

Cobb County School District updated Quarantine of Close Contacts

– effective February 1, 2021

All close contacts MUST be quarantined and excluded from the school setting and all extracurricular activities, regardless of students, teachers, or staff wearing masks or the use of physical barriers (e.g., plexiglass). *Refer to the Public Health Administrative Order*

***Remember to always observe the quarantine guidance while waiting on COVID test results. Refer to DPH Quarantine Guidelines found at <https://dph.georgia.gov/contact>.*

A **14-day quarantine period is still recommended by CDC⁺** however, some individuals may opt for a shorter quarantine period by meeting the below criteria. NOTE: The day of exposure is day 0.

Effective with new COVID close contacts reported on and after February 1, 2021, Cobb County Schools will utilize the DPH **10-day option for asymptomatic persons** who have a known exposure to a person with COVID-19, unless the Georgia Department of Public Health advises otherwise.

Asymptomatic persons who have a known exposure to a person with COVID-19 can return to work, school:

After 10 full days have passed since their most recent exposure, if they are not tested for COVID-19 **AND** do not experience any COVID-19 symptoms § during the quarantine period.

After stopping quarantine after day 10, individuals who do not have symptoms § should:

- Closely monitor themselves for COVID-19 symptoms for 14 days from their most recent date of exposure
- For at least the entire 14 days, they should **STRICTLY** adhere to mitigation measures including appropriate mask usage, staying at least 6 feet from others except for brief transitional movements (e.g., changing classes), washing their hands, avoiding crowds, and taking other steps to prevent the spread of COVID-19

If an individual, who is a close contact AND ended quarantine after day 10, develops symptoms § they should be sent home immediately and follow the guidelines for symptomatic individuals and seek COVID-19 testing. Refer to <https://dph.georgia.gov/isolation-contact>.

⁺<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/quarantine.html>

§ If the individual experiences ONE of the following COVID-19 symptoms (fever, chills, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, new cough, or new loss of taste or smell) **OR two** of the following symptoms (sore throat, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, chills, muscle pain, extreme fatigue/feeling very tired, new severe/very bad headache, new nasal congestion/stuffy or runny nose) they must follow the guidance for symptomatic individuals.