

HANDLING POSSIBLE, SUSPECTED, PRESUMPTIVE, OR CONFIRMED CASES

Each possible, suspected, presumptive, and/or confirmed case of COVID-19 and the circumstances discovered in each contact tracing investigation are unique and complex. Guidance for handling possible, suspected, presumptive, and confirmed cases of COVID-19 can be found in the StrongSchoolsNC Public Health Toolkit (K-12), to be used in conjunction with medically-based guidance provided by the Duplin County Health Department Communicable Disease experts.

STUDENTS

1. The parent or staff member with knowledge of the possible, suspected, presumptive, or confirmed case of COVID-19 shall notify the school nurse for further guidance.
2. The school nurse in conjunction with the principal shall notify the Duplin County Health Department.
3. If there is any issue causing significant disruption to a school, the principal shall immediately notify the Superintendent's Office.
4. The school nurse shall notify the DCS Nurse Supervisor.
5. As per its standard practice, the Duplin County Health Department has indicated it will begin the Case Investigation for Contract Tracing according to established protocol.
6. The Duplin County Health Department shall contact the DCS Nurse Supervisor with official guidance and will collaborate with schools to communicate with families when an excluded student may return to school.
7. The DCS Nurse Supervisor will regularly monitor and provide the Superintendent's Office with a daily summary of students who have been in isolation, placed under quarantine, or tested positive.

HANDLING CASES cont...







STAFF

1. The staff member with a possible, suspected, presumptive, or confirmed case of COVID-19 shall contact their immediate supervisor and school nurse for further guidance.
2. If the employee is assigned to a school, the school nurse, in conjunction with the principal shall contact the Duplin County Health Department that there is a suspected/presumptive case. If the employee is assigned to the Central Office, the supervisor shall contact the DCS Nurse Supervisor.
3. If there is any issue causing significant disruption to a school, the principal shall immediately notify the Superintendent's Office.
4. The school nurse shall notify the DCS Nurse Supervisor, if the employee is assigned to a school.
5. As per its standard practice, the Duplin County Health Department has indicated it will begin the Case Investigation for Contract Tracing according to established protocol.
6. The Duplin County Health Department shall contact the DCS Nurse Supervisor with official guidance and will collaborate with schools to communicate when an excluded staff member may return to work.
7. The school nurse, for school-level cases, or the DCS Nurse Supervisor, for district-level cases, will follow the steps to begin the staff leave process for absences due to COVID-19.
8. The DCS Nurse Supervisor will regularly monitor and provide the Superintendent's Office with a daily summary of staff who have been in isolation, placed under quarantine, or tested positive.