

Quarantine Guidance – Schools

A STUDENT OR STAFF MEMBER HAS BEEN DETERMINED TO BE A CLOSE CONTACT WITH SOMEONE DIAGNOSED WITH COVID-19 IN THE PAST 14 DAYS

Does the individual have symptoms of COVID-19?

- | | |
|--|-------------------------|
| 1. Fever (temperature of 100.4 °F or higher) | 2. Sore throat |
| 3. New loss of taste or smell | 4. Diarrhea or vomiting |
| 5. New onset of severe headache, especially with fever | |
| 6. Cough (for people with chronic cough due to allergies or asthma, a change in cough from baseline) | |
| 7. Difficulty breathing (for people with asthma, a change from their baseline breathing) | |

YES

Quarantine for 14 days.*

The individual may return to school on **Day 15** (the day after completing the full 14 days of quarantine) if they are still asymptomatic.

NO

Does the individual meet any of the following 3 conditions?

- Individual is fully vaccinated and does not have symptoms.
- Individual has tested positive for COVID-19 within the past 3 months and has recovered and does not have symptoms.
- Individual is an unvaccinated student with a close contact in a school setting where face coverings were being worn appropriately and consistently by both the person with COVID-19 and the close contact.

NO

Will the individual test for COVID-19 on or after the 5th day they had close contact?

NO

Quarantine for 10 days.*

If the individual declines to test for COVID-19, he or she may return to school on **Day 11** (the day after completing the full 10 days of quarantine) if they are still asymptomatic.

YES

YES

Quarantine for 7 days.*

The individual may test for COVID-19 on or after the 5th day after they had close contact with someone with COVID-19 (not before).

If this person has a negative test result **AND** is asymptomatic, he or she may return to school on **Day 8** (the day after completing the full 7 days of quarantine).

Shortened quarantine guidance for school settings (less than 14 days) is based on the universal face covering requirement currently in place.

QUESTIONS?

Contact your child's school nurse for guidance and further details.

No quarantine is required.*

Close contacts under these conditions do NOT need to quarantine. It is recommended that fully vaccinated individuals without symptoms (1st condition) get tested on the 5th day after they had close contact and wear a face covering around others until receiving a negative test result.

*Individual quarantine periods to be determined by school nurses based on testing and symptoms.

This flow chart is based on recommendations from CDC and guidance from NCDHHS last updated August 10, 2021. For more information, see the NCDHHS StrongSchoolsNC Toolkit updated online at www.covid19.ncdhhs.gov/guidance#schools.

