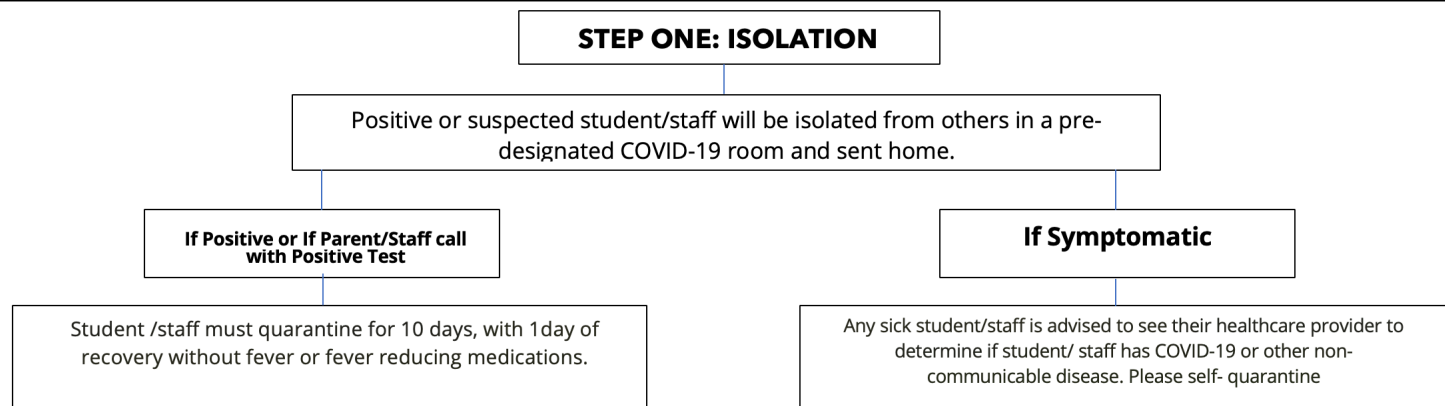


Marshall County Schools

Action Steps for a Student or Staff Member who is Positive or ill with COVID-like symptoms/Exposure to Close Contact

Key Terms	Isolation separates people with an infectious disease, like COVID-19, from people who are not sick.
	Quarantine separates people who were exposed to an infectious disease to see if they may become sick.
	Cases include anyone who has tested positive with a molecular or antigen diagnostic test, whether or not they have any symptoms. Cases also include close contacts who develop symptoms consistent with COVID-19, but may not have been tested.
	Close contact is generally defined as being within 6 feet for at least 15 minutes and includes household contacts, intimate partners, and in-home caregivers, starting 2 days before symptoms appeared or specimen collection date (whichever was earlier). Distance could be longer and time shorter, depending on the exposure level and setting.

SCHOOL ROLE: Per our notifiable disease rule, the Healthcare Provider, school nurse, or principal should immediately report COVID-19 positives or suspects to public health using our online ADPH Report Card. <https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/covid19/healthcare.htm>



- STEP TWO: Identify Close Contacts to symptomatic staff or student**

 - The School Nurse will help determine who are close contacts to the positive or symptomatic student or staff.
 - The close contacts will be isolated and sent home until COVID-19 is confirmed or other diagnosis is confirmed. The school may require a healthcare provider's release to return to school/work.
 - If COVID-19 is confirmed, the school nurse will advise close contacts (6/15 rule, masked or un-masked) to self-quarantine for 14 days from exposure (see CDC calculator) and monitor their health closely. (refer to page 18 of the ADPH Back to School Toolkit)
 - School nurse will communicate that a representative from the Alabama Department of Public Health will be contacting them for contact tracing and further guidance. The ADPH will begin contact tracing by notifying exposed individuals (contacts) of their potential exposure as sensitively as possible and not revealing the infected patient's identity.
 - Aggressively clean and disinfect per CDC guidance (see cleaning and disinfecting guidance).

STEP THREE: Report to ADHP

- The school nurse shall report the positive or suspected case using the ADPH on-line COVID-19 Report Card. <https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/covid19/healthcare.html>
- Information needed in the ADPH on-line COVID-19 Report Card includes the list of students in the classroom, Teacher/ staff names, guardians for the students and telephone numbers. Seating charts for bus and classroom may be uploaded in the ADPH on-line COVID-19 Report Card

STEP FOUR: School Communicates with Parents/Guardians/School Staff

- The school will use their existing school process to notify parents/ guardians that an exposure has occurred. Confidentiality and privacy must be maintained.

STEP FIVE: Cleaning & Disinfecting Classroom

- Refer to pages 32-43 of the ADPH Back to School Toolkit.

Points of Clarification in Collaboration with Local Health Officials

- Mask Order Mandate
- Positive case with symptoms- 10 days isolation after first symptom appearance and 24-hour fever-free and improved symptoms. The guidance has changed and no longer recommends a negative test to return to work or school.
- Positive case without symptoms- 10 days isolation after first positive test.
- Exposure (less than 6' for 15 minutes, cumulatively) to an individual with a positive case- MUST be self-quarantined for 14 days due to the incubation period. Test results may not be accurate until 2-5 days have passed, therefore health officials are not recommending testing, rather, a 14-day self-quarantine since symptoms may occur from 2-14 days. Your last day of quarantine is 14 days from the date you had close contact with the person who is in quarantine; therefore, persons of the same household could possibly be required to self-quarantine for up to 24 days unless the person is able to self-isolate.
- Secondary Exposure- A Close Contact with someone who has been exposed to a confirmed COVID-19 Case. If you are healthy and the exposed person you came in contact with did not have any symptoms, you do not have to get tested, self-isolate, or take any special precautions.
- If you live with someone who is symptomatic and is waiting on test results, remain at home until COVID-19 is confirmed or other diagnosis is confirmed.
- School officials will report cases to ADPH when discovered and others are exposed at school.
- Daily Symptom Check-if COVID-19 symptoms develop, post daily symptom check, such as a severe cough, etc. individuals may be asked to depart from campus until symptoms subside.