

Blackstone-Millville Regional School District Close Contact Protocol

In mid-December, the CDC changed the quarantine guidelines for those who are identified as a close contact. As a result of these recommendations, both the MA DPH and MA DESE have changed their guidance on the quarantine of close contacts. BMRSD will be adopting some of those new guidelines in January 2021.

All close contacts should be tested for COVID-19. To be eligible to end quarantine after a full 10 days, you must be tested on Day #5 or later. Although you may see guidance that allows individuals identified as “close contacts” to get tested on Day #5 of their quarantine and return to work/school after completing a full 7 days of quarantine, returning on day #8, BMRSD is **NOT** adopting this practice.

The new guidance that BMRSD will be using is:

- Close contacts must have a PCR test for COVID-19 on **Day #5** or later. If the student/staff member is not tested, they must quarantine for the full 14 days.
- Quarantine for a **full** 10 days from the last date of exposure.
- The nurse leader will go over the 10 day period with the individual/family.
- Day #“0” is the last day that you had contact with the infected individual.
- Day #10 is the LAST day of quarantine and you are able to resume normal activities and return to work/school on **Day #11**.

Quarantine continues **through** day 10, the student/staff member may return to school on Day #11 **IF**:

- They provide a negative PCR test.
- They have not had any symptoms up to this point.
- The individual and/or their parent/guardian agree to conduct active monitoring for symptoms through day 14 and will self-isolate if new symptoms develop.

The student/staff member need to remain out of school for 14 days after exposure **IF any of the following apply**:

- They are not tested. Quarantine may only be shortened with a negative PCR test collected on Day #5 or later.
- The individual experienced **ANY** symptoms during the quarantine period, **even** if they have a **negative** COVID-19 test.
- They are unable to conduct active monitoring of symptoms.

Please note the Close Contact Quarantine Protocol is different from the [BMRSD Travel Protocol](#).