



COVID-19 Student Symptom Protocol

According to guidance from the Hopkins County Health Department, students with the following COVID-19 symptoms should **stay home**:

Fever of 100.4 or above	Nausea or Vomiting with or without Diarrhea
Allergy Symptoms	Sinus Infection Symptoms
Cough	Runny Nose
Body Aches or Chills	Loss of Taste or Smell

School Excuses for Symptomatic Students Staying at Home:

- The parent/guardian should call the school nurse the day the student misses school.
- The student will receive a NURSE excuse for that day if the parent/guardian brings the student for a COVID test (tests will be given in the parking lot).
 - If the test is negative, the student may return to school the same day or the next day if they feel well enough.
 - The student will also receive a NURSE excuse for the following day if needed.
 - If the student needs to remain at home *beyond* the following day, the student will be required to use parent notes (5 per year) or obtain a medical note from a health care provider before returning to school in order for absences to be excused.
 - If the test is positive, the student will receive a NURSE excuse for the entire isolation period.
- If the parent does not consent to COVID testing at school, the student will be restricted from returning to school until symptoms subside.
 - A medical note from a health care provider will be required if the student has already used all five parent notes for the school year.
- Symptomatic students are required to complete class assignments; however, if the school nurse or other health care provider indicates the student is too ill to participate, the student will be allowed to have extra time (equivalent to the time missed) to complete assignments in needed.

School Excuses for Symptomatic Students Sent Home from School:

- Symptomatic students will not be allowed to stay at school.
- The school nurse will contact the parent/guardian to pick up the student.
 - The student will receive a NURSE excuse for that day.
- If the parent consents to COVID testing at school:
 - If the test is negative, the student may remain at school or return the next day if they feel well enough.
 - The school nurse will provide a NURSE excuse for the following day if the test is negative and the student needs to remain at home that day.
 - If the student needs to remain at home *beyond* the following day, the student will be required to use parent notes (5 per year) or obtain a medical note from a health care provider before returning to school in order for absences to be excused.



School Excuses for Symptomatic Students Sent Home from School (continued):

- The school nurse will provide a NURSE excuse for the entire isolation period if the test is positive.
- If the parent does not consent to COVID testing at school, the student will be restricted from returning to school until symptoms subside.
 - A medical note from a health care provider will be required if the student has already used all five parent notes for the school year.
- Symptomatic students are required to complete class assignments; however, if the school nurse or other health care provider indicates the student is too ill to participate, the student will be allowed to have extra time (equivalent to the time missed) to complete assignments in needed.

School Excuses for COVID Exposed Students:

- The Health Department will quarantine any unvaccinated COVID exposed student for at least ten days.
- The Health Department will provide the school district with a daily student quarantine list along with the return to school date for each student on the list.
- Quarantined students without symptoms wishing to return to school early may receive a COVID test in the school parking lot on or after the FIFTH day of the quarantine period.
- If tested at a testing site, a copy of the negative result must be sent to the school *prior* to the student's return so school staff may verify the return date with the health department.
- Quarantined students with a negative COVID result may return to school after the SEVENTH day of the quarantine period as long as they do not develop any symptoms; school staff will notify families of the new return to school date after the health department processes the test.
- Student absences will be excused during the quarantine period.
- If a student is a direct contact to a positive COVID case, it is vital that the parent report the exposure and keep the student at home.
- Quarantined students are required to complete classwork while they are at home.

School Excuses for COVID Positive Students:

- The Health Department will require any unvaccinated COVID positive student to self-isolate for at least ten days.
- The Health Department will provide the school district with a daily student self-isolation list along with the return to school date for each student on the list.
- Student absences will be excused during the self-isolation period.
- COVID positive students are required to complete class assignments; however, if the school nurse or other health care provider indicates the student is too ill to participate, the student will be allowed to have extra time (equivalent to the time missed) to complete assignments.