



Family message on COVID quarantine January 13, 2022

Good afternoon families,

Last week, both the Department of Health and the Snohomish Health District made changes to the isolation and quarantine protocol for COVID in [K-12 settings](#) and Everett Public Schools is adopting the changes immediately.

Modified quarantine for close contact

Quarantine requirements for students, teachers and staff who come into [close contact](#) with someone with COVID:

If you fit into this category	Quarantine Requirements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ages 18 or older and completed the primary series of recommended vaccine <u>but have not</u> received a recommended booster shot when eligible. • They received the single-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine (completing the primary series) over 2 months ago and have not received a recommended booster shot. • They are not vaccinated or have not completed a primary vaccine series. 	<p>Quarantine may end 5 full days after the last close contact * (day one is the day after the last contact) as long as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No symptoms have developed • You have received a negative COVID test result from a test taken no sooner than day 5. • When returning from quarantine at day 5, you must wear a closely fitted mask for 10 days, including during recess, extracurricular and athletic activities. <p>If no test is taken at or after day 5, then you must quarantine for 10 days.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ages 18 or older and have received all recommended vaccine doses, <u>including boosters</u> and additional primary shots for some immunocompromised people. • Ages 5-17 years and completed the primary series of COVID vaccines. • Had confirmed COVID within the last 90 days. 	<p>Do not need to quarantine as long as no symptoms develop.</p> <p>If symptoms consistent with COVID develop, you must isolate yourself from others, be clinically evaluated for COVID if needed, and tested if indicated.</p>

*For household exposures this would be the last day the person with COVID is considered infectious.

Modified isolation for those with COVID

All people with COVID (with or without symptoms) need to isolate for at least 5 days. For all students, teachers and staff who have COVID:

If you fit into this category	Isolation Requirements
<p>Test positive for COVID but never develop symptoms</p>	<p>Isolation may end 5 full days after a positive test as long as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You have isolated for at least 5 days. Day 0 is the day of the positive COVID test and day 1 is the first full day after the specimen was collected for the positive test. • If you continue to have no symptoms. This applies to anyone with COVID, regardless of their vaccination status. • If you develop symptoms after testing positive, the 5-day isolation period must start over. Day 0 is now the first day of symptoms. • Upon return, you must wear well-fitting mask through day 10 and will need to mask for all activities, including recess, extracurriculars and athletics (even if tested) except to eat or drink.
<p>Test positive for COVID and have or had symptoms</p>	<p>Isolation may end 5 full days after symptom onset or positive test as long as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You have isolated for at least 5 days. Day 0 is the day of the positive COVID test or symptom onset and day 1 is the first full day after the specimen was collected for the positive test. • You are fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication and other symptoms have improved. • Upon return, you must wear well-fitting mask through day 10 and will need to mask for all activities, including recess, extracurriculars and athletics (even if tested) except to eat or drink.

<p>Test positive for COVID and have or had symptoms that are not improving on or after Day 5</p>	<p>If you continue to have a fever or symptoms that are not improving after 5 days of isolation, an antigen test is recommended. If the test result is positive or no test is completed, you must continue to isolate until day 10, returning on day 11. If the test result is negative, you may return to school and you must wear well-fitting mask through day 10 and will need to mask for all activities, including recess, extracurriculars and athletics (even if tested) except to eat or drink.</p>
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If your child is identified as a close contact, you will receive a letter with specifics on how and where to provide proof of a negative test. You still have the option as a parent or guardian to keep your child out on a longer quarantine if you prefer.

Test to Stay

Everett Public Schools will be implementing a “Test to Stay” program, which will enable students and staff to get tested in the school buildings. We are currently waiting for the test kits to arrive but anticipate them in the next two weeks. As you know, test kits are in short supply and high demand. We will communicate more about the Test to Stay program shortly. Prior to any child participating in “Test to Stay”, a consent form must be completed by their parent or guardian. We are pleased this step will enable staff and students who are healthy to return to the classroom sooner.

For more resources, please visit the [COVID webpage](#) for frequently asked questions, our COVID dashboard and the family COVID handbook. Thank you again for supporting your child’s education and for being patient as we adjust to changing health parameters.

Be safe and be well,

Dr. Ian B. Saltzman
Superintendent