



WCS Reopening Framework FAQ: School Nurse Services

Have the school nurses been provided training on COVID-19 procedures?

Yes. School nurses have been provided training this summer on the protocols to be used for students and staff presenting with COVID-19 symptoms. More training will be provided once nurses get back to work in August. School nurses will train the school staff on the proper protocols.

What is the isolation room?

The isolation room is a designated room or area in the school for students who do not pass the health screening or develop symptoms of COVID-19 during the school day, to wait for the parent or emergency contacts to pick them up for early dismissal. Students who drive themselves to school may be dismissed if they are well enough to drive and the parent has given permission.

What will happen if my child is sent to the isolation room?

The school nurse will assess the students who do not pass the health screening or have reported symptoms of illness during the school day. If the student does not meet the WCS Illness Guidelines to stay in school, the parent or emergency contact will be asked to pick up their student as soon as possible. Students will wait, properly distanced from one another, in the isolation area until a parent arrives. Students will be walked out of the building to their parents.

What if my child is not feeling well but does not have COVID-19 symptoms, will he/she be sent to the isolation room?

The school nurse will assess each student before entering the health clinic to determine if they have symptoms consistent with COVID-19. Students who do not have symptoms of COVID-19 can be seen and treated in the nurse's clinic. Students who have chronic healthcare needs (e.g., diabetes, seizure, medical procedures) or daily medications may also be treated in the nurse's clinic.



If we are in the Remote Learning mode, and my special needs child is receiving services in school, will the school nurse be there to provide procedures as they normally do during On-campus school?

Yes.

If my child, or anyone in my family, tests positive for COVID-19 who should I report that to?

We request that parents inform the principal or school nurse if their child tests positive for COVID-19 so that the school can work with the Health Department to identify and notify potential close contacts and implement cleaning protocols.

If my child has been in close contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19 what should I do?

Please notify the school if your child has been exposed to someone who tested positive for COVID-19. The CDC recommends that close contacts to persons who test positive remain at home and quarantine for a full 14 days after your last contact with a person. Household contacts may need to remain at home longer because the exposure is considered ongoing.

When can children who tested positive for COVID-19 return to school?

If a student has a confirmed case of COVID-19, they must remain home (isolate) for a minimum of 10 days after symptom onset. They must also be feeling well and free of fever for at least 24 hours. The WCS Illness Guidelines provide the guidance on when to return to school/work for several illnesses including COVID-19. This guideline can be found on the WCS webpage.

What are the Tennessee Department of Health guidelines for releasing cases and contacts from COVID-19 isolation and quarantine?

[The Tennessee Department of Health guidelines can be found on their website.](#)



When can children who have close contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19 return to school?

If your child has been in close contact with someone with COVID-19, they should stay home and monitor their health for 14 days after their last contact with the person. A negative COVID-19 test result does not change the requirement to complete the 14-day quarantine. Families are encouraged to consult with the Health Department or their healthcare provider for guidance on when they can be released from home quarantine. Household contacts may be required to quarantine longer if exposure is considered ongoing within the house.

Who is considered a close contact?

The TN Department of Health defines close contact as someone who was within 6-feet of a person with COVID-19 for at least 15 minutes starting from two days before illness onset until the time the patient is isolated.

How will I know if my child needs to be isolated or quarantined due to a positive test for COVID-19, a household contact with COVID-19, or a non-household contact with COVID-19?

Follow the recommendations of your health care provider or the Health Department. In addition, [the Tennessee Department of Health has information available regarding isolation and quarantine.](#)