

DIOCESE OF PALM BEACH OFFICE OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS COVID-19 DECISION TREE

Updated January 20, 2021



- COVID-19 symptoms can include fever (more than 100.3°F), loss of smell or taste, cough, muscle aches, sore throat, shortness of breath, chills, new or unusual headache, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea
- *Exposure to COVID-19 is generally considered: direct physical contact, less than six feet apart for more than 15 minutes
- These are general guidelines and will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis
- The county health department will also be consulted as needed and they may offer specific guidelines which differ from the diocese.
- Cooperation with the school and health department on contact tracing is essential to keeping our schools safe.
- If a household member of a DPB employee/student has tested positive, all DPB employees/students in that household must quarantine for 14 days

IF COVID-19 SYMPTOMS ARE PRESENT:

Person/parent/guardian will:

1. Notify administrator and stay home or, if at school, person will be isolated and needs to be picked up within 60 minutes
2. Contact physician and follow medical care/advice and notify school administrator of results if COVID-19 testing is recommended. The PCR COVID-19 test is required, not the antigen test
3. Work with administrator to determine contact tracing if person tests positive for COVID-19



If person tests positive for COVID-19 using a PCR test or physician diagnosis COVID-19, the person can return to school when:

- 24 hours have passed since complete recovery
- AND
- 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared



If person tests negative using a PCR test or it is determined that the symptoms are not COVID-19 related, the person can return to school when:

- Administrator has been notified in writing of PCR test results
- AND
- 24 hours have passed since being symptom-free and no fever and no use of fever reducing medicine

IF EXPOSED* TO COVID-19:

Person/parent/guardian will:

1. Notify administrator and stay home or, if at school, person will be isolated and needs to be picked up within 60 minutes
2. Contact physician and follow medical care/advice and notify school administrator of physician's recommendations (including potential COVID-19 test scheduling and results) The PCR COVID-19 Test is required, not the antigen test.



Person can return to school when:

- Person has quarantined for 14 days since exposure, while monitoring to ensure there are no symptoms of COVID-19 (if person develops symptoms, see chart to the left) and a negative COVID-19 PCR test result provided to administrator
- Or as determined on a case-by-case basis by the administrator in consult with the health department and diocese