

Frequently Asked Questions

Should I keep my child home pending the results of a COVID-19 test?

If your child has pending COVID-19 test results, and is experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms or you have a suspicion that your child may have COVID-19 or was exposed to COVID-19, your child should stay home to wait for test results.

Some medical procedures require a COVID-19 test prior to the procedure, even when there is no known prior exposure to a COVID-19 positive person, symptoms or suspicion that your child has COVID-19. In these situations, it is acceptable to send your child to school.

What if my student does not feel well?

If your student has any new or unexplained* symptoms of COVID, including fever, congestion, cough, loss of smell or taste, fatigue, headache, muscle aches, please keep him home, call the school to let them know, and contact your doctor. If you or your child's doctor decide to have a COVID test, please keep your child home while waiting on the results.

If student has a documented chronic condition that accounts for symptoms, they are not considered "new/unexplained."

Do I have to have my child tested for COVID-19?

The school district will never "require" a student to receive a COVID-19 test, unless they want to have their quarantine reduced to the 7 day option, or they want their child to be exempt for 90 days from a quarantine due previously being positive with COVID-19. Each of these scenarios require documentation of a test result. Tests results must be a PCR test or an Antigen test. Antibodies tests are not accepted. Choosing to test your child for COVID-19 should be a medical decision made by you and your medical provider.

If my child is placed on quarantine, do my other children need to be on quarantine too?

Quarantine is used if your child has been exposed to someone who tests positive for COVID. If your child is quarantined due an exposure at school, your other children do not need to quarantine. If your child is quarantined due to an exposure away from school, any child that was also exposed needs to quarantine.

If a parent or person in the home is sick, what do I need to do?

If you or another person in your home is ill and being tested for COVID, you should keep your child home from school on quarantine protocol. If the COVID test is negative, your child can return to school. However, if you are being tested as part of your employment or medical procedure and you do not suspect being positive for covid, your child can be in school while waiting for those test results.

What is contact tracing, who does it, who decides who is a close contact?

Contact tracing is the process of finding out who has been in close contact with someone who has COVID. A close contact is someone who has been within 6 feet of someone who has tested positive for COVID for at least 15 minutes within the last 24 hours. When a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19 and has been in the school during the 48 hour period before symptoms began (or before a positive COVID test if no symptoms), the administration will begin contact tracing using seating charts for the classroom, lunchroom, buses, and interviews with teachers/staff who work with positive person. Close contacts on school-sponsored athletic teams and organizations will also be identified.

How are parents notified that students need to be quarantined?

Once contact tracing is done, school administration will notify parents of affected students that their student has been identified as a close contact and will need to quarantine. Students will be sent home with information on quarantine protocols and options. If school has already been dismissed for the day, parents will be notified as soon as possible (follow day). Information on quarantine protocols and options will be emailed if the students have already left for the day.

How does my ill or quarantined student get homework from home?

This will vary from building to building. At the elementary school level, teachers may get work together to be picked up in the office or brought home by a sibling. At the middle school and high school levels, most teachers put their assignments on Google classroom. Students can email teachers for further guidance. At the high school, the guidance office is notified also. If students are having trouble keeping up with work, they can contact their guidance counselor.

What if I'm positive and can't isolate away from my kids?

This is part of the quarantine protocol. If you have COVID and cannot isolate yourself from the rest of the family, you are considered contagious for 10 days after your symptoms start, OR after a positive test, if you do not have symptoms. Your child must isolate with you, then start their quarantine after day 10, so if you start feeling sick on 12/01 and are diagnosed with COVID, you must isolate through 12/11. Your child's quarantine will start on 12/11 (Day 0) and will end after the 7, 10 or 14 days, depending on which option you choose. If your child tests positive during this time, they can return to school after their 10 days of isolation.

What about travel to/from another area?

This will change from week to week, as Ohio and other states have levels of COVID rise and fall. You can check the Ohio Department of Health travel advisory webpage here: <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/families-and-individuals/COVID-19-Travel-Advisory/COVID-19-Travel-Advisory>

If a student travels out of state and the parent/guardian chooses to self-quarantine the family/student, these absences are excused (not medically excused), and are coded as a pandemic note. This quarantine is not mandatory, but it is recommended by the Governor. Currently, the district will allow parents/guardians to use this option twice this school year for a maximum of 10 school days for each occurrence. For situations that extend beyond the two allowable quarantines due to travel, these cases should be referred to your building principal for review. The excused absences will count toward the Excessive Absence Threshold.