

## **Returning To School After COVID-19 Diagnosis, Exposure, or Illness**

Students must stay home if they are sick. Someone experiencing any symptom of illness not related to an already documented medical condition must be sent home, even if they don't have a COVID-19 diagnosis.

Students are also required to stay home and quarantine if someone living with them is diagnosed with COVID.

If your student is experiencing symptoms of illness, it does not matter if you are vaccinated or had covid in the last 3 months, you still follow one of the three pathways to return.

[HTTPS://WWW.WCPSS.NET/WHENTORETURN](https://www.wcpss.net/whentoreturn)

### **IF YOU ARE EXPERIENCING A SYMPTOM OF ILLNESS**

- **COVID-19 Symptoms**
  - **Fever or chills**
  - **Cough**
  - **Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing**
  - **Fatigue**
  - **Muscle or body aches**
  - **Headache**
  - **New loss of taste or smell**
  - **Sore throat**
  - **Congestion or runny nose**
  - **Nausea or vomiting or Diarrhea**

### **NEGATIVE COVID-19 TEST?**

You may return if you have a negative PCR/Molecular\* COVID-19 test AND it has been at least 24 hours since you had a fever (without the use of fever reducing medicine) AND you have felt well for 24 hours NOTE: If you have a negative rapid antigen\*\* test, you must receive a follow-up negative PCR/Molecular test.

### **ALTERNATE MEDICAL DIAGNOSIS?**

You may return if you have a confirmed diagnosis other than COVID-19 (like a stomach virus, ear infection, etc.) from a healthcare professional to explain the COVID-19-like symptoms AND it has been at least 24 hours since you had a fever (without the use of fever reducing medicine) AND you have felt well for 24 hours. The health care provider is not required to detail the specifics of the alternate diagnosis.

### **NO MEDICAL DIAGNOSIS OR COVID-19 TEST?**

You may return if It has been at least 10 days since you first had symptoms AND it has been at least 24 hours since you had a fever (without the use of fever reducing medicine) AND symptoms are improving.

**Covid Coordinator - Kaye Lloyd 919-463-8656 ext 25198 - [Klloyd@wcpss.net](mailto:Klloyd@wcpss.net)**

**Exposed To Someone Diagnosed with COVID 19 and you are VACCINATED?**

You do not have to quarantine if it's been at least 2 weeks since you received the second dose in a 2-dose series, or it's been at least 2 weeks since you received a vaccine that only requires a single-dose **AND you have not developed any symptoms since your exposure to COVID-19**. You must provide dated proof of vaccination to return to school without completing the quarantine requirements.

**Symptoms Not Associated with COVID-19**

**If you are experiencing symptoms not on the NCDHHS COVID-19 symptom list above** (like ear ache, stomach ache), you may return to school after you have gone at least 24 hours without a fever or the use of fever-reducing medicine, **AND** you have felt well for 24 hours.

**Contact our Covid Coordinator if you have any questions or email any required documents to [Klloyd@wcpss.net](mailto:Klloyd@wcpss.net) . Your student may also bring them into the attendance office upon their return to school.**