

Updated: February 1, 2022

COVID-19 GUIDANCE FOR DISTRICTS

Helping school districts determine health risks in relation to community spread of COVID-19

ARKANSAS

READY  FOR LEARNING



DIVISION OF ELEMENTARY & SECONDARY EDUCATION



As knowledge and resources have evolved during the Pandemic, the response to COVID-19 has been modified to balance the educational and physical well-being in public schools. Contact tracing and quarantines for students who are identified as probable close contacts remain best practice as mitigation strategies, but there is no directive for districts to do so. Isolation is still appropriate for individuals who test positive for COVID-19 or for those who are symptomatic.

CONTINUED SAFETY PRECAUTIONS



**Stay Home
If You Are Sick**

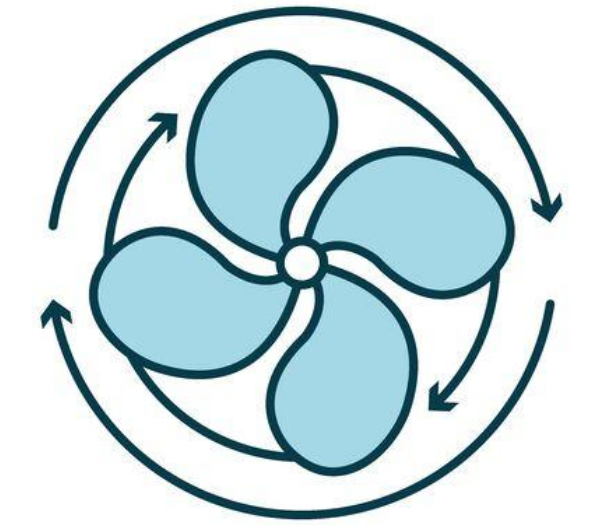
CONTINUED SAFETY PRECAUTIONS



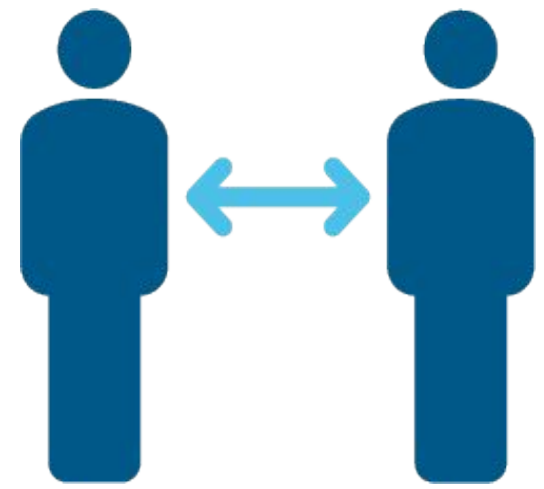
Vaccinations



Disinfecting



Ventilation



**Physical
Distancing**



**Face
Covering**



**Good Hand
Hygiene**



ISOLATION

Isolation is appropriate for someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, regardless of vaccination status. This person should:

- Stay home for at least 5 days
- If you have no symptoms or your symptoms are resolving after 5 days, you can leave your house (return to school).
- Continue to wear a mask around others through the 10th day of isolation.

If you have fever, continue to stay home for 24 hours after fever has resolved.



PROBABLE CLOSE CONTACT/QUARANTINE

An individual who has likely been within 3 feet (6 feet, if childcare) for 15 cumulative minutes or longer within a 24-hour period during the infectious period of a person who has tested positive for COVID-19.



WHAT TO DO FOR QUARANTINE

- Stay home and away from other people for at least 5 days after your last contact with a person who has COVID-19.
- Wear a well-fitting mask through the 10th day after contact with a person who has COVID-19.
 - If you are unable to wear a mask, continue to quarantine for 10 days.
- Monitor for symptoms, and if symptoms occur self-isolate and get tested.



WHO SHOULD QUARANTINE

If you are considered a close contact with someone with COVID-19, you should quarantine if you are in one of the following groups:

- You are ages 18 or older and completed the primary series of recommended vaccine, but have not received a recommended booster shot when eligible.
- You are age 18 or older and received the single-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine (completing the primary series) over 2 months ago and have not received the recommended booster dose
- You are not vaccinated or have not completed a primary vaccine series.



WHO DOES NOT NEED TO QUARANTINE

If you came into close contact with someone with COVID-19 and you are in one of the following groups, you do not need to quarantine:

- You are ages 18 and older and have received all recommended vaccine doses, including booster and additional primary shots for some immunocompromised people
- You are ages 5-17 years and completed the primary series of COVID-19 vaccines.
- You had confirmed COVID-19 within the last 90 days (PCR or Antigen Test)

ACTIVITY PARTICIPATION

An individual who has completed at least 5 full days of at-home isolation or quarantine may participate in activities. It is recommended that they properly mask during that activity for the remainder of the 10 day isolation or quarantine period.

***Interscholastic athletic activities may be subject to additional health and safety protocols adopted by the Arkansas Activities Association.*

IMPORTANT LINKS

[Arkansas Department of Health Guidance](#)

[DESE Resources for Schools](#)

[CDC Guidance](#)