

COVID-19 Quarantine Information and FAQ for Parents

St John's County Department of Health 904-506-6081

My student tested positive for COVID-19. What do I do?

- Please contact the St. Johns County Dept. of Health at 904-506-6081, option 8, then 1. The DOH will provide you and the school with the dates of your child's isolation period.
- Contact Nurse Johna at Otis Mason 904-547-8444
- Email Johna.Baxa@stjohns.k12.fl.us
- For after hours, text 1-352-792-0483
- Please pick up your student and any siblings if they are in school.
- Once the DOH receives your child's positive test result from the lab, they will inform the school and request information on possible close contacts for contact tracing purposes.

How does my student's isolation end after testing positive for COVID-19? Your student's isolation period will be determined by the Department of Health. Please contact them. Students who have received a positive diagnostic test for COVID-19 should not attend school until:

- 10 days have passed since the onset of symptoms or positive test result, the student has had no fever for 24 hours and the student's other symptoms are improving.---OR---
- The student receives a negative diagnostic COVID-19 test and is asymptomatic. **At home COVID-19 tests are not recognized by the DOH.--- OR---**
- The student receives written permission to return to school from a medical doctor, osteopathic physician, or advance registered nurse practitioner.

What makes someone a close contact? You are a close contact of a COVID-19 positive individual if, from 48 hours before their symptoms began, the person with COVID-19 was within 6 feet of you for 15 minutes or longer within a 24-hour period. This includes all household members.

If my student is in quarantine due to exposure, does everyone in my house need to quarantine?

No, if your student does not develop symptoms then no one else in the household is required to quarantine. Members of the household would be considered "contacts of a contact." There are no CDC recommendations for this scenario.

If my student is exposed to COVID-19, how long do they have to quarantine?

Quarantine Option 1: Quarantine with testing NOT required: If asymptomatic, your student may end quarantine after the completion of **7 days** from the date of last exposure to the positive individual. Your student may **return to school on day 8** if no symptoms have developed.

- Your student's exposure date is considered day 0 and their quarantine lasts 7 full days.

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- If signs or symptoms develop at any point, you should contact the Dept. of Health and have your student isolate from other family members in the household.
- If your student remains symptom-free and does not have a PENDING test result, he or she may return to school on day 8 and will NOT need clearance from DOH or the School Nurse.

Quarantine Option 2: Early test out on Day 5 through the Dept. of Health: Please contact the Department of Health for instructions to test out of quarantine early.

- If the student is asymptomatic, they may be tested on day 5 or later from exposure to the positive individual. **At home COVID-19 tests are not recognized by the DOH.**
- If a negative COVID test result is obtained on day 5 or later from exposure to the positive individual your student can return immediately if he/she remains symptom free. Your student must present a copy of the negative test result upon return to school.

What if my student is identified as having close contact with a COVID-19 positive individual, but has been fully vaccinated? (2 or more weeks have passed since the second dose in a two dose vaccine or the first dose in a one dose vaccine series) Does he/she still need to quarantine? No, your student is not required to quarantine. Vaccination status will be verified in the state registry by SJCS Health Services, and your student will not need to leave school, or if at home, may return to school immediately. You will receive a call from the Dept. of Health to ensure no symptoms have developed and to provide further COVID-19 education.

My student has been identified as a close contact with a COVID-19 positive individual but has already had COVID-19 within the last 90 days. Do they still need to quarantine? If your student has been asked to quarantine due to an exposure, they must stay at home until you are contacted by the Dept. of Health. After verifying your student's previous COVID-19 illness, the DOH will clear your student to return to school and notify the school nurse.

How will I be notified if my student is identified as a potential close contact?

If the possible exposure occurred in a school setting, you will be contacted by the district via phone, text and email. The Department of Health will follow up with you within 24 hours to explain quarantine procedures. You might also be notified by someone you know that your student was in contact with a COVID-19 positive individual. If this happens, please notify the school nurse, pick up your student from school, and contact the DOH for guidance on quarantine.

How will this affect my student's attendance at school?

Your student will not be marked absent. Please reach out to your student's teacher to find out how your student can participate in schoolwork from home.

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Please give the attendance clerk until the end of the student's quarantine period to adjust attendance. If there continues to be a discrepancy, please call or email **Nurse Johna 547-8444** or **Maggie Puch, registrar 547-8436**