

School Protocol When Student/Staff Tests Positive for COVID-19

The purpose of this document is to help schools and parents/guardians understand:

- *What will public health do if a student/staff tests positive for COVID-19?*
- *What will the school do if a student/staff test positive for COVID-19?*

It also answers the following questions:

- *What type of information will the school be asked to provide if staff/student tests positive?*
- *What type of information will public health provide the school if staff/student tests positive?*
- *Which information sheet should be provided to parents/guardians?*
- *When can a student/staff who tests positive return to school?*

School Protocol When Student/Staff Tests Positive for COVID-19

Student or staff tests positive for COVID-19

WDGPH contacts the staff, student (or student's parent/guardian) to conduct a risk assessment

Case and Contact Management team will work with School Public Health Nurse/Staff to ensure appropriate notification to the school

School provides information on student/staff who tested positive for COVID-19
(within 24 hours of request)

WDGPH will perform risk assessment of any contacts and provide instructions

School sends **School Case Information Sheet (SCIS)** home to all parents/guardians/staff

WDGPH will

- 1) Provide school with list of individuals who are considered **high-risk contacts** (e.g., class cohort) and **low-risk contacts***
- 2) Provide school with recommendations for infection prevention and control measures
- 3) Determine if an outbreak will be declared

Students/staff who test positive for COVID-19 will remain in isolation until 3 conditions have been met:

- 1) They have isolated for 14 days after the onset of symptoms AND
- 2) They no longer have a fever AND
- 3) Their symptoms have been improving for at least 72 hours

Students or staff do not need clearance testing or medical notes to return to school

Information needed may include:

- Attendance records
- Class/cohort lists and seating charts
- Before/after school child care lists
- Transportation lists & seating charts
- Updated contact info for students/staff
- Special assignments/programs/activities (e.g., Special Education)
- Records of essential visitors

High-risk contacts will be required to

- Self-isolate at home for 14 days after they were in contact with student who tested positive

Low-risk contacts will be required to

- Self-monitor for symptoms for 14 days. If any symptoms appear follow *School Protocol for Students with Symptoms of COVID-10*

**Note: Personal health information may be disclosed to schools only for contact tracing. Schools have an obligation to protect the personal information of their students. Schools are not to disclose the identity of the case except to those other school board employees who require it as part of their job function. The identity of the case should not be disclosed publicly to parents, or to other students unless deemed necessary by public health or given permission to do so by the case or their guardian.*