



Manatee County School Health Program Return to School – Guidelines for Parents



Date: _____ Student Name: _____ School: _____

Individuals with COVID-19 can experience a wide range of symptoms that may vary from very mild to severe. According to CDC guidance, students with symptoms and contacts/exposures listed below should be evaluated for COVID-19. An assessment of your student by clinic staff has indicated the following:

SECTION 1: Symptoms Present

- Temperature 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher
- Sore throat
- Cough (for students with chronic allergic/asthmatic cough, a change in their cough from baseline)
- Difficulty breathing
- Diarrhea or vomiting
- New onset of severe headache, especially with a fever

SECTION 2: Close Contact/Potential Exposure

- Had close contact (within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes) with a person with confirmed COVID-19
- Live in areas of moderate community transmission while school remains open

Return-to-School Guidelines

- **If your student has a symptom listed in Section 1 but NO contacts or exposures are indicated in Section 2**, your student may return to school when their symptoms have improved, and they are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medications
- **If your student has a symptom listed in Section 1 AND contacts or exposures are indicated in Section 2**, your student should be seen by their healthcare provider for evaluation and testing. If you do not have a health care provider, please contact the Florida Department of Health in Manatee at 941-748-0747 for further assistance.
 - If your student has had contact with a person with confirmed COVID-19 and receives a negative COVID test or the test is not done, they should stay home for 14 days after their last contact with the COVID positive individual. They can then return to school once their symptoms have improved and they are fever-free for 24 hrs without the use of fever reducing medications
 - If your student has not had contact with a person with confirmed COVID-19, they should be seen by their healthcare provider for evaluation and testing. Your student may return to school when their symptoms have improved, they are fever-free for at least 24 hrs. without the use of fever reducing medications and either of the following:
 - A negative COVID-19 test **OR**
 - A note from a medical provider stating your student may return to school.
 - If your student receives a positive test result your student should stay home, isolate themselves from others, monitor their health, and follow directions from your health care provider. Your student may return to school when they are:
 - Fever free for at least 24 hrs without the use of fever reducing medication AND
 - Symptoms have improved AND
 - At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared
- If your student has been exposed to a person with confirmed COVID-19, your student will need to isolate at home and monitor symptoms. If your student does not develop symptoms, they may return to school AFTER day 7 from exposure if they have a negative PCR COVID test (not a rapid test) performed on day 6 or later of quarantine. If no test is performed and they remain symptom free, they may return to school AFTER day 10 from exposure.

If it is confirmed that your student has COVID-19, siblings and other individuals in your household should stay home, consult with your healthcare provider and monitor symptoms. If no symptoms develop, siblings and household members may return to school following the guidance above.

If you have any questions regarding the information on this form, please contact your school clinic at _____.