



Updated July 29, 2023

# **STUDENT COVID-19 Guidelines**

## ***POSITIVE TEST***

**If a student tests positive for COVID-19:**

-Contact the school nurse, Christi Newman at [cnewman@gcakids.com](mailto:cnewman@gcakids.com)

**Students diagnosed with COVID-19 may return to school when:**

-At least five days have passed since the student first had symptoms or tested positive (whichever occurred first) AND they are fever free for 24 hours AND symptoms have improved.

-If the individual is able to mask, they should do so through Day 10.

-If the individual is unable to wear a mask, VDH recommends a negative test on or after Day 6 in order to return to school OR the person should remain home through Day 10.

## ***CLOSE CONTACT***

**If you learn your child has been identified as a close contact for COVID-19:**

-VDH no longer routinely recommends quarantine for asymptomatic individuals after exposure to COVID-19.

-Exposure is defined as being within six feet of a person who has COVID-19 for a total of 15 minutes or more over a 24 hr period or having direct contact with respiratory secretions from an infected person.

-Monitor for COVID-19 symptoms for 14 days after exposure. If symptoms develop, the student must begin isolation at home and follow up with a healthcare provider.

-VDH recommends taking a COVID-19 test five days after exposure.

-Students who attend school during this time may consider wearing a mask while indoors around others until Day 10.

## ***HOUSEHOLD EXPOSURE***

### **If your child has a household exposure to COVID-19:**

- If a student has ongoing household exposure to a person with COVID-19, VDH recommends taking a test.

## ***MASKS***

### **Per Gov. Youngkin's Executive Order #2, parents may choose whether their child wears a mask in school.**

- The parents of any child enrolled in an elementary or secondary school or a school based early childcare and educational program may elect for their children not to be subject to any mask mandate in effect at the child's school or educational program.
  - No parent electing that a mask mandate should not apply to his or her child shall be required to provide a reason or make any certification concerning their child's health or education.
  - A child whose parent has elected that he or she is not subject to a mask mandate should not be required to wear a mask under any policy implemented by a teacher, school, school district, the Department of Education, or any other state authority.