



# Southwest Georgia STEM Charter School

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## Southwest Georgia STEM Charter School 2021-2022 COVID Quarantine Guidance

On August 2, 2021, the Georgia Department of Public Health issued an administrative order providing additional Covid-19 guidance for schools. To protect educators and students from the spread of Covid-19, DPH generally recommends that schools follow quarantine guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Pursuant to the DPH administrative order, however, schools may elect to adhere to different quarantine requirements, as developed by the local school district, to facilitate in-person learning. The DPH administrative order provides that alternative quarantine guidelines may only be followed if:

- 1) the point of exposure is in the school setting, and
- 2) the individual remains asymptomatic during the quarantine period.

Southwest Georgia STEM Charter School will always consider the safety of our students and make decisions based on the needs of our students. With that said, please see the following guidelines that we have created for quarantining:

- As per guidance in the administrative order, Southwest Georgia STEM Charter School will require anyone identified as a contact **outside of school** to follow CDC quarantine guidance - ESPECIALLY for those who have someone in the household that is positive for Covid.
- If there is an exposure **in school**, we will quarantine those in direct contact with the positive case (based on contact tracing of school day and bus seating) - we will not require quarantine of most individuals not exhibiting symptoms. We will notify potential exposures so they may watch carefully for any symptoms, but they will be allowed to remain in school.
- The quarantine period for those exposed **in school** will be 5 days if the exposed person remains symptom free. The school nurse will check in with the student and if there is not a positive test result or any symptoms - the student may return to school on Day 6.
- If someone that has been fully vaccinated is exposed, they do not have to quarantine regardless of the location of the exposure. A completed vaccination card must be presented to the school nurse.

**At this point in time, masks are still recommended, but not required.** If administration, the school nurse, the Board of Directors, and the Randolph County Department of Public Health deem it necessary to require a mask mandate at any point in time to ensure the safety of our students and continue in-person instruction, Southwest Georgia STEM Charter School will implement a Mandatory Mask rule if needed. We will notify everyone if this becomes necessary at any time.

Sincerely,

Ginger Almon  
Principal  
Southwest Georgia STEM Charter School