

Guidance for Symptomatic Students/Staff

If a student or staff member presents to school with COVID-19 symptoms or develops COVID-19 symptoms while at school, the individual should be sent to the office and examined by the school nurse or site administrator. School staff should consider the individual and any pertinent medical history which may explain the symptoms.

The following symptoms are considered **HIGH-RISK** Covid-19 symptoms:

- Uncontrollable Cough
- Loss of Taste and Smell
- Difficulty Breathing or Shortness of Breath

The following symptoms are considered **LOW-RISK** Covid-19 Symptoms:

- Fever or Chills
- Body Aches or Fatigue
- Congestion or Runny Nose
- Vomiting, Diarrhea, Nausea or Loss of Appetite
- Severe Headache
- Sore Throat

School staff should use their best judgment to determine if symptoms can be explained by other causes (I.E. anxiety, missed meal, known medical condition, high stress activity). If **all** the symptoms **CAN** be explained, the individual should be allowed to remain in school if feasible or sent home in accordance with existing school policy.

If the individual is exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19:

- Per current Edmond School policy, students exhibiting a **fever of 100.0 or greater** and staff exhibiting **fever of 100.4 or greater** will be sent home and can return to school after being fever free for 24 hours without the use of medication.
- If an individual is showing at least **1 high-risk symptom, or 2 or more low-risk symptoms** and the symptom **cannot** be explained by other causes, the individual will be sent home for **10 days of isolation** beginning at symptom onset.
- Individuals that are sent home to isolate may choose to follow-up with a medical provider. If individuals receive an **alternative diagnosis** ruling out Covid-19 (I.E. Strep, Flu, Bronchitis) or receive a **negative Covid-19 test result**, they may return to the site **24 hours** after symptom resolution or in accordance with existing school procedures. If choosing to return after an alternative diagnosis or negative test result, documentation must be provided to the office prior to or on the morning of return. No documentation is required if completing the 10-day isolation.

If symptoms are consistent with COVID, testing is encouraged but not required.

Positive Result for Covid-19

- Individuals will isolate for 10 days from the start of symptom onset.

Negative Result for Covid-19

- At-home tests **will not** be accepted by EPS. Covid tests must be conducted at a testing facility, doctors office, clinic or hospital.
- Symptoms are most likely from another infection. May return to the site once symptoms have improved or resolved in accordance with existing school policies.
- If the negative result is received from a Rapid test, and symptoms persist, a follow-up PCR test is recommended by OCCHD to rule out Covid-19.
- If parents choose not to have their child evaluated by a healthcare provider and/or choose not to have their child tested for Covid-19, the student is required to isolate at home for 10 days.

If staff members choose not to be evaluated by a healthcare provider and/or choose not to be tested for Covid-19 -

- Staff members are required to isolate at home for 10 days and use appropriate leave.