

Whiteside COVID-19 Exclusion Guide for Parents/Guardians

**Information provided in the table below has been adapted from the “Revised Public Health Guidances for Schools”

Student Exclusions Guide:

If you test positive for COVID-19 (exclusion)
All students, regardless of vaccination status, must do the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stay home for 10 days after the first day of symptoms or the specimen collection date from a positive viral test for asymptomatic persons.• Individuals may return to school after 10 days if asymptomatic or if fever-free without fever reducing medication for 24 hours, diarrhea/vomiting have ceased for 24 hours, and other symptoms have improved.

If you have COVID-19- like symptoms (exclusion)
All students, regardless of vaccination status, must immediately be excluded from school until: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Receiving a negative test result that confirms the symptoms are not attributable to COVID-19• For a minimum of 10 days until fever free without fever reducing medication for 24 hours, diarrhea/vomiting have ceased for 24 hours, and other symptoms have improved.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Those testing positive should be excluded from school and follow guidance for persons testing positive.

If you were exposed to someone with COVID-19 and have no COVID-19-like symptoms (exclusion)
The following people are close contacts who must be excluded from school: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students who are not fully vaccinated.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Must stay home for five days after the last contact with the person who has COVID-19 and provide a negative PCR test taken on the 5th day or later.○ Must wear a mask around others for five additional days and remain asymptomatic○ Should test for COVID-19 on day five. Those testing positive should be excluded from school and follow guidance for persons testing positive

Exceptions may apply to these exclusions to students whose age are outside the 5-17 year old range or students who have severe learning disabilities as determined by the administrative and nursing teams using ISBE revised guidance.

The following people are NOT close contacts who require exclusion:

- A student who was within 3 to 6 feet in a classroom setting for least 15 minutes with a confirmed or probable student case if both case and contact were consistently masked for the entire exposure period.
- Students and staff aged 18 years and older who have received all recommended COVID-19 vaccine doses, including boosters and additional primary doses for some immunocompromised people.
- A student aged 5-17 years who completed the primary series of a COVID-19 vaccine.
- An individual on school transportation within 3 to 6 feet if both the confirmed case and the exposed individual were consistently and correctly masked during the entire exposure period and windows were opened (front, middle, and back, or overhead) to allow for good ventilation or HEPA filters were in use during transit.
- An individual who has tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 90 days from date of exposure.
- An individual who is solely exposed to a confirmed case while outdoors; however, schools may coordinate with their local health department to determine the necessity of exclusion for higher-risk outdoor exposures. These individuals must wear a mask around others for 10 days and may consider testing for COVID-19 on day five, if possible. Those testing positive should be excluded from school and follow guidance for persons testing positive.

Illinois Department of Public Health Defines Covid Symptoms as the following:

People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

Please feel free to contact the building nurses or offices if you have questions regarding symptoms notated above.