



COVID-19 Response Protocols August 2021

If anyone in your household has or might have COVID-19, it is important to stay home and isolate yourself from others. Quarantining from others helps reduce exposure and the spread of COVID-19. When a member of our SLES community (student or employee) can end quarantining (home isolation and return to campus) depends on various factors for various situations.

For any SLES student or employee exhibiting signs or symptoms consistent with COVID-19:

- A student or employee, and immediate household members, may be required to begin home isolation for initial assessment and observation. Out of an abundance of caution, this initial period of time is a conservative approach that allows for true illness to declare itself or for individual wellness to be confirmed. Timeframes may vary between 24-72 hours or more.
- The family or employee will consult with the SLES nurse to determine the appropriate course of action.
- All students or employees who have been required to home isolate or quarantine must obtain clearance from the school nurse before re-entry to campus.
- A student or employee may be asked to seek evaluation by a medical professional and/or be tested for COVID-19.
 - If a student or employee is not evaluated by a medical professional or tested for COVID-19, they may be presumed to have COVID-19.
- If a student or employee tests positive for COVID-19, whether during the school day or outside of school hours, the parent or guardian or employee must promptly notify the Assistant Head of School and the school nurse.

If a student or employee exhibits signs/symptoms consistent with COVID-19 during the school day:

- The student or employee will be immediately isolated on campus and evaluated by the school nurse, as needed.

- For a student, if COVID illness is suspected, a parent or guardian will be contacted and will be expected to immediately pick up the student and follow CDC guidelines for home isolation.

- For an adult, if COVID illness is suspected, the adult must promptly leave campus and follow CDC guidelines for home isolation.

In order to return to campus in the case of a presumed or confirmed case of COVID-19, a student or employee must meet ALL of the following criteria:

- At least 24 hours have passed since recovery (resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications)
- AND Signs/symptoms of COVID-19 (e.g., cough, shortness of breath, etc.) have improved
- AND At least ten calendar days have passed since symptoms first appeared.
- AND Re-entry approval has been coordinated through the school nurse.

In order to return to campus before the above criteria are met, a student or employee must either:

- Provide an alternate diagnosis documented by a professional healthcare provider confirming a non-COVID illness based on strong clinical or diagnostic evidence
- OR Present negative results collected ≥ 24 hours apart (total of two negative specimens)
- AND Re-entry approval has been coordinated through the school nurse.

Community Communication Related to COVID-19:

- For a confirmed case of COVID-19 in a student or employee, a general notification will be sent to all families and employees.
- In addition, a more specific notification will be sent to employees/the family of any student who, during the school day, may have come into “close contact” with the person who tested positive for COVID-19.

Exposure and Quarantine Protocols:

Students or employees who have been determined to have come into “close contact” with a person with a confirmed or presumed case of COVID-19 may return to campus:

- After day 10 without testing, if asymptomatic and fully recovered
- OR, After day 7 following a negative test result on day 5 or later, if asymptomatic and fully recovered
- AND, Re-entry approval has been coordinated through the school nurse.

However, students or employees who have been determined to have come into “close contact” with a person with a confirmed or presumed case of COVID-19 do NOT need to quarantine if:

- They have received permission from the nurse,

- AND, They are asymptomatic,
 - AND, both parties were properly masked,
 - OR they have shown proof they have been fully vaccinated,
 - OR, if an individual has recovered from COVID-19 illness within the previous 3 months.

**According to CDC, the close contact definition excludes students who were within 3 to 6 ft. of an infected student where both students were engaged in consistent and correct use of well-fitting masks; and other K–12 school prevention strategies (such as universal and correct mask use, physical distancing, and increased ventilation) were in place in the K–12 school setting. When not in the school setting, a close contact is someone who was within 6 ft. of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more, over a 24-hour period.*

All students or employees who have been required to home-isolate or quarantine must coordinate and confirm re-entry with the school nurse before re-entry to campus.