



*Serving With Pride The
Township of Manalapan
and the
Borough of Englishtown*

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NJDOH Information Regarding Alternate Diagnosis

November 23, 2020

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

We hope that you and your families are well at this time!

Last Friday our district received the most recently updated NJDOH Recommendations for K-12 Schools.

Although MERS is already in compliance with most recommendations, we did have to make one revision. NJDOH has indicated the following:

- Individuals with COVID-19 or with compatible symptoms (identified as suspected cases) should be excluded until they have a negative COVID-19 test or have met the criteria for discontinuing home isolation. **An alternate diagnosis should not be accepted for return to school or childcare when individuals meet COVID-19 exclusion criteria.**

In response to this new guidance, the [Doctor's COVID-19 Form](#) has been revised.

As always, we appreciate your cooperation in keeping our MERS community safe and healthy!

Sincerely,

John J. Marciante, Jr., Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Kimberly DiMarco
Supervisor of Special Project