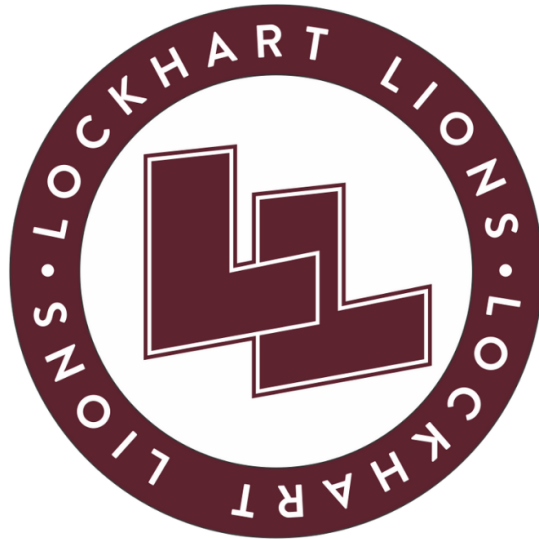


Leading Forward



Lockhart ISD
COVID-19 Response Plan

2022-2023

Leading Forward in 2022-2023

The safety of our students and staff is of the utmost importance to us. School districts have faced many challenges in planning for school safety, and over the past two years the experience we have gained has helped in making updated plans for the 2022-23 school year. We have gained experience in effective cleaning and disinfection protocols. We have an understanding of effective hygiene practices that help decrease the spread. Additionally, we have access to a vaccine for those 6 months of age and older that has demonstrated success in significantly reducing the risk of hospitalizations and death from COVID-19.

Lockhart ISD remains committed to ensuring the safety of staff and students and protecting the continuity of learning and services. The school district continues to monitor guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Office of the Governor, Texas Department of State Health Services, and Texas Education Agency. Also, we continue to remain in contact with our local and county officials to track cases in our community. Our protocols and practices may change during the school year based upon changing circumstances and new federal, state, or local guidelines. When changes occur, we will update the guidance in this document. See [LISD COVID-19 Response Matrix](#)

If you have any questions about this plan or any other concerns, please feel free to email LISDCovidQuestions@lockhart.txed.net.



Health Services



The role of LISD school nurses is critical especially during this pandemic. They deliver health care services in an educational setting, manage health clinic operations, monitor the trends in symptoms and illnesses campus-wide, and provide guidance to leadership and staff on appropriate practices to support student and staff health. All nurses will continue to work in partnership with community health care providers, Texas Department of Health and Human Services, Texas Education Agency, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

- To prevent exposure to infectious diseases for vulnerable students receiving other medical treatments, all student visits to the Health Office will be triaged.
- Care that can be provided in the classroom will be handled there (minor first aid).

Health & Safety Protocols



Masks and Face Coverings

The school district remains committed to ensuring the safety of staff and students and protecting the continuity of learning and services. Lockhart ISD uses a COVID-19 [Response Matrix](#) to guide the district on protocols. People may choose to mask at any time. You can [review the CDC recommendations](#) for additional information.

COVID-19 Symptoms

In evaluating whether an individual has symptoms consistent with COVID-19, consider if the individual is experiencing any of the following symptoms **in a way that is not usual for them**. (Please note that students with fever will always be required to remain at home.)



Temperature of 100.0 or greater, without the use of fever-reducing medications (Tylenol, Advil, etc.)
Loss of taste or smell
Difficulty breathing
Fatigue
Chills
Congestion or runny nose
Shaking or exaggerated shivering
Significant muscle pain or ache
Diarrhea
Cough
Shortness of breath
Headache
Sore throat
Nausea or vomiting



Protocols for different scenarios in which students have a diagnosis, exposure, or symptoms of COVID-19

As a district we will be monitoring CDC-reported community levels, positive COVID-19 cases for students and staff, numbers of quarantined students and staff, student and staff absentee rate, substitute fill rate, and county COVID-19 data to determine the symptom protocols that will be followed below:

Management of Communicable Disease:

When the District determines that the risk of contracting COVID-19 is at a **low** level, all clinic visits related to student illness, injury, rash, or other personal situations will be handled on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of the campus nurse's clinical judgment and in accordance with the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) communicable disease chart rules for exclusion.

At the time that the District determines that the risk of contracting COVID-19 is at a **medium** level, the following screening protocols will go into effect.



Medium Screening Protocols:

Are you experiencing high risk symptoms?

- Temperature of 100.0 or greater
- Significant body aches / chills / chest pain
- Cough (new, changed, or worsening)
- New onset of severe headache
- Loss of taste or smell
- Shortness of breath, difficulty breathing

If you have one or more high risk symptoms:

- Exclude from campus per Lockhart ISD & Department of State Health Services guidelines
- Recommend for evaluation by healthcare provider and testing

When can you return?

The individual must remain home until the following conditions have been met:

- At least 24 hours have passed since fever of 100.0 or greater, without the use of fever-reducing medications (Tylenol, Advil, etc.);
- Improvement of symptoms; and
- 5 days if their symptoms are resolving (without fever for 24 hours). Per CDC, guidance it is recommended that the individual wear a mask after returning on the sixth day for 5 more days.

An individual **may** return to school before completing the stay-at-home period under the following conditions:

A note is obtained from a medical provider clearing the individual to return based on an alternative diagnosis or stating illness is not COVID-19 related; or

Obtain a diagnostic COVID PCR test (at a physician's office or approved testing location) that comes back negative for COVID-19. *Antigen (rapid) tests will not be accepted.

Are you experiencing mild risk symptoms?

- Runny nose / nasal congestion
- Sore throat



- Fatigue
- Vomiting / Diarrhea / Nausea
- Mild Headache
- Cough / chest tightness (student with documented allergy / asthma plan)

I have two or more mild risk symptoms:

Follow symptomatic protocol for high risk symptoms.

I have one mild risk symptom:

If an individual has had a close contact (within 6 feet for 15 minutes or more) with a person infected with COVID-19, follow symptomatic protocol for high risk symptoms.

If the individual has NOT had close contact with a person infected with COVID-19:

- Nurse evaluates/treats in clinic
- If symptoms resolve, return to class

If no improvement with rest and intervention at school, OR based on the nurse's clinical judgment:

- **Call parent for pickup**
- Exclude from campus for 24 hours

If no improvement within 24 hours, follow the symptomatic protocol for high risk symptoms.

At the time that the district determines the risk of contracting COVID-19 is at a high level the following high screening protocols will go into effect.

High Screening Protocols:

Protocols for Screening and Isolation on Campus

All students should be screened by their parents daily before coming to school. Staff will screen themselves for COVID-19 symptoms daily. The self-screening should include taking your own temperature. Those who have COVID-19 symptoms in a way that is not usual to them should refer to see the protocol on page 5 regarding "When an individual



has symptoms of COVID-19 and who has not been tested.

When an individual has tested positive for COVID-19 and has symptoms: Any individuals who are lab-confirmed to have COVID-19 must stay at home throughout the infection period, and they cannot return to campus until all of the below conditions for campus re-entry have been met:

1. at least 24 hours have passed since recovery (resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications);
2. the individual has improvement in symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); and
3. at least 5 days if they are asymptomatic or their symptoms are resolving (without fever for 24 hours). Per CDC guidance, it is recommended that the individual wear a mask after returning on the sixth day for 5 more days.

When an individual has tested positive for COVID-19 and has NO symptoms: If an individual tests positive for COVID-19, but has no symptoms, the individual may return to school after 5 days. Per CDC guidance, it is recommended that the individual wear a mask after returning on the sixth day for 5 more days. If an individual develops symptoms after testing positive, the individual must then follow the protocol for an individual who has tested positive and has symptoms.

When an individual has symptoms of COVID-19 and has not been tested: If an individual has symptoms that could be COVID-19, the individual must remain home until the following conditions have been met:

At least 24 hours have passed since fever of 100.0 or greater, without the use of fever-reducing medications (Tylenol, Advil, etc.);

Improvement of symptoms; and

5 days if they are asymptomatic or their symptoms are resolving (without fever for 24 hours). Per CDC guidance, it is recommended that the individual wear a mask after returning on the sixth day for 5 more days

An individual may return to school before completing the stay-at-home period under the following conditions:



A note is obtained from a medical provider clearing the individual to return based on an alternative diagnosis or stating illness is not COVID-19 related; or

Obtain a diagnostic COVID PCR test (at a physician's office or approved testing location) that comes back negative for COVID-19. *Antigen (rapid) tests will not be accepted.

When an individual is symptomatic and receives a positive antigen (rapid) test and a negative NAAT(PCR) test: The individual will need to receive a total of 2 negative NAAT(PCR) tests 24 hours apart.

IF YOU SUSPECT YOU HAVE COVID-19, PLEASE SEEK MEDICAL ATTENTION.

Counseling Services

Students:

School counselors provide valuable support and services to students, ensuring the needs of the "whole child" are met to help them truly thrive. Whether students are on campus or participating in distance learning, our counselors will continue to provide critical support to our Lions.

- Counselors/Administrators will complete a risk assessment and develop a positive support plan for students (especially at-risk students) in order to provide appropriate resources and support.
- Counselors will regularly communicate with parents/guardians and students in order to share social-emotional learning resources, strategies, etc.
- Counselors will regularly be available, communicate with, and intervene on the behalf of families and students in need.
- Counselors will coordinate with classroom teachers to provide on-campus instruction as needed regarding individual planning and guidance curriculum.
- Counselors will support classroom teachers in providing instruction (asynchronously or synchronously) in alignment with character education/social emotional, and comprehensive counseling programming and other state-mandated topics as needed.
- Families and Students may access a counselor at their individual campuses.

