



# WILLOUGHBY-EASTLAKE Board of Education

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January 5, 2022

Dear Willoughby-Eastlake Families,

I would like to welcome you back to school and hope you had a wonderful break with your families and friends.

This week, the Lake County General Health District assisted us with updating our quarantine protocols for students and staff members that are exposed to COVID-19 so that they align with the recent changes from the CDC. Below, you will find three items of importance:

- Protocol for a student or staff member that is exposed to COVID-19 in school
- Protocol for a student or staff member that has been exposed to COVID-19 outside of the school setting
- Protocol for persons testing positive to COVID-19

### **EXPOSURE IN A SCHOOL SETTING – Mask to Stay, Test to Play**

If you are notified that your child has been identified as a close contact to a person with COVID-19 while in a school setting, they are able to continue to attend in-person instruction in their school, as long as they wear a mask for the ten (10) days following the exposure, regardless of a mask exemption. Under this protocol, if your child is identified as a close contact as a result of participation in a sport or extracurricular activity, they will need to “test to play” and specific instructions will be sent to you at the time of the exposure.

During the ten (10) days following the exposure, parents should monitor their children for symptoms of COVID-19 and call their healthcare provider if your child becomes ill.

### **EXPOSURE OUTSIDE OF A SCHOOL SETTING**

**If your child has been exposed to COVID-19 outside of the school setting, please follow these important steps:**

1. Keep your child at home
2. Report the exposure via email to [COVIDHOTLINE@WESCHOOLS.ORG](mailto:COVIDHOTLINE@WESCHOOLS.ORG) and remember to include:
  - Your child’s name, school, and extracurricular activities
  - Your name and phone number
  - Date of exposure or the day the person became ill if they live in your home
  - Other students in your home that were exposed
3. Your child/children will be instructed to:
  - Remain at home for five (5) full days following the exposure (Day 1 is the day after exposure occurred.)
  - Return to school on day six (6) **ONLY if they are symptom free**

- If your child has symptoms of COVID-19 during the quarantine period, contact your healthcare professional to ensure that they can safely return after ten (10) days

***Under this guideline it is recommended that you take a COVID test prior to returning but this step is not required.***

**POSITIVE OR PRESUMED POSITIVE TO COVID-19**

**If your child tests positive for COVID-19, they should follow these steps:**

1. Report the case via email to [COVIDHOTLINE@WESCHOOLS.ORG](mailto:COVIDHOTLINE@WESCHOOLS.ORG) and remember to include:
  - Your child's name, school, and any extracurricular activities that they participate in
  - Your name and phone number
  - The day that your child became ill
  - Siblings in the home that attend W-E, please remember that siblings must now quarantine because they have been exposed to COVID-19.
2. Your child/children will be instructed to
  - Remain at home for five (5) full days from the date that symptoms began
  - On day six (6)

They can return to school ***ONLY*** if they are ***symptom free and continue to wear a mask for five (5) additional days, regardless of a mask exemption. If they are not able to wear a mask, they will need to continue the 10-day home isolation.***

- ✓ **If your child returns to school and they exhibit symptoms of COVID-19, they will be sent home and will need to complete the 10-day period of isolation at home.**

If you have questions regarding COVID-19, please check the district website and visit the COVID-19 Info tab or you can email [COVIDHOTLINE@WESCHOOLS.ORG](mailto:COVIDHOTLINE@WESCHOOLS.ORG).

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we navigate this difficult road with you, while working to keep our students, staff and community safe and strong.

Sincerely,

***Steve Thompson, Superintendent***

Willoughby-Eastlake City Schools