

FAQs Related to COVID

Ludlow Independent Schools

2021-2022

I received communication that my child is quarantined due to an exposure. What does that mean?

Students who are asked to quarantine have had exposure to someone who has tested positive. Exposure means they've been within 3 feet of that person unmasked for 15 minutes or longer. Right now, this is affecting some of our extracurricular groups the most since students are unmasked while they are practicing/playing. Students in class are always masked, and therefore are at less of a risk to exposure. Students are also unmasked while eating/drinking in the cafeteria. Students are in assigned seats, so that we are better able to contact trace if there is a possible exposure while in the cafeteria. Students who are quarantined may not attend classes at Ludlow, at Gateway CTC, the Enzweiler Building Institute, or any extracurricular activities. They should follow the protocol for returning to school.

Will someone contact me to explain the detailed process about my child being quarantined and how they can return to school?

Yes. Someone from our school will contact you directly regarding the process for quarantining and possible testing. Please be patient with this process. If a whole team is quarantined, it takes quite a bit of time for someone to call each family and review the process. We ask for your patience! A parent's immediate reaction to their child's exposure might be to test the child. This won't be of much help if it's still too soon from the date of exposure. Parents are encouraged to wait and speak with a school official about testing. It can be done at school for no charge.

What is the process for ending the quarantine period for my child?

- See the next question for students who are fully vaccinated.
- If students are not fully vaccinated, they can complete one of the following:
 - > Students will quarantine for 10 days if they've developed NO symptoms
 - > Students will quarantine for 7 days if you have a negative test on or after Day 5 of exposure AND have NO symptoms.
- Symptoms include, but can vary or range from mild to more severe: fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle/body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, congestion or runny nose, nausea/vomiting, or diarrhea
- Verify the quarantine process, protocols, and dates with our nurse.

My child is fully vaccinated. Do they still have to quarantine?

No. Students who are fully vaccinated do not have to quarantine. Keep in mind, being fully vaccinated means they received their second shot (Pfizer, Moderna) or single shot (J&J) at least fourteen days prior to their exposure. In order for students to "prove" they are fully vaccinated, they must bring their vaccination card to the school nurse. A copy will be made for school files, and the original card will be returned to the student. If a vaccinated student who was exposed begins to present with symptoms, they should quarantine and be tested immediately.

My child (Child A for this scenario) has to quarantine. Does this affect my other children (Children B and C)? Can they still come to school?

Yes, Children B and C may still attend school, unless Child A is showing symptoms or has tested positive. Children B and C are “two people removed” from the possible exposure. Only those immediately exposed to the person who tested positive must quarantine. As a parent, if you have concerns and prefer to keep home Children B and C, you may certainly do so out of precaution.

If my child has to quarantine, how do they get their schoolwork?

Teachers will communicate with students through their Google Classroom. However, this does not necessarily mean they will have to connect on a Google Meet at specific times for each class, like last year. Students should check their Google Classrooms and communicate with their teacher(s) in this way. If students do not have the required materials at home for this work (their laptop or textbooks), then they should contact their school office to arrange a pickup time.

Will my child have these quarantine days count as absences?

No. However, you may still receive a notification from the school about their absence. This is simply an auto-generated process in Infinite Campus when the teacher marks that they are physically not in their classroom. Our school secretaries will be sure that their attendance codes are changed to reflect a COVID-related reason, much like they mark absences with “excused” or “unexcused” codes throughout the school day.

Can the school test my child for COVID?

Our district is partnering with Gravity Diagnostics, a testing agency. Upon a parent's request, students can be tested at school for no cost to the family. Results are typically returned within 24 hours.

How does this affect my child in the Gateway Early College or Enzweiler Building Institute programs?

Students in the Enzweiler program follow the same quarantine process as LHS. If they are quarantined from LHS, they are quarantined from Enzweiler. Be sure to log into their work app, Canvas, as directed, to receive assignments.

Students in the Gateway Early College Program have a little different protocol to follow since it's a college campus. If a student is exposed to someone who tests positive, they must quarantine, even if they were masked. This is different than Ludlow's protocol. There is a chance that LHS students are quarantined from Gateway, but not from LHS. This can be confusing, and we ask for your patience. Students are reminded to check in with their instructor regarding classwork. They may be asked to connect through Collaborate (like a Google Meet) or submit work through Blackboard.