

Notification/Guidance for Close Contacts to COVID-19 in the School Setting (Letter A)

Dear Parent/Teacher/Staff,

You or your child have been identified as close contact to a case of COVID-19 in the school setting. Close contact is defined as any individual within 3-6 feet of the infected person for at least 15 minutes or greater (cumulative) while the COVID-19 infected person is contagious. The contagious period is 48 hours before to 10 days after symptoms started (or 48 hours before to 10 days after test if there were no symptoms). Based on this close contact the following instructions are provided.

- Are instructed to get tested for COVID-19 following your exposure, even if you do not have symptoms. MSDH maintains a list of testing sites on the website at https://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/_static/14,21912,420,874.html. (Please let your provider know that you have been exposed before you go in for testing.)
- Should monitor for symptoms and take your (or your child's) temperature twice a day for a minimum of 14 days from your last exposure.
 - If at any point your (or your child's) temperature is 100°F or more, feel like you are developing a fever, or start having any of the symptoms (e.g., fever, cough, shortness of breath, or a new loss of taste or smell) contact your healthcare provider for evaluation and retesting if indicated.
- Students, teachers, and staff who are not fully vaccinated and are identified as close contacts to COVID-19 should be in **Quarantine** for a full 5 days.
- ***Fully vaccinated persons with booster shots in close contact with an infected person do NOT have to quarantine unless they develop symptoms (fully vaccinated persons are recommended to receive COVID- 19 testing 3-5 days after exposure to rule out infection).***
- People who have tested positive for COVID-19 within the past 3 months and recovered do not have to quarantine or get tested again as long as they do not develop new symptoms.

If you have any questions, you may contact your child's school or a district nurse via email at Nurses@sunflower.k12.ms.us or via phone between the hours of 8 am- 5 pm, Monday-Friday as follows:

KK Hibbler, RN/District Nurse 662-207-9314
Tawanda Wilson, RN/District Nurse 662-207-2134
Amanda Cole, RN/District Nurse 662-207-4517

For additional information please see:

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>
- Mississippi State Department of Health https://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/_static/14,0,420.html
- CDC considerations for reducing quarantine time. See [Options to Reduce Quarantine for Contacts of Persons with SARS-CoV-2 Infection Using Symptom Monitoring and Diagnostic Testing | CDC](#) for full guidance.

Notification of a Positive COVID-19 Case in the School Setting (Letter B)

Dear Parent,

A student (or teacher/coach) in your child's class (or classroom, group, or team) has been diagnosed with COVID-19. The last time the infected person was in the school setting while they were contagious is _____ (date).

*****Because of social distancing practices and consistent mask-wearing, your child DOES NOT have to be excluded from school. If you do not receive a phone call or written notice that your child was a close contact, your child DOES NOT need to quarantine or isolate.***

You should:

- Monitor your child for symptoms and do temperature checks at least twice daily for 14 days.
- Consult with your child's physician for evaluation and need for testing if your child develops symptoms.
- The most common symptoms of COVID-19 infection are cough, fever, and shortness of breath; muscle aches, sore throat, and fatigue are also common.
- Symptoms usually develop between 2 to 14 days after the last exposure.
- *Always keep your child at home if they are ill for any reason.*

For additional information, please see:

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>
- Mississippi State Department of Health <https://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/static/14.0.420.html>

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