



FAQ

STUDENT ISOLATION/QUARANTINE AND ONLINE LEARNING

Definitions related to COVID-19

- **Close contact:** A student that was within three feet of a COVID infected student or six feet of a COVID infected adult for more than 15 minutes throughout a 24-hour period.
- **Exposure:** Student is identified as a “close contact” of a person testing positive for COVID.
- **Fully Vaccinated:** 2 weeks after their second dose in a 2-dose series, such as the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, or 2 weeks after a single-dose vaccine, such as Johnson & Johnson’s Janssen vaccine.
- **Isolation:** A period of time that a person who tested COVID positive must remain distanced from others.
- **Quarantine:** A period of time, usually 10 or more calendar days, that the student is not allowed to come to school, activities, or events.

When will my student be required to stay home and participate in online learning?

- If your child is identified as a person that was exposed to another person (inside or outside of the school setting) that is COVID positive, and your child is not fully vaccinated.
- If your child tests positive for COVID.

How will I be informed that my child was exposed?

- District or school personnel will contact you via phone or ParentSquare informing you of the exposure, the date in which quarantine will end, and the date your child can return to school.

When my child is sent home from school to quarantine or isolate, how will they receive instruction?

- Your child will access their class assignments and materials through their Google Classroom.

Why are students required to stay out of school for 10 or more days?

- After a person is exposed to a COVID positive person, it could take 2 – 14 days for symptoms to appear but could be affected and transmit COVID 48 hours prior to developing symptoms.

Will students be required to quarantine more than one time a year?

- Your child will be required to quarantine **each time they are exposed** to a COVID positive person, **unless they are fully vaccinated**.

How will you know if my child is fully vaccinated?

- You will be able to inform the school personnel and we will verify through the county health department.

How will my child access technology if they are quarantined or isolated?

- Every secondary student has a Chromebook and should ensure that Chromebook goes with them back and forth to school.
- Every elementary student has a Chromebook assigned to them within their classroom; therefore, if your child is informed of needing to quarantine during the school day they will be given their Chromebook to take home. If informed after school hours or on weekends, you can contact the school and make arrangements to pick up the Chromebook.

What if we do not have access to the internet at home?

- Contact your child's school and we will provide a temporary HotSpot for the time your child is quarantined.

Will my child be marked absent when they are in quarantine?

- If your child completes their online work they will not be marked absent.

Do I have to inform the school if my child tests positive for COVID-19 and has to be isolated?

- Yes, you need to inform your child's school immediately to ensure they have full access to online learning during their isolation period, does not get marked with an unexcused absence, and so the staff can contact trace to keep all students safe.

When I report it to the school, do they share with staff or other parents that my child is infected?

- No. There are laws in place to protect your child's health records/information. We do inform your child's teacher/s that your child will be participating in learning online for a period of time but they do not know the reason why, as there are many different reasons students have to switch to online learning for short periods of time.

How is this different for vaccinated students?

- If your child is fully vaccinated, they would not be required to quarantine UNLESS they develop COVID symptoms. Therefore, you would still be contacted when your child is exposed so you are made aware of the exposure and monitor symptoms but your child will continue to attend school.

What if I can't pick my child up from school?

- Your child will be placed in an isolation room and not able to be around other "healthy" students. You would then need to make arrangements for the remainder of the quarantine/isolation days as the student cannot attend for a minimum of 10 calendar days after an exposure.

Does the exposure have to occur during the school day?

- No, your child may be considered a close contact and exposed if they participated in sports, activities, or outside school events or live in the same household as a COVID affected person.

What if a family member has COVID at home?

- If any member within the household is infected with COVID, your child needs to be quarantined for a minimum of 10 days unless fully vaccinated, and if at any time they show COVID symptoms you are encouraged to have them tested.

Are all staff required to be vaccinated?

- Yes, by October 18, 2021 every staff member in McMinnville School District must be fully vaccinated, unless they receive a medical or religious exception.

Can parents be informed of staff that receive these exceptions?

- No, we cannot inform parents of staff vaccination status as they are protected under HIPAA. The district will be requiring several additional safety protocols for staff members that do receive exceptions, as we want to do all we can to ensure the safety of all students.

What are the schools doing to try to minimize the chance that my child will be exposed?

- Encouraging students and staff to stay home when they do not feel well and when they report to school with symptoms, they are required to leave the campus.
- The State of Oregon is requiring all school staff, coaches, volunteers, and contractors to be fully vaccinated by October 18, 2021.
- Limiting close contact by maintaining six feet of distance between themselves and students, three feet between students, and encouraging students to maintain six feet of distance when outside with their masks off.
- Ensuring all students and staff properly wear their face coverings while inside the buildings.
- Allowing learning and eating to occur outside when possible and/or limiting time with a mask off to less than 15 minutes.
- Encouraging hand sanitization and hand washing after each transition activity.

What can I do as a parent to minimize my child being exposed or infected so they can attend school every day?

- Most important step is to encourage every person in your family that is eligible to be vaccinated, to get vaccinated. Even if your child is under 12 years of age and can't be vaccinated at this time, having people in the household vaccinated decreases your child's chance of being infected.
- Converse with your child about the importance of properly wearing their face mask, maintaining the three or six feet of distance whenever possible, and to continue to wash and sanitize their hands.
- Limit large friend/family gatherings, especially indoors.