

Winthrop Public Schools
March 1st, 2022

	Return to School Protocol
Positive Covid-19 individuals	<p>Individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19 must isolate for a minimum of *5 days after symptom onset or after the positive test date. The health office can help determine the isolation start date.</p> <p>They may return to school on *day #6 if they have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Been without fever for 24 hours (without taking fever-reducing medications) • Experienced improvement in other symptoms. • Following the 5-day isolation period, individuals must mask for 5 additional days when around others, including when in school, other than when eating, drinking, or outside. • A negative antigen test is highly recommended before returning to school but not required. <p>Please communicate such illnesses to the health office so that we can help navigate the return to school.</p> <p>Use the Positive Test Reporting Form to report positive COVID test results to the health office.</p> <p>*Days to Isolate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Day 0, the first day of symptoms OR day the positive test was taken, whichever is earlier • Days 1-4, continue to isolate • Day 5, last day of Isolation if asymptomatic or symptoms are improving • Day 6, leave isolation (if you are able to wear a mask at all times when around other people except eating/drinking/outside, including in your household, through day 10)
Individuals who have been identified as a close contact outside of the school setting including household close contacts	<p>Out-of-school close contact must follow the MA DPH guidelines for quarantine/isolation: www.mass.gov/isol8</p> <p>According to DPH regulations, following the 5-day quarantine, individuals must adhere to strict mask use including while in school, except when eating, drinking or outside, through day #10.</p> <p>If at any time during the 10 days since exposure, a close contact develops any signs of illness, they should follow the protocol noted below.</p> <p>Please notify the health office of the need for quarantine and also notify us should they become symptomatic or test positive during their quarantine period.</p>

<p>Individuals with illness symptoms</p>	<p>The following guidelines apply to all individuals, regardless of their COVID-19 vaccination status.</p> <p>Any individual with any of the following illness symptoms should remain at home:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Fever (100.0° Fahrenheit or higher) chills or shaking chills</i> • <i>Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath</i> • <i>New loss of taste or smell</i> • <i>Muscle aches or body aches</i> • <i>Cough (not due to other known cause, such as a chronic cough)</i> • <i>Sore throat, when in combination with other symptoms</i> • <i>Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea when in combination with other symptoms</i> • <i>Headache when in combination with other symptoms</i> • <i>Fatigue, when in combination with other symptoms</i> • <i>Nasal congestion or runny nose (not due to other known causes, such as allergies) when in combination with other symptoms</i> • <p>They may return to school after they:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have improvement in symptoms • Have been without fever for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications • a negative PCR or at home antigen test result for COVID-19 (recommended). • Wear a mask when around others except when eating, drinking, or outside until symptoms resolve (recommended) <p>Please communicate such illnesses to the health office so that we can help navigate the return to school.</p> <p>Students and staff are encouraged to wear a mask while at school until all illness symptoms are fully resolved, regardless of the test result.</p>
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