

Dear Parent/Guardian of,

Your child was identified as having been in close contact with a student or staff member who has tested positive for COVID on (date).

Anyone who is a close contact of a person with COVID is directed to **stay home** from school after the exposure. This is called QUARANTINE. This means, your child should **stay home** and not go to school or any other schools, activities, sports, childcare outside of home, or other activities around other people for the timeframe outlined below:

**The quarantine period:** (dates)

**This is a 10-Day quarantine** starting from date of last known exposure or close contact to COVID positive individual. Your child may return to school/activities the first school day on or after Day 11 as long as during the 10-day quarantine they did not develop symptoms of COVID or test positive for COVID.

***Under certain specific circumstances outlined below the 10-day quarantine may be reduced or eliminated if quarantined individuals remain symptom free:***

**1) Test out of Quarantine:**

Individuals who provide laboratory confirmed proof of a **negative molecular COVID test**, collected **no sooner than day 5** after identified exposure to COVID, may **complete a 7-day quarantine**. Test results must be reviewed and approved by school nurse before returning to school is allowed. Test results will be reviewed during school hours on school days only. Any results submitted after hours or on non school days will not be reviewed until the next school day. Individuals in this scenario may return to school on/after day 8 provided they remain symptom-free.

**Acceptable types of tests are;** molecular tests, nucleic acid amplification test (NAAT), RT-PCR test or LAMP test

***NOT Accepted:*** Antibody, Rapid Antigen and/or home tests will NOT be accepted for testing out of quarantine.

***Please note:*** A negative test result does not mean that your child will not develop symptoms or become sick after the test. A negative test result means that your child did not have COVID-19 detected at the time of testing.

**2) Proof of prior Covid-19 Infection within last 90 days:**

Individuals must provide proof of a prior COVID infection by providing **valid laboratory confirmed** documentation of the previous infection with COVID, which was diagnosed within 90 days of this exposure. **COVID test results must be reviewed and approved by school nurse before return to school is approved.**

People who have tested positive for COVID-19 within the past 3 months (90 days) and recovered do not need to get re-tested following an exposure as long as they do not develop new symptoms.

***Antibody and/or Home tests are NOT valid for this option***

3) **Fully-Vaccinated with Proof of Full Vaccination:**

Individuals must provide **valid immunization proof** to school nurses for review and approval **before** returning to school.

In addition the current recommendation is that **fully vaccinated people should be tested 3-5 days following a known exposure** to someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 ([CDC](#)) **and** wear a mask in public indoor settings for 14 days or until they receive a negative test result (masks are currently required in school regardless of vaccine status or negative test result). Individuals who test positive will be required to isolate x 10 days from test date

**See below for acceptable forms proof of vaccine (any one may be provided):**

- **Valid Completed Vaccine Card** -must have individuals name, date of birth, date of administration of vaccine, product name & lot # of vaccine given (Anyone who provided questionable or illegible vaccine cards will be required to show additional proof),
- **VAMS Certificate:** If you have an account, [log into VAMS](#) and view or download the Certificate of COVID-19 Vaccination ([click here for instructions](#)),
- **CT Wiz vaccine certificate:** Call **(860) 509-7929** to request your Official Immunization Certificate from the CT Immunization Information System (CT WiZ) at the State of CT Department of Public Health. Vaccination providers are required to report COVID-19 vaccinations to CT WiZ.
- **Medical Provider Immunization Record:** A copy of immunization record from primary care provider (the same type as provided with a school physical with provider practice stamp. Name of vaccine, date(s) administered & lot #'s).

The CDC also recommends all individuals monitor for symptoms for 14 days after an exposure to someone who is known or suspected to have COVID. Please follow advice below if your quarantined child or other household members develop [symptoms](#) consistent with COVID-19:

- Follow the recommendations in this link for [isolation instructions](#).
- Have your child tested ([link to testing locations](#)).
- Continue to keep your child home from school and avoid other activities around other people.
- Notify the school of students' symptoms and reason for staying home.
- Seek medical care for COVID-19 (call your doctor before you show up).

CDC recommends that anyone with any signs or [symptoms of COVID-19](#) get tested, regardless of vaccination status or prior infection. **If you get tested because you have symptoms or were potentially exposed to the virus, you should stay away from others pending test results and follow the advice of your health care provider or a public health professional.**

If you have further questions, please contact your school during school hours

(Resources below)

Resources:

**Close Contact as defined by CDC** <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/contact-tracing/contact-tracing-plan/appendix.html#contact>

**Connecticut Covid Data Tracker** <https://portal.ct.gov/Coronavirus/COVID-19-Data-Tracker>

**COVID Testing Overview** <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/testing.html>

**Guidance for fully vaccinated people** <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated.html>

**How to protect yourself and others** <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html>

**Key things to know about COVID vaccines** <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/keythingstoknow.html>

**K-12 School Guidance for COVID prevention** <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/k-12-guidance.html#physical-distancing>

**Mask Science** <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/science/science-briefs/masking-science-sars-cov2.html>

**Quarantine & Isolation** <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/quarantine.html>

**Symptoms of COVID** <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>

**Testing Basics from FDA** <https://www.fda.gov/consumers/consumer-updates/coronavirus-disease-2019-testing-basics>

**Testing Locations in CT** <https://portal.ct.gov/Coronavirus/TestingSiteListings>

**Testing Overview/CDC** <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/testing.html>

**Vaccine Card information State of CT** <https://portal.ct.gov/Coronavirus/Covid-19-Knowledge-Base/Lost-Vaccine-Card>

**Vaccine Main Page/CDC <https://portal.ct.gov/Coronavirus/COVID-19-Data-Tracker>**

**VAMS Vaccine Certificate Access <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/reporting/vams/professional/QRS-access-vaccination-certificates.html>**