

COVID-19 FAQs for Parents/Guardians

Last Updated: 02/10/2021

[Click here to view IDPH exclusionary guidance.](#)

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTION	ANSWER/GUIDANCE
<p>Q: When should I keep my child home?</p>	<p>A: Please keep your child home with ANY one or more of the following: Fever (100.4 or higher), new onset of moderate to severe headache, shortness of breath, new cough, sore throat, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain from unknown cause, new congestion/runny nose, new loss of sense of taste or smell, nausea, fatigue from unknown cause, muscle or body aches.</p> <p>Notify the school nurse when your child has 1 or more symptoms.</p>
<p>Q: One of my children is sick with one or more COVID-19 illness symptoms. Can my other children go to school?</p>	<p>A: NO. When one family member is ill with one or more COVID-19 illness symptoms, all household members should stay home and quarantine. Siblings and other members should NOT participate in IN-PERSON school, clubs, sports or other in person activities.</p>
<p>Q: When will my child be sent home from school?</p>	<p>A: Your child will be sent home for ANY one of the following: Fever (100.4 or higher), new onset of moderate to severe headache, shortness of breath, new cough, sore throat, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain from unknown cause, new congestion/runny nose, new loss of sense of taste or smell, nausea, fatigue from unknown cause, muscle or body aches.</p> <p>If your child is sent home, all siblings will also be sent home from In-Person school or activities.</p>
<p>Q: If my child is ill and it's not COVID-19, what does the school need so that my child can return to school?</p>	<p>A: A healthcare provider's specific note. The note must indicate the following:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● no clinical suspicion of a COVID-19 infection and, ● indicate an alternate diagnosis with, ● an exclusion period (when your child can return to school) consistent with that alternate diagnosis. <p>OR a negative COVID-19 RT-PCR test and the non-COVID 19 illness symptoms have passed.</p>
<p>Q: My child tested positive for COVID-19, what happens next?</p>	<p>A: Inform the school nurse immediately. Child needs to be isolated at home.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ten days is a minimum isolation period. ● Child must be fever-free for 24 hours and symptoms should have improved prior to returning. ● If symptoms have not improved or worsened after the 10 days of isolation, seek care from a medical provider as it may be appropriate for isolation to be extended. ● All household members must quarantine at home.
<p>Q: What is the definition of Quarantine?</p>	<p>A: Quarantine separates and restricts the movement of people who were exposed to a contagious disease to see if they become sick. Close Contacts to those infected with COVID-19 must quarantine.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Close contacts must quarantine a minimum of 10 days (NEW 02-09-2021), but 14 days is recommended and ideal from the most recent date of contact with the person who tested positive. ● Close contacts should test 5–7 days after having contact with the person who tested positive for COVID-19. Barrington 220 only accepts the RT-PCR test to consider a shortened 10 day isolation. Even if the test is negative, they shall complete the minimum 10 day quarantine period. If a rapid test was conducted and came back negative, it should be confirmed with an RT--PCR test. ● A person in quarantine must monitor symptoms daily and continue wearing a mask through Day 14.
<p>Q: My child has been identified as a close contact, what does that mean?</p>	<p>A: Close contact is defined as someone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period starting from 2 days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic patients, 2 days prior to test specimen collection) until the time the patient is isolated. Your child will have to quarantine. See above.</p>

<p>Q: I received a letter from my school indicating someone at the school has tested positive. What does that mean?</p>	<p>A: If you did not receive direct communication from the school administration, nurse, or the Lake County Health Department, your child has not been identified as being in close contact and can continue to attend school.</p> <p>Please be vigilant and continue to closely monitor your child's health.</p>
<p>Q: How will I know if there is a case of COVID-19 in my child's school?</p>	<p>A: Principal sends out communication to all families and staff informing them of positive case(s).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The identity of all people involved remains confidential. ● District 220 updates the COVID-19 Dashboard daily. ● School Nurses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Begin contact tracing to identify close contacts at school ○ Provide information about isolation and quarantine guidelines to families ○ Notify Lake County Health Department of confirmed case and any close contacts
<p>Q: My family is planning to travel domestically, outside of the continental United States, or internationally. What implications does that have for my student when we return?</p>	<p>A: NEW 02-10-21: District 220 follows the Lake County Health Department recommendations. Upon return from domestic or international travel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Students shall quarantine for 10-days and obtain a COVID-19 rt-PCR test 5-7 days after your return. The day you return home is counted as day zero. Individuals should continue to quarantine for 10 days even if they test negative. They may return on day 11. ● Individuals who chose not to test, shall quarantine for 14 days. The date they return home counts as day zero and they may return on day 15. ● The local health department guidance will supersede that of the CDC, which requests that travelers get tested 3-5 days after travel and quarantine for 7 days after travel. ● Until we learn more about the vaccine's impact, the recommendation applies regardless of vaccination status. ● Your child may not participate in in-person learning or in-person activities and may participate in distance learning opportunities during this quarantine period.

COVID-19 SYMPTOM SCREENING APP QUESTIONS

SCREENER QUESTION	FURTHER CLARIFICATION
<p>1. Been identified as a close contact (within 6 feet for at least 15 minutes duration within a 24 hour period) with anyone diagnosed with COVID-19 in the last 14 days?</p>	<p>While we know that hearing about someone you have been around lately testing positive can cause worry, please know that it is only necessary to quarantine when you are identified as a close contact.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A close contact is someone that is within 6 feet of a person with COVID (masked or unmasked) for 15 cumulative minutes or more over the course of a 24-hour period. ● When the district is notified of a positive case, we swiftly begin the contact tracing process (along with guidance from the health department) to make sure to identify the appropriate staff and students to quarantine. <p>IF YOU ARE A CLOSE CONTACT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Close contacts must quarantine for a minimum of 10 days (NEW 02-09-2021), but 14 days is recommended and ideal from the most recent date of contact with the person who tested positive. ● Close contacts should test 5–7 days after having contact with the person who tested positive for COVID-19. Barrington 220 only accepts the RT-PCR test to consider a shortened 10 day isolation. Even if the test is negative, they shall complete the minimum 10 day quarantine period. If a rapid test was conducted and came back negative, it should be confirmed with a RT-PCR test. ● If your child develops illness symptoms, have them tested.
<p>2. Been advised by any health department or health care provider to stay home or quarantine today?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Please call the nurse at school so we can gain clarity on why you have been advised to stay home (quarantine). This will help us develop a timeline to determine return dates and/or next steps.
<p>3. Tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 10 days, or has anyone in the household tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 14 days?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● If your child or any household member has an active case of COVID, stay home, isolate, and take care of yourself.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Only exception: If your child had COVID-19 within the last 90 days, quarantine is not required for them unless they are showing symptoms.
<p>4. Been advised by any health department or health care provider to test for COVID-19 within the past 14 days and results are pending?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● For persons having had close contact with a person with COVID-19 or are having illness symptoms, it is important to follow your healthcare provider's instructions on getting tested and when the best time to be tested is. ● Please note that the health department requires negative results from a <u>RT-PCR test</u> before allowing a symptomatic individual back to school. They are no longer accepting results from "Rapid Results" testing.
<p>5. Had any of these symptoms that are <u>new and not attributed to allergies or a pre-existing condition</u>:</p> <p>Fever 100.4°F or higher, new onset of moderate to severe headache, shortness of breath, new cough, sore throat, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain from unknown cause, new congestion/runny nose, new loss of taste or smell, nausea, fatigue from unknown cause, muscle or body aches.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● If you answer Yes, everyone in your household should stay home as well until you know what your COVID-19 test results are OR your doctor has indicated no clinical suspicion of a COVID-19 infection and provided an alternate diagnosis in writing. ● The same goes for household members. If someone in your household is showing these symptoms that cannot be attributed to a pre-existing condition, you should stay home until your household member has COVID-19 test results OR their doctor has indicated no clinical suspicion of a COVID-19 infection and provided an alternate diagnosis in writing.
<p>What should I do if I answered Yes to any of these questions?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Based on your responses, students should not attend school. Please contact the school nurse for directions. Please contact your health provider, if needed. ● If your child feels up to it, they may participate in distance learning. ● If your child is too sick to participate in distance learning, please mark your student as absent through the parent portal in Infinite Campus.