



Muncie Community Schools

4301 S. Cowan Rd.
Muncie, IN 47302
Phone: (765) 747-5211
www.muncieschools.org

2021-22 STUDENT-STAFF RETURN PROTOCOLS **FOR COVID-19 CASES**

Updated: Jan. 3, 2022

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Indiana Department of Health (IDOH) have updated their quarantine guidance for schools. For schools with mask requirements, like MCS, that information is reflected in the boxes below.

1 - SYMPTOMS and COVID SUSPECTED

- **QUARANTINE:** 5 DAYS FROM ONSET OF SYMPTOMS **OR** UNTIL DOCTOR PROVIDES NOTE STATING SYMPTOMS ARE NOT COVID-19.
- **RETURN WHEN:** QUARANTINE PERIOD ENDS AND FEVER-FREE FOR 24 HRS. WITHOUT MEDICATION AND WITH IMPROVING SYMPTOMS **OR** WHEN DOCTOR NOTE IS OBTAINED.

2 - SYMPTOMS AND POSITIVE TEST

- **ISOLATION:** 5 DAYS FROM ONSET OF SYMPTOMS.
- **RETURN WHEN:** QUARANTINE PERIOD ENDS AND FEVER-FREE FOR 24 HRS. WITHOUT MEDICATION AND WITH IMPROVING SYMPTOMS.

3 - SYMPTOMS AND NEGATIVE TEST

- **QUARANTINE:** NONE REQUIRED.
- **RETURN WHEN:** FEVER-FREE FOR 24 HRS. WITHOUT MEDICATION AND WITH IMPROVING SYMPTOMS.

4 - NO SYMPTOMS AND POSITIVE TEST

- **ISOLATION:** 5 DAYS FROM DAY AFTER TEST DATE.
- **RETURN WHEN:** ISOLATION PERIOD ENDS IF STILL SYMPTOM-FREE.

There are different quarantine rules for close contacts depending on vaccination status. For fully vaccinated students without symptoms, there is no need to quarantine if found to be a close contact of a COVID-positive person. That also applies to students who have tested positive within the last three months and do not have symptoms.

For students not fully vaccinated who are identified as a close contact, they need to follow the procedures outlined here:

5 - CLOSE CONTACT WITHOUT SYMPTOMS

- **QUARANTINE:** 5 DAYS FROM LAST CONTACT WITH COVID-POSITIVE PERSON.
- **RETURN WHEN:** QUARANTINE PERIOD ENDS IF STILL SYMPTOM-FREE.

6 - CLOSE CONTACT WITHOUT SYMPTOMS AND A NEGATIVE TEST

- **QUARANTINE:** 5 DAYS FROM LAST CONTACT WITH COVID-POSITIVE PERSON.
- **RETURN WHEN:** QUARANTINE PERIOD ENDS IF STILL SYMPTOM-FREE.

7 - CLOSE CONTACT WHO DEVELOPS SYMPTOMS

- **QUARANTINE:** CLOSE CONTACT SHOULD GET TESTED. IF POSITIVE, QUARANTINE FOR 5 DAYS DATING TO ONSET OF SYMPTOMS.
- **RETURN WHEN:** QUARANTINE PERIOD ENDS AND FEVER-FREE FOR 24 HRS. WITHOUT MEDICATION AND WITH IMPROVING SYMPTOMS.

We strongly encourage everyone who is eligible for a vaccination and/or booster shot to get those. Please keep in mind the following definitions:

- **“Close contact”** refers to any unmasked individual who was within 6 feet of a COVID-positive person for more than 15 minutes in a day. If the individual was masked, then they are a close contact *only if* they were within 3 feet of the COVID-positive person for more than 15 minutes in a day. If a close contact develops symptoms or tests positive, then other household members become close contacts and must quarantine accordingly.
- **“Quarantine”** means to separate from others by staying home and avoid being around anyone even if there are no symptoms.
- **“Isolation”** means to separate from all others, including those in the same household. Anyone in isolation should stay in a separate room and not share bathrooms or eating areas with other members of the household.