bathroom.
- The RITS Superintendent must approve of the transfer of the youth to or from a medical isolation room if it involves a unit transfer.
- Assigned staff working with medically isolated youth(s) will remain in that area and limit movement or exposure to other areas of the facility.
- Notification will be made to the following individuals of a youth’s medical isolation status, of any necessary transportation off-site, and of “clearance” off medical isolation status:
 - RITS Administration (Executive Director, Superintendent, Clinical Director, Principal)
 - RITS Shift Coordinators
 - RITS Unit Managers, Clinical Social Workers, Nurses
 - Consulting Medical Provider (on-site or on-call)
 - Consulting Medical Director
 - Youth’s Parent/Guardian
 - Court
- Nursing Staff, in coordination with the on-site or on-call Medical Provider, will take steps to coordinate details of testing as indicated in the associated document, “Testing for COVID-19 RITS Clinical Operating Procedure.”
 - Any youth going off-site for testing purposes will wear a mask and wash their hands prior to leaving the facility in the van.
 - Any van used to transport youths off-site either for testing or for further medical treatment will be properly cleaned upon return to the facility.

- Staff should also ensure they are using social distancing, when applicable, and wear appropriate PPE at all times.
- The Executive Director or Superintendent will also ensure the primary Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth & Families (DCYF) Worker/Supervisor, the Family Court, and the youth's family are notified that the test is being sent initially, and then of the results once available.
- The following guidelines will be in place for any youths in medical isolation:
 - Youth will always remain in his/her room except:
 - When necessary to use the specified toilet facilities and shower
 - At least once per shift to have the option of spending time outside on the blacktop for recreation, which may be individual or as a group with others who have tested positive
 - If determined by Superintendent and Clinical Director that is appropriate to participate in group activities with other peers who have tested positive should there be a cohort on the unit
 - If necessary, to be transported to the hospital for worsening medical condition.
 - Additionally, the youth will wear a mask whenever outside the assigned room.
 - The youth will be monitored on a 5-minute watch.
 - The youth will be offered water, food, medications, books, and schoolwork.
 - Nursing staff will obtain vital signs and conduct a brief exam twice daily.
 - Medical providers (on-site or on-call) will review the youth's status on a daily basis and provide consultation to Nursing staff as needed regarding need for on-site or off-site medical evaluation.
 - Youths will not be able to participate in family visits, but the Superintendent or his designee will facilitate family phone calls in rooms utilizing state cell phones (which will be sanitized in between uses). Furthermore, in addition to their regular telephone calls, the youths will be permitted to video call their families using Skype, FaceTime, Zoom, or another video app.
 - Youth will not be able to go off-grounds only if it is deemed important and medically necessary.
 - Youth will not be allowed to participate in supplemental educational or programming activities (e.g. culinary, barbering, etc.) with other youth.
 - Clinical support will be provided by the Clinical Social Worker, Unit Manager, Clinical Director, Psychiatrist, or another behavioral health provider on a daily basis.
 - Only necessary staff will enter the room with a youth; others may provide resources (food, books, schoolwork, etc.) to the designated staff person for that room.
 - Any staff entering the room with the youth will wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to include an N95 mask (or a surgical mask if no N95 mask are available, or a cloth face covering if no surgical mask is available), face shield/goggles, gown, and gloves while in the room, then remove them properly and wash hands or utilize hand sanitizer upon leaving the room or post.
 - Additional training will be provided to staff on the proper use as well as necessary steps for conservation of PPE as needed.

- The following guidance from the Rhode Island Department of Health will be used – in conjunction with input from Nursing Staff and the Medical Provider regarding each individual youth on a case-by-case basis – to determine when a youth comes off medical isolation:
 - For a youth with COVID related symptoms:
 - At least 10 days after the initial onset of symptoms
 - Symptom free for 3 full days without use of a fever-reducing medication
 - One negative test may be required for ending isolation on a case-by-case basis
 - For an asymptomatic youth:
 - At least 10 days after the initial positive test for COVID-19
 - RIDOH will determine if one negative test is required for ending isolation on a case-by-case basis.
 - One negative test may be required for ending isolation on a case-by-case basis
- Unit Staff will maintain a daily log with any relevant activities or updates, as well as complete a “Rhode Training School Quarantine/Isolation Form” for any individual on medical isolation that will be placed in the unit logbook with a copy provided to the Shift Coordinators at the end of each shift. Shift Coordinators will provide a copy to the Clinical Director.

Management of an Outbreak with Multiple Youths with Suspected or Confirmed Cases of COVID-19

- Youths in medical isolation will be cohorted in one mod as referenced above and will not be allowed to circulate in other parts of the facility.
- Youths in isolation who have tested positive for COVID-19 will be allowed to share a bathroom, to participate in recreation together, and to participate in other activities (class, groups, watching movies, etc.).
- Administration will designate certain staff to care for these individuals only and will limit movement of designated staff between different parts of the facility to decrease the risk of staff spreading the virus.
- Staff working directly with COVID-19 positive youths will wear appropriate PPE when interacting directly with the youths.
- Consideration of staffing third shift nursing may be necessary for caring for a group of ill youths.
- Staff working with the youth in medical isolation will be monitored for symptoms of COVID-19. Those with symptoms will be sent home to recover.

Management of a Mod on Quarantine

- Youth will not be allowed off the mod except for emergencies (this includes going up to the clinic unless there is an urgent medical or dental need that must be addressed immediately).

- Youth will maintain social distancing from each other at all times and wear masks. If anyone is not compliant with wearing a mask, he/she may face a discipline and will need to return to their room.
- Youth can spend time in the day room, maintaining social distancing from each other at all times and wearing masks.
- Youth will be allowed and encouraged to go outside on the black top as much as possible.
- Youth will be maintained in groups of 4 or fewer at any given time, with stable groups (so the same 4 youths in school, meals, recreation, groups, etc.). If possible, they will be split into opposite sides of the mod and share a bathroom only with the same 3 peers.
- Classes and clinical groups will continue but with minimal staff rotating onto the mod with vendors using remote/telehealth as much as possible.
- Staff (JPWs, teachers, nurses) working on the mod will not rotate to the other mods, as much as possible.
- Visitation will be determined case-by-case. If visitation does occur, outdoor visitation is recommended, with social distancing and masks.
 - All visitors must be pre-screened prior to entering the facility.
- Vendors who do not provide direct educational and clinical services will not be permitted to go into the mod during the quarantine.
- Staff working on the mod are required (per this operating procedure) to wear masks and eye protection while working with youth on quarantine.

Overall Management

- **All related policies, procedures, and memos will be reviewed on a minimum weekly (COVID Levels Orange & Red) or monthly (COVID Level Yellow) basis by the RITS Administration, Consulting Medical Providers, and Nursing Staff.** It is likely that as the situation continues to evolve, changes will need to be made to policy and procedure and they will be communicated accordingly.
- A temporary “Coronavirus Response Team” has convened (including RITS and Probation Administration as well as Medical Providers and Nursing Staff) and meets 2-3 times per week (COVID Level Red), weekly (COVID Level Orange), or monthly (COVID Level Yellow) to review updates and procedures.
- A temporary “Readiness Management Team” has convened to develop, update, and monitor procedures for visitation and other reopening activities following the initial state of emergency.
- In all educational classrooms/areas (including the Culinary Arts area of the kitchen), there must be no more than a total of five (COVID Level Red), ten (COVID Level Orange), or fifteen (COVID Level Yellow) individuals present, including staff, at any time (or fewer based on the Governor’s guidance).
- Social distancing requirements must be met (i.e. maintain a 6-foot distance) in all areas and/or stations within these sites at all times.
- Any youth who would like a temperature check may request one twice a day during Nursing rounds.

- Decisions regarding quarantine and isolation status, as well as location within the facility, will be made by the Rhode Island Training School Administration after consultation with DCYF Administration, RI Department of Health, and the Consulting Medical Providers. The below grid outlines most of the potential categories of youths identified to date.

Sentinel Testing

Sentinel Testing involves testing people across the community, including those who appear well, in order to discover unseen asymptomatic transmission. It is an excellent way for us to take every measure possible to keep our community safe.

The RITS is using nasal swabs with PCR testing for this testing process which is more reliable than the “rapid” test and less intrusive than the nasal pharyngeal test.

All staff, contractors/vendors, and consultants entering and exiting the RI Training School on a regular basis will be required to complete Sentinel Testing every 7 days (COVID Level Red), at minimum, every 14 days (COVID Level Orange), or monthly (COVID Level Yellow), as decided by the RITS Coronavirus Response Team in consultation with RIDOH. Youth will also be tested regularly along a similar timeline based upon recommendation by RI Department of Health and the Consulting Medical Providers.

Any staff, contractor/vendor, consultant, or youth with a confirmed, documented POSITIVE test for COVID-19 may not participate in the sentinel testing until 90 days after their initial positive test.

Nasal Swab Procedure

- Nursing, along with administration and staff, will develop a testing schedule.
- RIDOH will coordinate delivery of COVID-19 Swab Kits to the RITS.
- All youth, staff, contractors/vendors, and consultants will receive a nasal swab test performed by Nursing at the RITS.
- Accu Reference will be contacted for pickup of the Swab Kits.
- RITS will send the COVID LINE LIST (list of all individuals who received a COVID nasal swab) to the identified RIDOH contact persons.

Notification of Test Results

- Staff can obtain their test results through an on-line portal.
- Anyone with a positive test result will be notified by RITS Administration or the Department of Health.

Rhode Island Training School – Categories of Youth during the COVID-19 Pandemic (updated 1/17/21)

	Intake status	Legal status	Gender	Screen for symptoms	Screen for exposure	COVID-19 test (swab)	Medical status	Location	Details
1	>7 days	DET	M	Negative	Negative	Negative	None	Detention	Continue twice daily temp/symptom check for 14 days after intake Must remain on Detention Unit for 14 days after intake
2	>7 days	ADJ	M	Negative	Negative	Negative	None	Bmod	No special precautions needed
3	>7 days	DET/ADJ	F	Negative	Negative	Negative	None	Cmod	Continue twice daily temp/symptom check for 14 days after intake
4	<7 days	DET	M	Negative	Negative	Negative	Quarantine**	Detention	Separate hallway, bathroom, meals, school, rec, etc. x 7 days Twice daily temp/symptom check
5	<7 days	DET/ADJ	F	Negative	Negative	Negative	Quarantine**	Cmod	Separate hallway, bathroom, meals, school, rec, etc. x 7 days Twice daily temp/symptom check
6	<7 days	DET/ADJ	M	Negative	Positive	Negative	Quarantine**	Detention	Separate hallway, bathroom, meals, school, rec, etc. x 7 days Twice daily temp/symptom check
7	<7 days	DET/ADJ	F	Negative	Positive	Negative	Quarantine**	Cmod	Separate hallway, bathroom, meals, school, rec, etc. x 7 days Twice daily temp/symptom check
8	Any	DET/ADJ	M/F	Positive	Neg or Pos	Pending	Medical isolation – individual – “PUI”	Dmod	Should NOT have any movement outside Dmod (incl. intake process) – will become either #9 or #10 within 24-48 hrs once test results back Twice daily temp/symptom check
9	Any	DET/ADJ	M/F	Positive	Neg or Pos	Positive	Medical isolation – cohort	Dmod	Should NOT have any movement outside Dmod – removal per procedure Twice daily temp/symptom check
10	Any	DET/ADJ	M/F	Positive	Neg or Pos	Negative	PUI vs. none	TBD*	Must be reviewed with medical team to decide next steps

*RITS Administration will make decisions about categories based on consultation with consulting medical providers and Department of Health

**Any asymptomatic patient with confirmed POSITIVE test for COVID-19 within 90 days may bypass quarantine per above procedure

Overview of Levels & Precautions (updated 12/14/20)

	Definition	Mod Level	Youth	Staff	Other Activities
Level Yellow (LOW RISK)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Minimum number of active cases (either none or isolated few) among youth or staff AND reopening process taking place in community (e.g. Phase 3, 4) ▶ Minimum interventions that will remain in place throughout the COVID-19 pandemic period 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ normal movement throughout facility ▶ routine groupings that meet RI Training School staffing ratio requirements ▶ common areas cleaned twice daily ▶ rooms cleaned once daily 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ masks, social distancing ▶ intake quarantine 7 days with negative COVID test ▶ monthly sentinel testing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ routine staff, vendors, volunteers, & trainees on-site with precautions in place ▶ monthly sentinel testing ▶ in-person staff meetings with masks & social distancing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ routine activities
Level Orange (MODERATE RISK)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Recent infection(s) or exposure within facility among youth and/or staff OR ▶ High prevalence in the state with precautionary measures in place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ normal movement throughout facility but only with members of same mod ▶ groups of up to 8 youth (maximum 10 people including staff) or fewer based on the Governor’s guidance ▶ common areas cleaned every 4 hours ▶ rooms cleaned twice daily 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ masks, social distancing ▶ intake quarantine 7 days with negative COVID test ▶ weekly or bi-weekly sentinel testing as determined by medical providers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ admin will determine which staff, vendors, volunteers, & trainees allowed in facility ▶ weekly or bi-weekly sentinel testing as determined by admin ▶ virtual staff meetings preferred 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ family visits with precautions ▶ off-grounds transport with admin approval only ▶ all other activities determined on a case-by-case basis
Level Red (HIGH RISK)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Active infections with evidence of spread within facility among youth and/or staff OR ▶ High prevalence in the state, including state of emergency declaration and/or guidance for shelter-in-place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ restricted movement within mod to smaller groups ▶ groups only 4 or fewer youth (maximum 5 people including staff) ▶ common areas cleaned every 4 hours ▶ rooms cleaned twice daily 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ masks, social distancing ▶ intake quarantine 7 days with negative COVID test ▶ weekly sentinel testing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ staff screening ▶ admin approval needed for any “non-essential” staff ▶ weekly sentinel testing ▶ no in-person staff meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ family visits determined case-by-case- outdoor visits recommended if visits occur ▶ limited programming on-site ▶ no non-emergent off-grounds transport

Overview of Quarantine and Isolation (updated 1/17/21)

	Quarantine	Isolation
Criteria	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Initial intake 2) Close contact of individual with COVID-19 positive test 3) Asymptomatic 4) COVID test negative 5) No confirmed positive COVID test in previous 90 days 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) COVID-19 positive test 2) Close contact of individual with COVID-19 positive test with symptoms and COVID test pending 3) Symptoms of COVID-19 with COVID test pending
Location	Any mod – if possible, opposite side of the mod from youth not on quarantine	Medical Isolation Unit (Dmod)
Precautions for Youth	Private bathroom Room cleaned twice daily	Private bathroom Room cleaned twice daily
Activities	Must wear mask whenever outside room May not be within 6 feet of other youth Limit movement within facility to mod and courtyard only, clinic if determined medically necessary by the nurse or medical provider	Must wear mask whenever outside room May not be within 6 feet of other youth Limit movement within facility to mod and courtyard only, clinic if determined medically necessary by the nurse or medical provider
Precautions for Staff	Wear face mask and eye protection when working with youth on quarantine (within 6 feet)	Wear full PPE (mask, eye protection, gown, gloves) when working with youth on isolation (within 6 feet or going into room with youth)
Plan for Ending	Ends after 7 days if a COVID test obtained at least 5 days after the known contact (or intake) is negative	Ends after 10 days from a positive COVID test for a patient who is asymptomatic, or after 10 days from the on-set of symptoms as long as there have been 24 hours without fever or fever-reducing medication