

COVID-19

EVALUATING SICK STUDENTS *and* STAFF

Adapted from Iowa Department of Education Guidance in consultation with the Holy Family Medical Advisory Task Force.

HIGH-RISK SYMPTOMS	LOW-RISK SYMPTOMS
New cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, new loss of taste or smell, fever of 100.4° or higher, vomiting, or a severe low-risk symptom.	Headache, muscle and body aches, fatigue, sore throat, runny nose, nausea, diarrhea.
Students and staff members should remain home when sick. Students or staff members with ONE high-risk symptom or TWO OR MORE low-risk symptoms are advised to seek an evaluation by a health care provider and will be required to self-isolate for 10 days unless a documented medical evaluation indicates symptoms are clearly consistent with a less serious illness or allergic reaction. Family members are not required to quarantine.	

EVALUATION BY A HEALTHCARE PROVIDER (MD, DO, PHYSICIANS ASSISTANT OR NURSE PRACTITIONER)		
NEGATIVE COVID-19 TEST	ALTERNATIVE DIAGNOSIS	POSITIVE COVID-19 TEST
Without a known exposure/close contact with a person who has tested positive for COVID-19, the student or staff member may return to school after 24 hours with no fever (without the use of fever-reducing medicine) AND improved symptoms.		Return to school after 10 days since symptoms started AND 24 hours with no fever (without the use of fever-reducing medicine) AND improved symptoms. Family members or close contacts are required to quarantine for 14 days following the last exposure to the infected individual (final day of 10-day isolation).

IDENTIFYING CLOSE CONTACTS FOR COVID-19 CASES AT SCHOOL	
A “close contact” is defined by the CDC as proximity of less than 6 feet for 15 minutes or more with an individual who is COVID-19 positive. Contact may occur in a classroom, lunchroom, free period, during transportation, at practices or games or other extra-curricular activities.	
SCHOOL WILL:	PUBLIC HEALTH WILL:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Notify local public health.Identify close contacts at school and quarantine exposed students and staff.Provide public health and the Visiting Nurses Association (VNA) with a list of close contacts to assist with contact tracing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Recommend quarantine for all household contacts of COVID-19 case.Work with the school to determine which students and staff should be quarantined.

GUIDELINES FOR QUARANTINE AND SELF-ISOLATION		
STUDENTS	STAFF	RE-EXPOSED INDIVIDUALS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">If no symptoms develop, students may return to school 14 days after their last contact with the COVID-19 case.If symptoms develop, students should be evaluated by a healthcare provider.If a student tests positive for COVID-19, they should isolate for 10 days.If a student tests negative for COVID-19, they must still complete their 14-day quarantine before returning to school.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Staff may be considered critical personnel and may be allowed to return to work if there are staffing shortages as long as they remain asymptomatic.In these circumstances, staff should take their temperature and screen for symptoms at the start and end of each day, wear a medical grade mask and face shield.If symptoms develop, they must isolate immediately.In all cases, we will do our best to quarantine staff.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Those who have tested positive for COVID-19 within the past 12 weeks, have since recovered and remain asymptomatic, and those who are fully vaccinated and remain asymptomatic, will not be required to quarantine or retest.<ul style="list-style-type: none">» Documentation COVID-19-positive test or vaccination will be required.If new symptoms consistent with COVID-19 develop, the individual will be required to quarantine for 14 days and should be clinically evaluated as appropriate.