

BCA/WPS Isolation & Quarantine Policies

(updated May 2022)

For any of the situations below, please contact the school nurse at nurse@bcacademy.com. If your child will be absent from school, please additionally notify your homeroom teacher and respective campus office.

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POSITIVE COVID-19 TEST RESULT:

If a student tests positive for SARS-CoV-2 by a molecular or antigen test, please complete our [BCA/WPS Covid-19 Positive Case Notification Form](#). The student must isolate at home, and families have two options for their return to school **once symptoms have improved** (including no fever for 24 hours):

1. At least 5 full days have passed since symptom onset (symptom onset is day 0), and the student has a negative antigen test from day 5 or later
2. 10 full days* have passed since symptom onset, regardless of additional testing or test results

*20 days for those who are severely ill or severely immunocompromised

If the student tests out of isolation and returns to school prior to 10 full days (option #1), a copy or picture of the negative test results should be sent to the school nurse at nurse@bcacademy.com. The student is **strongly encouraged** to wear a well-fitted mask through day 10.

EXPOSURE TO COVID-19:

Regardless of vaccination status, students are no longer required to quarantine after exposure to COVID-19 unless they develop symptoms. We will continue to notify families if there is a known exposure in their student's class. **In the case of a direct class exposure*, all students in the homeroom class or class section will be required to wear a mask indoors for 10 days after the last date of exposure.**

Additionally, regardless of vaccination status, any students who have been potentially exposed to COVID-19 are encouraged to:

- Wear a well-fitted mask for 10 days after the last date of exposure
- Monitor for symptoms
- Get tested 3-5 days after their last exposure. Molecular (PCR/NAAT), antigen, and at-home tests are accepted.

Note: If a student has been recently infected (within the past 90 days), antigen testing is recommended, as PCR results may remain persistently positive and not be indicative of a new, active infection.

If a student develops symptoms, please follow protocol for [SYMPTOMS](#). If a student tests positive, please follow protocol for [POSITIVE COVID-19 TEST RESULT](#).

Please email any test results to the school nurse at nurse@bcacademy.com.

***“Direct class exposure”** refers to cases where a homeroom class or section of students (and homeroom teacher if applicable) have had prolonged exposure to a positive COVID case, generally over the course of an entire day. Specialist teachers and other staff that spend no more than an hour with a single cohort of students would **not** usually be considered direct exposures, as the chance of sustained “close contact” (defined by the CDC as within 6 feet for 15+ minutes) is low.

If your child has a **direct class exposure**, you will be notified by email, and the mask requirement for your child’s class will be stated clearly. For other potential exposures, such as if a specialist teacher tests positive and taught your child, masks will be encouraged.

SYMPTOMS:

If a student develops any cold, flu, or COVID-19 symptoms, as defined by fever, cough, congestion/runny nose, sore throat, headache, body aches, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills, new loss of taste or smell, fatigue, diarrhea, or nausea/vomiting, the student must stay home from school. Families have three options for their child’s return to school **once symptoms have improved** (including no fever for 24 hours):

1. Healthcare provider’s note confirming safe return to school
2. Negative COVID-19 result, OR
3. 10 days since symptom onset

NOTE: If a student has ONLY ONE short-term symptom, as defined below, they may return to school the next day. A COVID-19 test is not required, though still recommended for anyone experiencing one or more symptoms. A person with a short-term symptom has:

- ONE of the following symptoms: fatigue; headache; muscle pain or body aches; sore throat; congestion or runny nose; nausea or vomiting; or diarrhea
- AND the symptom begins and resolves in less than 24 hours
- AND no known COVID-19 exposure

Additionally, students returning to school after following the above protocol are **strongly encouraged** to wear a mask until they are completely symptom-free.

Please email test results to the school nurse at nurse@bcacademy.com. For at-home tests, a picture of the negative test result is accepted.

Sources:

WA DOH <https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/coronavirus/820-105-K12Schools2021-2022.pdf>

King County <https://kingcounty.gov/~media/depts/health/communicable-diseases/documents/C19/schools-toolkit/kc-schools-covid-19-response-toolkit.ashx?la=en>