

DD4 COVID Student Protocols

What is exposure?

Per guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), exposure occurs if a person has been in close contact (within three ft (student) to six feet (adult)) for greater than or equal to 15 minutes with a person with COVID-19 over a 24-hour period.

What happens when a student is exposed to COVID-19 at school?

Once it is confirmed a student has been exposed to COVID-19, the following steps should take place.

Regardless of vaccination status and the use of a mask:

Close Contact Protocol

- Parents/guardians will be notified by a school nurse or building administrator that their child has been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID.
- The school nurse or building administrator will advise the parent/guardian regarding the quarantine period, return to school date, and next steps.
- The close contact will have to quarantine for 14 days.
- It is recommended that the close contact take a COVID test 7 days after the exposure regardless of vaccination status.
- If a test comes back positive, the quarantine will extend 10 more days from the date of the positive test.

What happens when a student is exposed to COVID-19 away from school?

- Parents/guardians should keep their child(ren) home from school if they have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19.
- The school nurse should be notified so the appropriate guidance regarding a return to school date can be given. This will also allow the school to appropriately code the student's absence.

What happens when a student tests positive for COVID-19?

Positive Test Protocol

- The student will have to quarantine for 10 days from the date of the test that came back positive.
- The student can return on day 11 unless the student still has a fever or other significant symptoms.
- Parents should notify the school nurse of any positive test results.

Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine

DD4 will follow the SC DHEC requirements when reporting positive cases and contact tracing.

Students exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms will wait in a protective isolation area until picked up by a parent/guardian (within the hour). While in the isolation area the student will be asked to wear a mask covering nose and mouth per the SC DHEC guidelines.

DD4 will follow the most up-to-date quarantine and isolation guidelines as recommended by SC DHEC.

The school nurse will report all positive cases to the DD4 COVID-19 Database and forward the required information to DHEC.

Please be aware of the following COVID-19 symptoms

The CDC reports people with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms -- ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. Please watch for the following.

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea