

2021-22 COVID PROTOCOLS



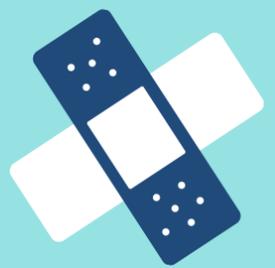
Please read through the following protocols in place for Currituck County Schools for the 2021-22 school year.



1 UNDER THE WEATHER? PLEASE STAY HOME...

If your child presents with any of the following symptoms, please do not send them to school:

- Fever (100.4 or greater)
- Sore throat
- Cough
- Difficulty Breathing
- New loss of taste or smell
- Diarrhea or vomiting
- New onset of severe headache, especially with a fever



2 MASKS

As of 8/30/21, masks are now required for ALL students and staff while indoors.

Masks continue to be **REQUIRED** on all school transportation.

**Students age 12 and older may elect to be vaccinated. Students who are fully vaccinated will not have to quarantine if they are not exhibiting symptoms.*



3 TRANSPORTATION

Masks are required for all students and staff riding school transportation. This includes yellow school buses as well as activity buses. Masks will be provided to any student who forgets one. Failure to wear a mask appropriately may result in a student being removed from the bus.

Buses will be cleaned and sanitized after completing morning runs to prepare for afternoon runs. They will be cleaned and sanitized again after the afternoon run to prepare for the next day's route.

Hand sanitizer will be available on each bus.

If a student becomes ill during the day, he/she will not be permitted to ride the bus home.



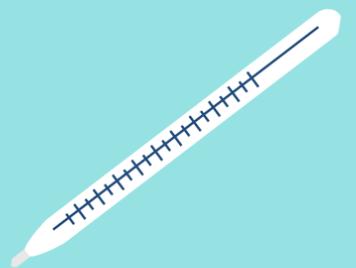
4 CLASSROOM SETUP

Students will be socially distanced at least three feet when feasible to lower the risk of transmission of any illness.

The sharing of personal items and supplies in classrooms will be limited.

Hand sanitizer will be available to students as they enter and exit classrooms.

Frequent hand washing is encouraged and practiced.



5 SHARED SPACES

Based on student enrollment and the size of each school cafeteria, individual schools will work with the School Nutrition Director to determine meal distribution practices and alternative dining locations as necessary.

Water fountains will continue to be turned off. However, water bottle filling stations are installed in each school building.

Bathroom access will be limited to a smaller number of students at a time. Handwashing is expected.

Assemblies or other large gatherings may require modifications to accommodate the size of the audience.



6

SYMPTOMATIC INDIVIDUALS

In an effort to protect the health and safety of students and staff, any student or staff member presenting with a fever or symptoms connected to COVID-19 will be isolated in a designated space on campus until they can leave.

Students must wear a mask and be supervised while in isolation.

NCDHHS isolation and quarantine protocols will be followed in regards to the student returning to school.



7

PRESUMED OR DIAGNOSED POSITIVE CASE

Students or staff presumed to have or who are diagnosed with COVID-19 must stay home until they meet the criteria for return to school. Staying home when sick with COVID-19 is essential to keeping COVID-19 infections out of schools and preventing spread to others.

Students or staff who are awaiting results of a COVID-19 test should NOT report to school until results are received.

Parents who receive positive COVID-19 test results for a student should immediately contact the school nurse.



8

QUARANTINE

Quarantine is required for an individual who has been identified as a close contact (within 6ft for at least 15 min cumulatively over a 24 hour period) of someone who is determined positive with COVID-19.

EXCEPTIONS to quarantine requirement:

- Individuals who are **fully vaccinated and do not have symptoms** do NOT need to quarantine after a close contact.
- People who have **tested positive for COVID-19 within the past 3 months and recovered and do not have symptoms** do NOT have to quarantine.
- Students who are not fully vaccinated after a close contact in a classroom or other school setting **if masks were being worn appropriately and consistently by both the person with COVID-19 and the potentially exposed person** do NOT need to quarantine.

The CDC continues to recommend quarantine for 14 days after last exposure. However, as of December 2, 2020, the CDC has offered options to reduce the duration of quarantine in wither of the following 2 scenarios:

- 10 days of quarantine have been completed and no symptoms have been reported during daily monitoring;
- 7 days of quarantine have been completed, no symptoms have been reported during daily monitoring, and the individual has received results of a negative antigen or PCR/molecular test on a test taken no earlier than day 5 of quarantine.
- If quarantine is discontinued before day 14, the individual should continue to monitor for symptoms and strictly adhere to all non-pharmaceutical interventions (eg. wear a mask, practice physical distancing) through 14 days after last exposure.
- Schools should follow the recommendations of their local public health department regarding quarantine. Local public health authorities make the final decisions about how long quarantine should last in the communities they serve, based on local conditions and needs.



9

COMMUNICATION

The school nurse is the point of contact for all COVID-19 related information and questions. It is important that you communicate with the school nurse if there is someone in your household that is experiencing COVID-like symptoms.



The following guidance is issued in the StrongSchoolsNC: Public Health Toolkit (K-12) Interim Guidance which was last updated July 29, 2021.



Exclusion Category	Scenario	Criteria to return to school
Diagnosis	Person has tested positive with an antigen test but does not have symptoms of COVID-19 and is not known to be a close contact to someone diagnosed with COVID-19.	<p>If the person has a repeat PCR/molecular test performed in a laboratory within 24 – 48 hours of their positive antigen test, and that PCR/molecular test is negative: the positive antigen test can be considered a false positive and the person can immediately return to school; OR</p> <p>If the person does not have a repeat PCR/molecular test, or has one within 24 – 48 hours and it is also positive, the person can return to school 10 days after the first positive test, as long as they did not develop symptoms.</p> <p>The person is not required to have documentation of a negative test in order to return to school.</p>
Diagnosis	Person has tested positive with a PCR/molecular test but the person does not have symptoms.	Person can return to school 10 days after their positive test.
Symptoms	Person has symptoms of COVID-19 <u>and</u> has tested positive with an antigen test or PCR/molecular test	<p>Person can return to school when</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It has been 10 days since the first day of symptoms; AND • It has been at least 24 hours since the person had a fever (without using fever reducing medicine); AND • Other symptoms of COVID-19 are improving. <p>The person is not required to have documentation of a negative test in order to return to school.</p>
Symptoms	Person has symptoms of COVID-19 but has not been tested for COVID-19 nor has visited a health care provider. Therefore, the person who has symptoms is presumed positive for COVID-19 due to the presence of a clinically compatible illness in the absence of testing.	<p>Person can return to school when</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It has been 10 days since the first day of symptoms; AND • It has been at least 24 hours since the person had a fever (without using fever reducing medicine); AND • Other symptoms of COVID-19 are improving.
Symptoms	Person has symptoms of COVID-19 but has received a negative test for COVID-19* or has visited a health care provider and received a an alternate diagnosis that would explain the symptoms of COVID-19 *In a person with symptoms, a negative test is defined as either (1) a negative PCR/molecular test or (2) a negative antigen test if the person has a low likelihood of SARS-CoV-2 infection (e.g., the person has no known or suspected exposure to a person with COVID-19 within the last 14 days or is fully vaccinated or has had a SARS-CoV-2 infection in the last 3 months.) See CDC antigen algorithm for interpretation of antigen tests	<p>Person can return to school when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It has been at least 24 hours since the person had a fever (without using fever reducing medicine); AND • They have felt well for at least 24 hours. <p>Note: The health care provider is not required to detail the specifics of the alternate diagnosis.</p>
Exposure	Person who is not fully vaccinated and has been in close contact with someone with a confirmed case of COVID-19. (Fully vaccinated persons and persons who have tested positive in the last 3 months and do not have any symptoms after a close contact do not need to quarantine.)	<p>Person can return to school after completing up to 14 days of quarantine. The 14 days of quarantine begin after the last known close contact with the COVID-19 positive individual. Alternatively the person may complete a 10-day quarantine if the person is not presenting symptoms of COVID-19 after daily at-home monitoring, or they may complete 7 days of quarantine if they report no symptoms during daily at-home monitoring, and the individual has received results of a negative antigen or PCR/molecular test on a test taken no earlier than day 5 of quarantine.</p> <p>Follow the recommendations of your local public health department if someone at your schools should quarantine. Local public health authorities make the final decisions about how long quarantine should last in the communities they serve, based on local conditions and needs.</p>
Exposure	K-12 student who is not fully vaccinated but has been in close contact with someone with a confirmed case of COVID-19, in which both individuals were wearing a mask the entire time	NCDHHS does not recommend quarantine of students following exposures in school settings if masks were being worn appropriately and consistently by both the person with COVID-19 and the potential exposed person. This applies to exposures in classrooms, other in-school settings, and school transportation but does not apply to exposures during extracurricular or athletic activities. This exception does not apply to teachers, staff, or other adults in the indoor classroom setting.

