

1. Why does my vaccinated child have to wear a mask?

In-school exposure guidelines have always included vaccinated students wearing masks after exposure. This alternative allows them to stop wearing the mask on Day 6 if they have a negative lab-confirmed test result on Day 5. It is less likely to develop COVID if vaccinated, however, the combination of new variants and high transmission rate make this the best choice for health.

2. Will my child's absences be excused if I choose to keep him home instead of coming to school with a mask?

Yes

3. Can my child stay home from school but still participate in after school activities such as clubs and athletics?

No. Reference the school handbook for specifics regarding participating after school activities.

4. What if I don't have my child tested on Day 5? Does she have to stay out/wear a mask until Day 11?

Your child may take a lab-confirmed test on Day 5 or later. If the test results come back negative, share the lab results with your school and your quarantine will be shortened.

5. Can I change my mind? What happens if after keeping my child home I decide to send him in with a mask?

Alert the school that your child will be returning to school with a mask.

6. What if my child was exposed at home, for example, a sibling or parent was diagnosed with COVID?

These guidelines ONLY pertain to SCHOOL related exposures. If your child was exposed to someone with COVID-19 outside of the school setting, they will quarantine at home, following traditional quarantine guidelines. Traditional quarantine guidelines are 10 days after last exposure to the COVID case. So, if the sick and well can separate in the house, the quarantine period will be shorter. This information will be discussed during the call with the positive case and the health department.

7. Why does my child have to quarantine at home if they were exposed outside of school?

Schools take many precautions to slow the spread of COVID-19 in the school.

8. If my child always wears a mask, will they have to take a test on Day 5?

No, masked students who are exposed at school do not need to be quarantined.

9. Does my child have to wear a mask while playing sports?

Students exposed to COVID-19 at school are required to pick one of the two quarantine choices. If they are actively participating in a sport, they may remove their masks; however they are to wear masks at all other times, including sitting on the bench, when not playing, when in the locker room, and when outside of school.

10. Can my child participate in out of school functions such as church while quarantined?

No, your child should be not leaving the home during quarantine. An exception is being made for school as it is mandatory and important for children to learn. Once the quarantine period is over (as outlined on the quarantine letter you will receive from the Henry County Health Department via email) your child may again participate in all activities.

11. Why do we need quarantine?

COVID -19 is a communicable disease – that means it can easily spread from person to person. Quarantine is a method to stop the spread of a disease between people who have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 and others.

12. What happens if my child starts having symptoms during the quarantine period?

Reach out to your healthcare provider or take a COVID-19 test if your child starts having symptoms and do not send your child to school. The illness may not be COVID-19, but until you know for sure please do not take the chance of spreading it to others.

13. What if the test result is negative but my child still has symptoms?

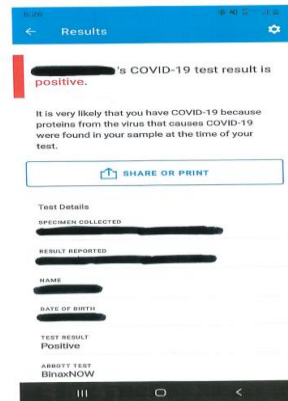
Reach out to your healthcare provider and mention your child is a close contact to someone who has COVID. A contact may test positive for up to 14 days after exposure, so it is important to watch for symptoms and advocate for your child’s health.

14. What do you mean by a lab confirmed COVID-19 test?

This is referring to a test that is given by or witnessed being taken via a telehealth visit by a healthcare professional. Only an official lab result will be accepted to allow an exposed individual back to school.



Not Acceptable



Acceptable

15. Why even get my child tested if I think it’s COVID?

This is a novel (new) virus. It is not only important for your child’s medical records to be accurate as we may learn more about this virus in the future, but should your child be exposed again within 90 days to someone with COVID, they will not need to quarantine. At this time further research is being done on natural immunity and that timeframe may be adjusted and extended.

16. If one of my children are quarantined from an in-school exposure, are all my children to quarantine?

No, only the close contact should quarantine. However, watch for symptoms and remember wearing a mask and physical distancing can help hinder the spreading of germs.

17. What if I already had COVID, do I have to quarantine?

If the close contact has a documented lab-confirmed case of COVID within the last 90 days they do not have to quarantine. At this time more research is being done to determine if this timeframe can be extended.