

MASKS

Masks must be worn at all times by all enrolled students, staff, visitors and vendors.

Acceptable masks may include:

- Store bought or homemade cloth masks
- Disposable (surgical type) masks
- Neck gaiters that can be pulled up to fit tightly around the nose and mouth
- N95 masks or KN95 masks without valves (these are not needed for normal daily use, but if this is what you have bought, you may use them). N95s are only effective when fit tested and a cleaning protocol is established.

Masks with valves are **NOT** acceptable and will not be allowed. A replacement mask will be given for those who arrive at school with valved masks. The purpose of a mask is to be a barrier to prevent droplets from being exhaled. The valves allow you to exhale your breath into the air defeating the purpose of a mask.

Masks may be removed under the following circumstances:

- Outside AND 6-foot distancing is maintained
- While eating/drinking AND maintaining 6-foot distancing
- In a room alone with a door



PROCEDURES FOR STUDENTS EXHIBITING SIGNS OF ILLNESS

It is wonderful to have our students back in the building. Thank you for preparing your child(ren) for our new procedures and the importance of wearing a mask, washing hands, and taking care of each other. It is very evident that our Families want to work together to keep everyone safe.

Nursing Procedures in the Era of COVID:

Please review the procedures we have in place should a student exhibit signs of illness or report feeling unwell at school. Our school nurse consults regularly with the Lawrence-Douglas County Public Health (LDCPH) department and follows specific criteria when evaluating symptoms. Please keep your emergency contact numbers updated through PowerSchool by notifying the school office of any changes so that we can reach you for an emergency or if your child is not feeling well at school.

IF a student reports not feeling well or exhibits signs of illness while at school:

- o The student will be sent to the triage area outside of the office for an initial assessment by our medical staff.
- o As you know, students may visit the school clinic for a variety of reasons. We will not share information with the school community whenever a student visits the clinic or goes home from school feeling sick. However, please rest assured that if we have a concern that directly involves your child, you will be notified.
- o If a student is exhibiting ONE major or 2 minor symptoms of COVID-19 they will be sent to our isolation room and a parent or guardian will be required to pick the student up to take home.
- o Our school has a designated isolation room once a student is evaluated as having symptoms of COVID-19. This room prevents other students from potential exposure. Students who are admitted to the isolation room will be required to isolate at home for 10 days UNLESS a physician or health care provider can provide in writing that the student's symptoms are not related to COVID-19.

1. ONE MAJOR SYMPTOM can include: new cough, loss of taste or smell, OR shortness of breath
2. TWO MINOR SYMPTOMS can include: chills, fever of 100.0 or higher, headache, sore throat, runny nose, congestion, body aches, fatigue, diarrhea, or vomiting.

A student who reports not feeling well at school that does not meet the criteria for major or minor symptoms of COVID-19:

- will be evaluated in the school health clinic and our school medical staff will determine possible treatment options including whether the child needs to go home OR can return to class.

A student is feeling ill at home:

- If a student's family reports that the student will not be at school due to illness, the school may ask if the student is exhibiting any symptoms of COVID-19. Staff will share this information with the school nurse for follow up with communicable disease management procedures.
- Please notify the school if your student has COVID-19 symptoms, is diagnosed with COVID 19, is waiting for test results, or has been exposed to someone with symptoms or a confirmed or suspected case. Communication between home and school is key!

In the event of a positive case of COVID-19:

o The Langston COVID-19 response team will work with the family and LDCPH to identify anyone considered in close contact or at risk of exposure. Close contacts will be notified directly by the school or public health officials and will be provided instructions to quarantine in order to prevent the spread of the disease.

- When we receive reports of COVID-19 cases, **we will inform all staff and school families and local health officials of the case, while maintaining confidentiality.**

Please email our school nurse at mballast@usd497.org if you have questions about how clinic staff will work with students who report an illness.

COVID DEFINITIONS/CLOSE CONTACTS/EXPECTATIONS

Case Positive Person:

- Someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, they must notify the school nurse, they will be required to **ISOLATE** at home for at least 10 days (return to work or school date will be provided by the health department), they will notify the school nurse of all school related close contacts so close contacts can be notified.

Close Contact:

- Someone who was exposed to a Case Positive person using the within 6 feet for 10 minutes definition. This person is required to **QUARANTINE** at home for 14 days from last contact with the Covid positive individual and monitor themselves for symptoms. If this person becomes ill, they must notify the school nurse.

Contact of a Close Contact (aka: secondary contact):

- Someone who has been exposed to a person who has been deemed a **close contact**. This person continues to follow safety protocols such as social distancing, masks, and hand-washing. They may continue to work.

ILL = **ISOLATE** (10 DAYS)

EXPOSED = **QUARANTINE** (14 DAYS)

When am I at greatest risk to an exposure?

- When you are around a sick/COVID+ person for more than 10 minutes, you are less than 6 feet apart, and you don't wear a mask.

Covid Fact:

- If my daughter/son is in **QUARANTINE** at my house because she/he is considered a "close contact", I can still go to work.
 - WHY? Because although she/he is considered a close contact I am considered a "secondary contact" (aka: contact of a close contact). I will continue to follow safety protocols both at home AND at work (6 feet, masks, handwashing).
 - The only scenario in which this would change is IF my daughter/son became ill OR tested positive. At this point, I would then be considered a "household contact" (would then **QUARANTINE**) and SHE/HE would be considered a "case positive" (would then **ISOLATE**).

*Determining close contacts and exposures is ultimately up to the health department.