

## Important COVID Information from Nurse Inlow for the 2020-2021 School Year

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and grace as recommendations and guidelines change daily. Here is the most updated information. Please let me know if you have any questions as we are all working very diligently to keep everyone safe.

- ★ Masks/face coverings ARE required for all age groups.
  - Students will have scheduled mask breaks throughout the day.
  - We ask that parents/guardians have 2 masks available for their student (the school will provide some).
  - Student's masks should be stored in a breathable container (paper sac, ventilated box, etc.) and not in an enclosed container (pencil box, ziploc bag, etc.)
- ★ Parent's will need to check their student's temperature and symptoms every morning.
  - If the student has a temperature of 100.4 or greater, diarrhea, and/or vomiting your student will need to stay home. Please call the school immediately for further direction.
  - If your student has any 2 of the following symptoms they will need to stay home. Please call the school immediately for further direction.
    - Upset stomach / Nausea
    - Fatigue
    - Muscle aches, body aches or chills
    - Headache
    - Cough or Sore throat
    - Runny nose or congestion
    - Loss of taste/smell
    - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- ★ While we understand that some students may have preexisting conditions (allergies ,etc.) that would exhibit some of these symptoms, we must follow the guidelines regarding these symptoms.
  - If your student(s) has a condition where they exhibit these symptoms frequently, please acquire a doctor's note. This note must include the following:
    - An alternative diagnosis
    - Symptoms that student may show with diagnosis
    - Request that student remain at school unless they show other symptoms related to COVID-19.
      - Please keep in mind that the school nurse has every child's and staff's safety in mind and student's may be sent home at the school nurse's discretion regardless of a note on file.
- ★ Students riding the bus will have their temperature checked prior to boarding the bus every day. There will need to be a parent/guardian available during bus pickups. If the student has a fever, diarrhea, and/or vomiting, they will not be permitted on the bus. Please call the school nurse to discuss further directions.
- ★ Student drop offs will need to arrive at school **no earlier** than 7:30am. Vehicles should stop at the cafeteria doors with the student(s) remaining in their vehicle until a staff member has checked the student's temperature.
- ★ Upon the students' arrival into their classrooms, the teacher will verify that they are asymptomatic.
  - If your student is exhibiting symptoms according to the criteria above, they will be escorted to our Wellness Room and supervised while they wait for their parent/guardian to arrive.

- ***It is imperative that we have updated contact information for parents/guardians as well as additional contacts in case of an emergency. We ask that when called, you pick your student up as soon as possible to limit the time of exposure to others.***
- Wellness Room pick up will be to the west of the building in the parking lot near the kitchen entrance, with a designated parking space. A staff member will sign out your student and dismiss them to you.
- ★ Please have conversations with your student on the importance of staying healthy.
  - Frequent hand washing (at least 20 seconds or sing the ABCs. (Handwashing remains the number one defense against bacteria/viruses)
  - Refrain from touching the face and masks (remove masks by way of ear loops).
  - Social distancing - Stay 6ft away from others when able.

### Key Points

- ★ If your student has a fever, diarrhea, vomiting or any other 2 symptoms as outlined above, they must remain home in quarantine for **10 days total** from the day they are sent home/onset of symptoms.
  - The student may be COVID tested and return to school sooner with a documented negative test result and alternative diagnosis from a Physician or Nurse Practitioner.
- ★ If your student tests positive for COVID-19, they must remain in quarantine for 10 days **AND be released by the Marion County Health Department to return to school.** Any positive cases will not be allowed to return to school until released to do so even if it has been 10 days.
- ★ If your student has been in "close contact" with someone (not in their household) who has tested positive for COVID-19, they must remain home in quarantine for **14 days.**
  - Close contact = someone within 6 feet for 15 minutes or longer.
  - If your student has been in "close contact" with a COVID-19 individual, they cannot be COVID-19 tested until after 5 days past exposure. (You can still test negative up to 5 days after exposure even if positive).
- ★ If a close family member or sibling (someone they cohabitate with) has tested positive for COVID-19, the student would need to remain out of school in quarantine for **24 days.**
- ★ **IF A STUDENT OR STAFF MEMBER TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19, PARENTS/GUARDIANS WILL BE NOTIFIED; however student/staff name, grade, etc. will remain confidential.**

Again, thank you for your cooperation and assistance during these unprecedented times. We will do our very best to keep everyone healthy and update you as new information comes along.

Sincerely,  
 Kristin Inlow, RN  
 532-7329