

Tawas Area Schools

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Quarantine Guidance - **Students**

Who should quarantine?

Students who came into close contact (unmasked individuals within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes) with someone with COVID-19 **should quarantine** (recommendation) for at least 5 days (day 0 through day 5) after their last close contact with a person who has COVID-19 (date of exposure is day 0)

Who does NOT need to quarantine?

Students who came into close contact with someone with COVID-19 and are in one of the following groups **do not need to quarantine**:

- Students who are ages 18 or older and have received **all** recommended vaccine doses.
- Students who are **ages 5-17 years** and completed the primary series of COVID-19 vaccines.
- Students who had confirmed COVID-19 within the last 90 days.

Isolation Guidance - **Students**

Who needs to isolate?

Students who have **confirmed or suspected COVID-19** or are showing symptoms of COVID-19 need to isolate regardless of vaccination status. More specifically,

- Students who have a positive test for COVID-19, regardless of whether or not they have symptoms.
- Students with symptoms of COVID-19, including people who are awaiting test results or have not been tested. People with symptoms should isolate even if they do not know if they have been in close contact with someone with COVID-19.

When can a student be around others (end isolation) after they are diagnosed with COVID-19?

Students who test positive for COVID-19 and **never develop symptoms** should isolate for at least 5 days or up to 10, please see below. Day 0 is the day of the positive test (based on the date of testing) and day 1 is the first full day after the specimen was collected for the positive test.

- If the student continues to have no symptoms, the student can end isolation and return to school after at least 5 days provided the student wears a mask as noted below.
- The student should continue to wear a well-fitting mask at school/while around others until day 10 (day 6 through day 10). **If they are unable to wear a mask when around others, they should continue to isolate for 10 days.**
- If the student develops symptoms after testing positive, the 5-day isolation period should start over. Day 0 is the first day of symptoms. Follow the recommendations above for ending isolation for people who had COVID-19 and had symptoms.

Students who have COVID-19 and **have or had symptoms** should isolate for at least 5 days. To calculate the 5-day isolation period, day 0 is the first day of symptoms. Day 1 is the first full day after their symptoms developed.

- The student can end isolation after 5 full days if they are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication and other symptoms have improved (loss of taste and smell may persist for weeks or months after recovery and need not delay the end of isolation).
- The student should continue to wear a well-fitting mask at school/while around others until day 10 (day 6 through day 10). **If they are unable to wear a mask when around others, they should continue to isolate for 10 days.**
- If they continue to have a fever or other symptoms have not improved after 5 days of isolation, the student should wait to end isolation until they are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication and their other symptoms have improved. They should continue to wear a well-fitting mask and contact their healthcare provider with questions.

Additional Guidance

- CDC continues to recommend indoor masking in K-12 schools for all individuals ages 2 years and older, including students, teachers, staff, and visitors, regardless of vaccination status.