

## CLOSE CONTACTS PROCEDURE CHANGE 9-17-2021

LCSC changed quarantine requirements applied when a student can return from quarantine after being identified as a close contact to a person who is positive for COVID-19 due to masks now being required.

On September 16, 2021, Boone County Health Department allowed LCSC to waive the 6' distancing requirement for students returning early from quarantine. The reason cited in this request is the article "What Science Says About Preventing COVID-19 in North Carolina's K-12 Schools" from the ABC Science Collaborative.

[https://abcsciencecollaborative.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/ABC-LAY-SUMMARY-7.1.21\\_2.pdf](https://abcsciencecollaborative.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/ABC-LAY-SUMMARY-7.1.21_2.pdf)

This change allows LCSC to remove the mandated 14-day quarantine and return asymptomatic staff and students from quarantine according to the following:

Asymptomatic individuals, unless fully vaccinated or recovered from a COVID-19 infection within the past 90 days, who are identified as a close contact of a COVID-19 case shall quarantine, including exclusion from preschools, daycare settings, employment, and public places, until:  
 10 days after the date of last exposure, following additional precautions for days 11-14;  
 or  
 7 days after date of last exposure with a negative PCR or rapid test from a medical or testing facility result occurring on day 5 or later, following additional precautions for days 8-14.

Refer to the following chart for answers to specific conditions.

<p>Symptomatic</p> <p>Exhibiting Symptoms Such As:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fever or chills</li> <li>• Cough</li> <li>• Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing</li> <li>• Fatigue</li> <li>• Muscle or body aches</li> <li>• Headache</li> <li>• New loss of taste or smell</li> <li>• Sore throat</li> <li>• Congestion or runny nose</li> <li>• Nausea or vomiting</li> <li>• Diarrhea</li> </ul>	<p><b>Quarantine from School 10 Days, or;</b></p> <p><b>NEW: Less than 10 Days with Negative Test, no fever for 24 hours, no fever reducing medications, and symptoms subsiding.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If your child has any of these symptoms, please do not send them to school. Call the attendance line to report the absence. Your student will be put on a Covid-19 related absence list (10 Days).</li> <li>• <b>Updated: Your child's school will no longer call you back unless you request a follow-up in your message.</b> Parents should check Skyward attendance to see what day the student is allowed to return to school. The absence code QCD (Quarantine Covid-19 Day) will be used to mark the days the student will be absent.</li> <li>• <b>Updated:</b> In order for your student to return to school before the 10-day absence is complete, you will need to either provide a written doctor's note</li> </ul>
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<p>Symptomatic - continued</p> <p><b>Updates:</b>  <b><i>Your child's school will no longer call you back after you leave an attendance voicemail unless you request a follow-up in your message.</i></b></p> <p><i>The CDC and Boone County Health Department (BCHD) recently modified requirements allowing LCSC to accept any negative test administered by a medical or testing center.</i></p>	<p>stating your student is not considered contagious and may return by a specific date <b>or</b> a negative PCR or rapid Covid-19 test provided by a medical or testing center. <b>The test must be administered by a medical or testing center.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If a symptomatic child tests negative then they will be permitted to return when he/she is fever free for 24 hours, have not taken fever reducing medication, and other symptoms have begun to subside.</li> <li>• <b>The doctor's note or the negative Covid-19 result must be received BEFORE the student rides the bus or comes to the school.</b></li> <li>• If your student received a positive Covid-19 test result, the school that your child attends should be contacted and a copy of the test result should be provided to the school.</li> <li>• Please call the clinic of the school your student attends with further questions.</li> </ul>
<p>Close Contact (CC) No Symptoms - Fully Vaccinated  OR  CC occurred in the classroom while everyone is fully masked  OR  Student Tested Positive for Covid-19 in the 90 days prior to CC.</p>	<p><b>Not required to quarantine, but self-monitor for symptoms.</b> If symptoms develop then refer to Symptomatic section of this table.</p> <p>The parents will be notified the student has been a CC, but have been allowed to continue to remain in school because the school requires masks to be worn at all times.</p>
<p>Close Contact (CC) No Symptoms - the CC was NOT while everyone is fully masked</p> <p>This also applies to high-risk areas and lunch, choir, and band.</p>	<p><b>Quarantine from School 7 or 10 Days</b>  If the Close Contact (CC) was not reported to you by the school (exposure away from school) please call the attendance line to report the absence and the details of the situation. The CC should isolate in the home and siblings may attend school. Quarantine will be as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10 days after the date of last exposure, following additional precautions for days 11-14; or</li> <li>• 7 days after date of last exposure with a negative PCR or rapid test from a medical or testing facility result occurring on day 5 or later, following additional precautions for days 8-14.</li> </ul>
<p>Awaiting results from a Covid-19 test</p>	<p>If anyone in the home is awaiting results from a Covid-19 test then keep everyone isolated and do not send anyone in the home to school.</p>

<p>Positive Covid-19 test - With Symptoms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any type Covid-19 test, including the at-home test, is accepted when the result is positive for Covid-19.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Quarantine 10 days from the date symptoms began.</b></p> <p>If anyone in the home has tested positive for Covid-19 with any type Covid-19, including the at-home test, then keep everyone isolated and do not send anyone in the home to school.</p> <p><b>For Siblings, refer to section “Close Contact (CC) No Symptoms - the CC was NOT while everyone is fully masked”</b></p>
<p><b>Close Contact (CC) With Symptoms</b></p>	<p>If a CC becomes symptomatic then refer to the Symptomatic section of this document.</p> <p>If a Symptomatic CC tests positive then refer to the <b>Positive Covid-19 test – With Symptoms</b> section of this document.</p>
<p><b>Positive Covid-19 test – No Symptoms</b></p>	<p><b>Quarantine 10 days from the date the Covid-19 test was administered</b></p> <p>If anyone in the home has tested positive for Covid-19 with any type Covid-19, then keep everyone isolated and do not send anyone in the home to school.</p> <p><b>For Siblings, refer to section “Close Contact (CC) No Symptoms - the CC was NOT while everyone is fully masked”</b></p>