

FALL 2021 OPERATIONS PLAN

For COVID-19 MITIGATION

September 1, 2021
(Revised)

Current Status:

Universal face mask requirement for all students, staff, and visitors in K-8 buildings through September 3, 2021 and all K-12 facilities through September 10, 2021
[Board approval on September 1, 2021]

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Superintendent's Letter

Dear ACSD#1 Families:

The COVID-19 delta variant has increased significantly throughout the nation and recent research indicates that the variant is more contagious than previous variants. On August 3, the school district communicated that Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidance changed: the CDC recommended that K-12 schools return to in-person learning, and further recommended “universal indoor masking for all teachers, staff, students, and visitors to K-12 schools, regardless of vaccination status.”

The following week the district clarified that the district will “respect the parent’s right to choose what is best for their children,” but also stated that “additional layers of prevention may be required.” This updated Pandemic Operations Plan has evolved throughout the summer as fewer health restrictions were contemplated to now at the start of school when delta variant case numbers are increasing; CDC guidelines have changed; and the school board is contemplating greater layers of prevention to ensure the safety of students, families, and employees.

Parents are rightfully concerned about vaccinations and the mandatory use of face masks, and the school board has received numerous emails from parent and community members expressing divergent viewpoints on the mandatory requirement for face mask use. State and County health officials recommend following the CDC guidelines, but defer to local communities and school boards to make policy decisions. Presently, Albany County does not have a health order to follow, but the Wyoming Department of Health can invoke isolation and quarantine orders to prevent the transmission of COVID-19 in our community.

This Operations Plan describes how ACSD#1 will continue with COVID-19 health protocols as we enter the new school year, and how the school district will ensure the health and safety of our students, staff, and families by following CDC guidelines and implementing layers of prevention. All schools will be in-person full time, and there will be virtual education options for parents who choose to have their children learning virtually.

The school board will continue to monitor and evaluate transmission levels in our community and may impose a mandatory, universal indoor face mask policy for students, staff, and visitors beyond the interim measure the board approved on August 23, 2021. If there is significant transmission in district schools, the school board will consult with health officials and may require other mitigation strategies to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

Sincerely,

Jubal C. Yennie, Ed.D.
Superintendent

COVID-19 County Transmission Levels

The School Board and district administrators routinely consult with state and local health officials to determine the level of transmission in the county and the health risk presented by COVID-19 to our students and staff. The primary source of data is the Wyoming Department of Health website which also collects data from the Centers for Disease Control.

COVID-19 Transmission Indicators

The Wyoming Department of Health provides a weekly update on the transmission levels of COVID-19 in the state based on indicators developed by the White House COVID-19 Task Force. The WDH tracks three metrics and assigns a [color-coded transmission level](#) based on these specific indicators: 1) cases per 100,000 population over a 14-day period, 2) the percent of positive cases over the previous 14-day period, and 3) the current number of active cases. As of August 19, 2021, Albany County was at the Orange Zone (Moderate-High Transmission Level), but throughout most of the summer, Albany County was in the Light Green Zone (Low Transmission Level). An analysis of the transmission level indicators is a significant factor for decision making. Changes in layers of prevention as well as opening and closing schools depend in large part to the transmission level in the county.

Additional COVID-19 Metrics

In addition to the three indicators described previously, the County Health Officer and School District officials review [COVID-19 Data](#) related to the increase in hospital patients and county vaccination rates. Higher vaccination rates in the county reduce the level of transmission and decrease the number of patients in intensive care.

Taken collectively, when school district and health officials observe data that indicates an increase in the level of transmission in the community or there is increasing number of students and staff who are infected with the virus and require isolation or quarantine, the school district will require additional layers of prevention which could include the mandatory use of face masks for students, daily health screenings, and routine COVID-19 testing.

Layers of Prevention

ACSD#1 will continue to take precautions and provide layers of prevention to ensure the safety of our employees and students. The Centers for Disease Control has provided a detailed list of prevention strategies that can be used to maintain in-person learning. The CDC clarified that the variability of the ages for eligible vaccination was one of the reasons they recommended universal indoor face masks as a mitigation strategy.

The following list of prevention strategies can be used to mitigate the threat of COVID-19 in our community:

- **Vaccinations:** The CDC reports that “vaccination is currently the leading public health prevention strategy to end the COVID-19 pandemic.” ACSD#1 recommends eligible staff members, parents, and students to get a vaccination prior to the start of school. The [CDC](#) and the Wyoming Department of Health ([WDH](#)) provide valuable information regarding vaccination.

ACSD#1 employees are encouraged to get a vaccination, but if there are extenuating circumstances that an employee cannot get a vaccination, unvaccinated ACSD#1 employees may be required to do a COVID-19 test every week.

- **Consistent and Correct Mask Use:** The CDC guidelines from August 3, 2021 recommended “universal indoor masking for all students, staff, and visitors for K-12 schools regardless of vaccination status”, and further recommended that people do not need to wear masks when outdoors unless in crowded outdoor settings.

Due to the increasing number of cases of COVID-19 and current moderate to high transmission levels, the District will require, all students, staff, and visitors in K – 12 buildings wear face coverings while indoors. The school board approved a universal face mask requirement through September 10, 2021 and will revisit the universal masking requirement routinely at regularly scheduled board meetings during the pandemic. If COVID-19 data metrics decrease to the threshold when the county COVID-19 transmission level indicator is yellow (Moderate Transmission Level) for a three-week period, or the county vaccination rate is at least 75%, the school board will consult with state and local health officials and consider relaxing the face mask requirement.

Quarantine/Isolation Guidelines: Students, staff, or visitors who are not wearing face masks may have to be quarantined if they come in close contact with a person infected with COVID-19. School officials will use current health guidelines and the ACSD#1 Decision Guide to ensure that staff and students who are ill do not attend school. The Decision Guide also provides guidance on isolation and quarantine that can be ordered from the Wyoming Department of Health when a person infected with COVID-19 comes in close contact with another person.

Face Masks Required on Buses: The school district will also require face mask use on school buses, since students cannot maintain a minimum 3 – 6-foot distance from other students while on the bus and federal guidelines require masks on school buses.

- **Physical distancing:** Maintaining physical distance is also an effective strategy, and the CDC “recommends schools maintain at least 3-feet of physical distance between students within classrooms and other areas of the school. Distance combined with indoor mask wearing reduces transmission risk.” The district will ensure at least 3-foot distance in classrooms with an emphasis to provide greater distancing at the elementary and middle school levels since students will not be eligible for a vaccination at the start of the school year.
- **Screening Testing:** The CDC clarifies that “screening testing identifies infected people, including those with or without symptoms (or before development of symptoms) who may be contagious, so that measures can be taken to prevent further transmission.” This strategy will not be offered for student use initially, but this strategy can be implemented if there is an increase in transmission rate.
- **Ventilation:** ACSD#1 has continued to improve ventilation and air quality and enhanced cleaning and disinfection in school facilities, and there will be ongoing improvements for ventilation systems with recent federal funding. A combination of different products such as HEPA filters, Alen air purifiers, Vollara Surface Pro UV air and surface purifiers, and Biozone UV air purifiers were fitted or retrofitted in accordance with CDC guidelines.
- **Handwashing and respiratory etiquette:** the district will continue to use this important layer of prevention by teaching and reinforcing handwashing and instructing students and staff how to cover coughs and sneezes. In addition to handwashing, hand sanitizer will still be readily available in district facilities.
- **Staying Home When Sick and Getting Tested:** the district will require students or staff who are ill to stay home and to seek medical attention or COVID-19 testing when necessary. The school district will continue to follow CDC quarantine and isolation guidelines as necessary. Students or staff who have COVID-19 symptoms will be sent home. The district will also use a COVID-19 Decision Guide to assist with identification of symptoms and recommendations for staying home. The ACSD#1 COVID-19 Decision Guide is located at the end of this document.
- **Contact Tracing in Combination with Isolation and Quarantine:** the district will continue to work with state and local health officials to coordinate efforts to contact trace to identify possible close contacts, so that people may get a COVID-19 test to help reduce the level of transmission in our community. The Wyoming Department of Health recently released an updated version of their Investigations in K12 Settings Infographic as well as an overview of “What to Expect: COVID-19 In Wyoming K12 Schools. Both of the documents are attached at the end of this Implementation Plan. When the WDH determines isolation and quarantine, they will consider whether both the person infected and the person in close contact were wearing face coverings. If both were wearing face coverings in the school facility, neither have to be quarantined for a period up to 14 days.

- **Cleaning and Disinfection:** the district will continue to maintain a Level 1 standard of care in our facilities including enhanced sanitation. If a facility has had sick person or someone who tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 24 hours, the space will be cleaned and disinfected.

Student and Staff Health, Safety, and Wellness

Current WDH guidelines indicate that students or staff demonstrating symptoms of COVID-19, or exposure to an individual with COVID-19 within the last 14 days, may not attend school unless directed by public health officials. In all incidences of a positive COVID-19 test, the school district will follow the orders of state and local health officers for contact tracing procedures, closing of facilities, and return to work/school procedures. School officials will follow the ACSD#1 Decision Guide (attached) to help communicate WDH expectations for isolation and quarantine.

Student Health, Safety, and Wellness

Students who are 12 and older have been eligible for a COVID-19 vaccine, but the district respects the choice of parents to make the vaccination decision for their children. The CDC recommends vaccinations as a preventative measure, and research indicates that unvaccinated individuals have more severe symptoms when infected with COVID-19.

The CDC also recommends “universal indoor mask wearing” for all students and teachers in school facilities and on school buses. The district strongly recommends that student wear face coverings, but parents may request an exception for their children to not wear a face mask (please see Face Covering Exceptions at the end of this document) with the acknowledgement that if a student comes in close contact with another person infected with COVID-19, the student may be required to quarantine for up to 14 days.

If a student shows symptoms of COVID-19 while at school, the child will be moved from the classroom to a more isolated room to keep others safe and healthy. Parents or caregivers will be notified and the child will be picked up from school. The parent or caregiver will need to contact their health care provider for guidance. If the student is symptom free for 24 hours, they may return to school. If a fever persists, they will have to maintain a 24-hour period without the use of fever reducing medication.

Personnel Health, Safety, and Wellness

The school district will require that all personnel wear face coverings in school facilities when students are present. The district further encourages all personnel to be vaccinated as a preventative measure for students and our community.

If an ACSD#1 staff member shows symptoms of COVID-19 while at work, they will be moved from the classroom to a more isolated room to keep others safe and healthy. The school district will assist with getting the staff member home. The staff member may be required to take a COVID-19 test. If the staff member is symptom free for 24 hours, they may return to work. If a fever persists, they will have to maintain a 24-hour period without the use of fever reducing medication.

Remote Learning Options for ACSD#1 Students

The district understands that during this uncertain time that parents may still choose not to have their children attend in-person school even though the school district has provided layers of prevention to ensure that safety of students and staff. The following virtual learning options are available for parents and students for the 2021-22 school year.

IN DISTRICT VIRTUAL LEARNING OPTIONS

ACSD#1 offers a flexible, online curriculum aligned to the national standards and state standards. It can be used to supplement classroom instruction, in a fully virtual implementation, and for initial credit for middle- and high-school students.

ACSD#1 Virtual Learning (Grades K – 5): Please contact the elementary principal of your home school for program and registration information. The programs used for elementary virtual instruction will be the same materials/resources used in the regular classroom. However, students in the virtual environment may experience things differently than those in the on-site setting due to the fact that some experiences are not replicable in a digital format. All students enrolled in the virtual learning option will be held to the same learning standards as their grade level peers who are attending in-person learning.

ACSD#1 Virtual Learning (Grades 6 – 12): Please contact the secondary principal of your home school for program and registration information. The Virtual Learning program will be delivered by Edgenuity Inc. which is a software-as-a-service (SaaS) provider. The Edgenuity system is vendor-hosted, web-based, and accessible on multiple systems and devices to support anytime, anywhere learning. Founded in 1998, Edgenuity is a leading provider of online and blended learning solutions offering a comprehensive suite of K-12 digital curriculum accredited by Cognia (formerly AdvancED). The Company has a longstanding history of serving diverse students and implementations across programs, schools, and districts of all sizes.

Emergency Remote Learning: In the event that a student(s) needs to be isolated and/or quarantined, ACSD#1 will provide the students programming through a Remote Learning option. Students will access their educational material through the Learning Management System (CANVAS), so each teacher will be sure all necessary work is posted through the CANVAS platform.

OUT OF DISTRICT VIRTUAL LEARNING OPTIONS

The following virtual learning options are available in the state for student enrollment by agreement with ACSD#1.

Virtual 307 – Virtual 307 is the K-12 virtual education programming provided by Wyoming school districts. Contact Information: Lori Thilmany at lori.thilmany@wyo.gov and the website is: <https://virtual307.com>

Connections Academy: Phone Number: 800-221-2720: Connections Academy advertises as a unique, tuition-free, online public school for K-12 students. With 20 years of expertise in online learning, it claims to know how to create a high-quality educational experience that keeps students motivated and engaged in a safe, virtual learning environment. In addition to academics, teachers focus on emotional wellbeing and social development, working closely with families to help students learn how they learn best.

Cowboy State Virtual Academy: Contact Information: Angel Sparkman, Director, Phone: 307-655-9541, Ext. 1144. Cowboy State Virtual Academy offers an online distance learning program for students studying at home. The program is a joint collaboration between Sheridan County School District #1 and Acellus Academy. Students may enroll full or part-time in grades K-12 and complete their studies online, at their own pace, with support from certified teaching staff.

Wyoming Virtual Academy: Phone number: 855-735-2691

WYVA is an accredited, tuition-free online academy for grades 7–12 that offers Stride Career Prep to put students on a path to success after high school. Call 855.735.2691 for more information.

School Operational Procedures

School Entry and Minimized Movement

Schools will develop procedures in consultation with local health officials to minimize gathering of students in common areas such as playgrounds (elementary) or parking lots (secondary). The schools may stagger entry times or assign specific doors for students to enter upon arrival to school. Schedules will be designed to limit student movement in the building by establishing cohorts of students. This will aide with contact tracing if a positive COVID-19 case is reported. Elementary students are assigned to one classroom teacher. Secondary schools will develop schedules to limit the movement of a cohort of students during transition periods or during lunch times. Signage and posters with illustrations will be used to remind students and staff of the requirements for social distancing and use of face coverings in district facilities.

Transportation

Transportation will be provided for students who will attend in-person learning. Parents are encouraged to transport students to and from school if possible. The following procedures must be followed: parents will screen students daily for symptoms of COVID-19 and keep children home if sick. All passengers are required to wear face coverings on the bus and hand sanitizer will be available as passengers enter and depart. The buses will be sanitized according to CDC guidelines between routes. Changes to transportation policies and procedures will be approved by the school board and communicated to parents through regular communication channels (phone calls, email newsletter, school messenger notification, and website postings).

School Lunch

The school district nutrition services will operate in a manner that maximizes social distancing, use of face coverings, sanitation, and hand hygiene procedures. Lunchroom procedures will be designed to enhance social (physical) distancing and eating outside will be encouraged as weather permits. Breakfast and lunch schedules will be modified.

Visitors

Visitor access to any district building will be limited, but permitted. All visitors will comply with district guidelines including pre-screening protocols, hand-washing, and face mask usage. As health and safety restrictions are eased, the school district will adjust the visitor policies

Secondary School Athletics and Activities

The high school and middle school will follow the guidance provided by the WHSAA, and all athletes will be screened daily prior to participation. All activity programs will operate to maximize social distancing, and coaches and staff will use face coverings. Athletes will use face coverings when not otherwise provided through an exception by health orders (strenuous activity), and procedures will ensure proper hand hygiene is followed.

Additional clarification for athletics and athletic events:

Athletes:

- Students must stay home if sick in any way
- No face coverings while actively participating
- Face coverings required while not participating, on the bench/sideline, in a huddle, or while on a bus traveling to an event
- Continue to "pod" students at practice as best can be done for easy contact tracing, if needed
- Limit or eliminate sharing of equipment and water bottles

Coaches:

- Face coverings required when inside and within 6 feet of students, this includes games and traveling on buses
- Must clean shared equipment after use
- Monitor all athletes for symptoms and air quality
- Team dinners MUST have prepackaged food or they cannot be done, face coverings can only be removed while eating

Spectators:

- Currently, with face coverings being recommended, we will only ask that people wear face coverings while in the facility when they cannot maintain a distance of 6 feet.
- Recommend that families sit in their family group and spread as much as possible from others while attending any events inside the building
- Outdoor facilities have no face mask requirement
- Concessions will be served with only prepackaged items

Performing arts (band, orchestra, music) will follow program guidance from specific national organizations. For all activity and athletic programs, enhanced sanitation and cleaning measures will be employed for equipment and surfaces.

Schools Closed Due to Health Order

In the event the health orders or other events require that all or some schools be closed, all students will be instructed to engage with remote learning. Students will be expected to log into Canvas daily and complete the day's assignments when they are working remotely. Attendance will be taken for each class period and an attendance activity will be assigned for accountability. All assignments and assessments will be required.

Communication

The school district communication plan outlines the strategies for communicating with staff, students, families, and other stakeholders.¹

The school district will continue to provide communication through the communication platform, School Messenger as well as information posted on the district website. The ACSD#1 Communication Plan details communication channels for effective communication with all stakeholders including website information updates, feedback surveys, emails, social media platforms, BoardDocs, Newsletters, and phone calls. During the pandemic crises, ACSD#1 is also using a feedback loop email, info@acsd1.org for a response in 24 hours during the work week.

¹ ACSD#1 Communication Plan. <https://www.acsd1.org/acsd/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/Communication-Plan-2019-2.pdf>

Key Terms

In-person Learning: In-person instruction is the typical instructional model of students assigned to a classroom and instruction is delivered in-person.

Learning Management System—A learning management system (LMS) is a software application for the administration, documentation, tracking, reporting, and delivery of educational courses, training programs, or learning and development programs ACSD#1 will use CANVAS which is a LMS that streamlines all the digital tools and content that teachers and students love, for a simpler and more connected learning experience

Remote Education: Remote education means classes delivered by a teacher located in a physical classroom with students present while also providing simultaneous remote instruction. Remote education instruction is delivered through interactive, synchronous technology which allows the student receiving the remote education to ask questions, make comments, and interact in real-time with the teacher, classroom students, and other remote students. Remote education may be used to assist students who have been isolated or quarantined.

Virtual Education: Virtual Education means school district programs and classes approved by the agency pursuant to W.S. 21-2-202(a)(xxxi), W.S. 21-13-330(f-k), and the Chapter 41 Virtual Education Rules for delivery when the teacher and student are in separate locations. Virtual Education instruction is primarily delivered through technology and can be asynchronous, synchronous, or a combination of both. The school district has an agreement with Wyoming Virtual Schools to provide virtual instruction for students and parents who prefer to learn virtually.

Attachments

The following pages include four attachments:

1. ACSD#1 Decision Guide
2. Wyoming Department of Health Document, “What to Expect: COVID-19 in Wyoming K-12 Schools
3. Wyoming Department of Health Document, “Investigations: K-12 Settings
4. ACSD#1 Face Covering Exceptions



Updated: 9/01/2021

ACSD 1 COVID-19 DECISION GUIDE

COVID-19 SYMPTOMS

CHILDREN AND STAFF who have symptoms consistent with COVID-19, should be sent home or not allowed to enter. The exclusion criteria in this document should be used to determine when they may return.

Symptoms of COVID-19 include runny nose, congestion, new onset cough or shortness of breath or fever (100.4 or higher), sore throat, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, new onset headache, loss of sense of smell or taste, fatigue.

If a person has a new symptom they should stay home and talk to their health care provider about testing for COVID-19.

Subject to change based on current county/state metrics.

Metrics used for school decisions:

[Wyoming Department of Health](#)
[Centers for Disease Control](#)

Symptomatic, Positive COVID-19 Test or Household Contact

Persons with symptoms of COVID-19 and a POSITIVE COVID-19 test result, will be instructed to isolate themselves in a private residence away from others (including household members) until at least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared, AND until at least 1 day (24 hours) has passed since resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications AND improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath).

Asymptomatic persons with a COVID-19 POSITIVE result, should isolate themselves in a private residence until at least 10 days have passed since the date of their first positive COVID-19 diagnostic test if they have had no subsequent illness.

Unvaccinated students or staff in a household with close contact of a POSITIVE symptomatic and/or an asymptomatic person should strictly quarantine themselves for 14 days after the last contact with the positive person or 14 days after incorporating precautions within the home.

Vaccinated students or staff in a household with close contact should wear a mask and monitor for symptoms for 14 days. Individuals should test on day 3-5 after last contact.

Isolation: You isolate when you have been infected with the virus, even if you don't have symptoms. When you isolate, you stay home, except when seeking medical attention.

Asymptomatic, Negative COVID-19 Test, or Community Contact

Students or staff may return to school **24 hours after resolution of COVID-19 symptoms not limited to:** the absence of fever without the use of fever reducing medications (Ibuprofen or Tylenol), AND/OR 24 hours after the last time they vomited or had a diarrhea stool.

Persons who are tested for COVID-19 should self-isolate until test results are obtained. WDH or local health departments will contact persons with confirmed COVID-19 and provide isolation orders.

Unvaccinated students and staff having a known exposure will be excluded from school and quarantined for 14 days if they are not wearing a face covering and/or the person who is positive is not wearing a face covering.

Vaccinated students and staff with a known exposure can remain in school, but should get tested 3-5 days after exposure, even if there are no symptoms. Individuals should also wear a mask for 14 days following exposure or until a negative test is obtained.

Quarantine: You quarantine when you might have been exposed to the virus. When you quarantine you stay home, do not come to school or work, and do not attend social or athletic events.

CLOSE CONTACT

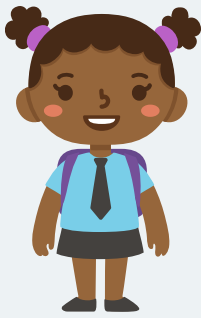
Close contact is defined as a person who has been within 6 feet of a positive person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period during their infectious time frame.

OTHER DIAGNOSIS/

For people with other diagnoses (e.g., norovirus, strep throat) that explain the symptoms, or when a health care provider says symptoms are connected to a **pre-existing condition:** Stay home until symptoms have improved. Follow specific return guidance from the health care provider or follow the Infectious Diseases in Childcare Settings and Schools Manual. If symptoms related to a pre-existing condition change or worsen, talk to a health care provider.

Siblings and household members do not need to quarantine if the illness is not COVID-19 related.

Based on WDH COVID 19 School Exclusion Flowchart and [WDH COVID-19 orders and guidance](#)



What to expect: COVID-19 in Wyoming K-12 SCHOOLS

Parents and schools can expect the actions below if a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19.



Case Interview

When a positive result is reported, public health officials will contact the person with COVID-19, or the parent(s) if the infected person is under 18 years old, to complete an investigation and place the person with COVID-19 in isolation.



Isolation

Children or staff who are given an isolation order will be required to stay home until:

- At least 10 days have passed since symptoms started (or since the date the test was collected if asymptomatic), AND
- The infected person has been fever-free without the use of fever reducing medications for at least 24 hours, AND
- Symptoms have improved



Close Contacts

Public health officials will assess who is considered a close contact and needs to be quarantined. The school may be contacted to get seating arrangements or additional information. A close contact is someone who was within 6 feet of the infected person for 15 minutes or more.

- When the case AND the contact were both wearing masks, quarantine is not necessary. The contact should self-monitor for symptoms for the two weeks following the exposure.
- When the case is wearing a mask but the contact is not, quarantine is required for the contact.
- When the case is not wearing a mask but the contact is, quarantine is required for the contact.
- When the case and the contact are not wearing masks, quarantine is required for the contact.

Self-monitor - no quarantine required



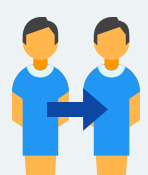
Quarantine required

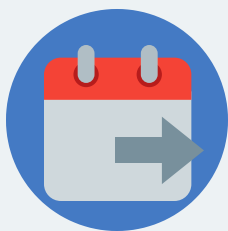


Quarantine required



Quarantine required





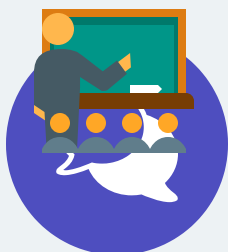
Quarantine

Children or staff who have been given instructions to quarantine will be asked to stay home for up to 14 days after their last exposure to the infected person, monitor symptoms, and seek testing. CDC published three options for reducing the length of quarantine following an exposure to COVID-19. Options for shortening the quarantine period include:

1. Ending quarantine **after** 10 days if you have monitored your child daily and your child has not had **any** symptoms
2. Ending quarantine **after** 7 days if you have monitored your child daily and your child has not had **any** symptoms **AND** your child had a negative PCR test collected on day 5 or later. In no circumstance can quarantine be discontinued before 7 full days of quarantine have passed since exposure.
3. Ending quarantine if your child tested positive on a COVID-19 antibody test (IgG, IgM, total antibody) immediately following exposure. This options should be used for low risk situations only. Your child should avoid high risk situations including contact with people at high risk of developing severe illness from COVID-19 such as older adults and people with certain underlying health conditions.

If you choose to use one of the options above to shorten the quarantine period for your child, you should continue to monitor your child for symptoms daily for the full 14 days. WDH recommends that your child continue to take measures to protect him/herself and others such as avoiding crowds, social distancing, correct and consistent mask use, and hand and cough hygiene for the full 14 days. **Please note:** Some schools may require the full 14 days of quarantine before returning to school. If your child tested positive for COVID-19 on a PCR or antigen test in the three months prior to exposure, your child does not need to quarantine.

Fully vaccinated contacts: If your child is fully vaccinated for COVID-19 AND it has been two weeks since the final vaccine dose, your child does not need to quarantine. WDH recommends the child wear a mask for 14 days following exposure or until the child receives a negative test result. Testing is recommended 3-5 days after exposure.



Return to School

Cases: Once the infected person has met the criteria for release from isolation, they can return to school. A release from isolation letter is not required.

Contacts: A quarantined child or staff member that has completed their quarantine period and has not developed symptoms or tested positive can return to school.

If your child gets sick:

- It is important to remember that COVID-19 is being spread in many communities, and COVID-19 exposure can happen outside of school. If your child develops symptoms, even if the symptoms are mild, he or she may have COVID-19. Your child should stay home except to get medical care. Do not send your child to school, and avoid public spaces, public activities, and group gatherings.
- Call your child's healthcare provider to discuss your child's symptoms and whether he or she needs to be tested.

Investigations: K-12 Settings

- In all scenarios below, a student or staff is considered a close contact when they are within **6 feet of the COVID-19 positive individual for 15 minutes or more.**
- Contacts asked to self-monitor should monitor themselves closely for COVID-19 symptoms during the two weeks after exposure. If they develop symptoms, they should stay home and contact a healthcare provider about testing for COVID-19. If contacts who are self-monitoring develop symptoms but do not get tested, they should remain home until at least 10 days after symptom onset.
- In all scenarios below, **individuals who are fully vaccinated and identified as close contacts do not need to quarantine.** However, if they have an exposure which otherwise would have resulted in quarantine, it is recommended that they be tested 3-5 days after the exposure.
- K-12 students or staff who are **close contacts due to exposure to a household member and are not fully vaccinated are required to quarantine.**

When a masked student/staff tests positive and close contacts were wearing masks.

ISOLATE



**COVID
POSITIVE**

SELF-MONITOR

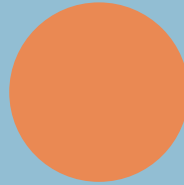


**CLOSE
CONTACTS**

Everyone Masked

When an unmasked student/staff tests positive and close contacts were wearing masks.

ISOLATE



**COVID
POSITIVE**

QUARANTINE



**CLOSE
CONTACTS**

Close Contacts Masked

When an masked student/staff tests positive and SOME close contacts were wearing masks.

ISOLATE



**COVID
POSITIVE**

QUARANTINE



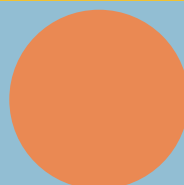
SELF-MONITOR



Some Close Contacts Masked

When an unmasked student/staff tests positive and close contacts were NOT wearing masks.

ISOLATE



**COVID
POSITIVE**

QUARANTINE



**CLOSE
CONTACTS**

No One Masked



Face Covering Exceptions

"Face Covering" means a covering made of cloth, fabric, or other soft or permeable material, without holes, that covers the nose and mouth and surrounding areas of the lower face.

The following are exceptions from the requirement to wear a Face Covering:

1. Children who are younger than three years of age;
2. Individuals with a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability that prevents wearing a Face Covering, including an individual with a medical condition for whom wearing a Face Covering could cause harm or dangerously obstruct breathing; K-12 schools shall require documentation from the student's parent/guardian, or the student's medical provider, that the student meets this exception;
3. Individuals who are unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove a Face Covering without assistance;
4. Individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing while communicating with others, or individuals who are communicating with an individual who is deaf or hard of hearing, where the ability to see the mouth is essential for communication, in which case it is recommended that a face shield or alternative protection such as a plexiglass barrier be used (a face shield is a personal protective equipment device which protects the person's entire face from potentially infectious materials);
5. Individuals who have an Individualized Education Program (IEP) under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. § 1414, or an accommodation under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. § 794, that would necessitate exempting the individual from wearing a Face Covering;
6. Children for whom a Face Covering may interfere with the ability to effectively participate in educational activities or may increase the risk of disease transmission because of increased hand to face contact;
7. Individuals engaged in athletic activities or performances; or
8. When an individual is eating or drinking.