

# COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions for Parents, Students and Families



To protect the safety and health of students and staff, school officials may send home or deny entry to any student, visitor, or staff member with any symptoms of illness.

## 1. What actions will be taken if my child has symptoms of COVID-19 while at school?

Symptoms of COVID-19 may include but are not limited to the following: fever (100.4 or higher), cough, shortness of breath, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion, runny nose, nausea, vomiting and diarrhea. [\(Always check the CDC's website for the most updated list of symptoms.\)](#)

### **If the student has a temperature of 100.4 or higher, the student will be required to:**

- Wear a mask and remain in a designated isolation area on the school campus;
- Parent/Guardian will be notified to pick up the student immediately;
- Student will not return to school until:
  - 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared AND
  - Respiratory symptoms have improved AND
  - 3 days have passed with no fever or other COVID-like symptoms without the use of medications.
  - If the student is tested for COVID-19 and has a negative test result, the student may return to school after 3 days with no fever or symptoms **without** the use of medications.

### **The protocol for students who do not have a temperature of 100.4 or higher but have other COVID-like symptoms will be as follows:**

- Designated school staff will determine if the student has a pre-existing condition to explain symptoms by checking the emergency card, individual health care plan, etc.
- If no pre-existing condition exists, the student will be isolated and required to wear a face mask.
- Parent/Guardian will be notified to pick up the student immediately.
- Student will not return to school until:
  - 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared AND
  - Respiratory symptoms have improved AND
  - 3 days have passed with no fever or other COVID-like symptoms without the use of medications.
  - If the student is tested for COVID-19 and has a negative test result, the student may return to school after 3 days with no fever or symptoms **without** the use of medications.

## **2. What action is taken if a student has a positive test result for COVID-19?**

If the student has tested positive for COVID-19 and the testing was administered by the Okaloosa County Health Department (OCHD), the student must stay out of school and off campus until cleared by the OCHD. Students must provide a release from isolation notification from the OCHD before returning to school.

If the student tested positive for COVID-19 by a medical facility other than the OCHD, school officials will obtain additional information from the parent/guardian and will provide guidance about when the student can return to school.

## **3. What if a student is identified by the Okaloosa County Health Department as a close contact to an active COVID-19 case?**

A student identified by the OCHD as a close contact to an active COVID-19 case must quarantine for 14 days from the last day of contact with the positive case. The close contact must quarantine even if he/she is tested and has a negative test result.

## **4. What if a student has not been identified by the OCHD as a close contact but has reported being with a person who has tested positive for COVID-19?**

If the student has been within 6 feet or less of the positive case for 15 minutes or longer, the OCSD Student Services Program Director will work with school officials and the OCHD to verify if the student is cleared to be on campus.

## **5. What if a student reports contact with someone who was in direct contact with a positive COVID-19 case?**

Contacts of contacts are not required to quarantine. These individuals are advised to continue practicing social distancing and are recommended to wear a face mask when in public places.

COVID-19 testing locations can be found at:

[http://okaloosa.floridahealth.gov/programs-and-services/infectious-disease-services/\\_documents/COVID-19TestingLocations.pdf](http://okaloosa.floridahealth.gov/programs-and-services/infectious-disease-services/_documents/COVID-19TestingLocations.pdf)