



# West Carrollton School District

Our Mission To Engage Students' Minds, Muscles and Imaginations

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## West Carrollton School District COVID-19 Guidelines 2021-2022

On January 21, 2021, West Carrollton School District (WCSD) received updated guidance related to COVID-19 in school settings and changes were made. **Please watch for updates and changes that can occur due to mandates and guidance we receive. Updates will be posted under district news, Facebook, and sent home through One Call Now.**

### 1. Daily Health Protocols

#### **Ohio Department of Health Recommendations**

- ODH strongly recommends vaccinations for staff and eligible students. West Carrollton Schools will continue to partner with Rite-Aid to provide school sponsored vaccinations for age-eligible students and staff.
- ODH and the CDC recommends unvaccinated students wear a mask in school.
- ODH recommends improving ventilation, social distancing, and good hygiene.
- ODH suggest schools limit nonessential visitors and volunteers.

#### **Daily Health Checks**

- Notify the building nurse of any changes in your student(s) health or family members' health.
- Anyone with a temperature of 100.4 degrees should stay home.
- Students should not report to school if they are experiencing one or more of the following symptoms:
  - Fever or chills
  - Cough
  - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
  - Fatigue
  - Muscle or body aches
  - Headache
  - Loss of taste or smell
  - Sore throat
  - Congestion or runny nose
  - Nausea or vomiting
  - Diarrhea
- *Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. We encourage testing your student or family if symptoms occur.*

### **Facial Coverings and Vaccines**

The CDC, ODH and ODE all strongly recommended that all unvaccinated people over the age of 2 wear a mask and that all age-eligible individuals be vaccinated. At this time, it is mandatory for all staff, students and visitors to wear a mask in our school buildings and at school sponsored events when possible.

All students and staff who are eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine are strongly encouraged to do so. School sponsored vaccination clinics for our students and staff will continue to be offered for age- eligible individuals. Additional vaccination providers may be found by visiting [gettheshot.coronavirus.ohio.gov](http://gettheshot.coronavirus.ohio.gov).

### **Isolation/Quarantine Procedures for Exposure in K-12 Classroom Settings**

The information below can be used to address **COVID-19 exposures in K-12 in-person learning environments** and in order to determine whether quarantine is required.

Following the recommended layered prevention measures listed below will prevent students and adults from having to quarantine:

- **Masking** for students and staff (regardless of vaccination status).
- **Physical distancing** is maximized (at least 3 feet between desks).
- Documented **COVID-19 prevention policies** (e.g., identification of individuals experiencing symptoms, strategies to increase ventilation, protocols for cleaning, etc.).
- Full vaccination of age-eligible individuals. *\*Note: A student is considered fully vaccinated two weeks after receiving the second dose of Moderna or Pfizer vaccine. Also, the last dose or a booster dose must have been received within the last 6 months to be considered fully vaccinated.*

**If quarantine is necessary because layers of prevention were not in place as described above**, students and adults may be required to quarantine as determined by a West Carrollton School District Nurse.

- During quarantine, contacts are advised to stay home and away from others as much as possible.
- If quarantined individuals become symptomatic at any point, they should receive clinical evaluation or testing for COVID-19 and notify a District Nurse.

**The above guidelines for students and adults only apply to exposures occurring in classroom settings**. Individuals who are exposed to COVID-19 outside of the school setting may be restricted from attending in-person school and participating in organized sports or extracurriculars. Please contact a West Carrollton School District Nurse to determine if quarantine for out of school exposures is necessary.

### **Exposures Outside of School**

- No quarantine for fully vaccinated individuals.
- No quarantine for individuals with proof of a positive COVID-19 test in the past 90 days.
- Quarantine IS REQUIRED per WCSD Student Quarantine Guidance if neither of the previous two items apply and proof can not be provided.
- Length of school exclusion is dependent upon students ability to wear a mask properly.

### **Students Testing Positive for COVID-19**

- Isolation IS REQUIRED per WCSD Student Quarantine Guidance.
- Length of school exclusion is dependent upon students ability to wear a mask properly.

### **Contact Tracing**

- The district will continue to alert Public Health Dayton Montgomery County of positive cases.
- The most important way you can help our students stay in school is to report any illness immediately!
- PLEASE continue to monitor your student(s) and family members.

## **2. General Protocols**

### **District Protocols**

- We will continue to supply hand sanitizer stations around the buildings.
- Students will be asked to wash and sanitize their hands throughout the day.
- We will also encourage students to follow sneezing and coughing protocols.
- We will continue to follow the extended cleaning protocols that we used last year.
- Masks are mandatory for all who enter our buildings.
- Students should bring their own water bottles and use fill stations. Water fountains will be unavailable to drink out of.
- Assigned seating on buses, lunchroom, and in the classrooms will be given.

### **Teacher and Staff Protocols**

- Let administrations know if you are not feeling well or have any COVID symptoms.
- Maintain social distancing in your classrooms or other areas (3 ft.) to the best of your ability.
- Reinforce good hygiene practices with your students.
- Disinfect classrooms and areas using the same protocols and sprays used last year.
- Assign seats to assist with contact tracing.
- Do not let your students share supplies. We will strive to limit this as much as possible.
- Clean items between use.
- When possible, face desks in the same direction.
- When teaching:
  - Keep a seating chart.
  - Small groups, intervention, carpet time, reading groups, etc. may happen. Document the groups/seating charts/mask chart.
  - The district still needs to contact trace, keep this in mind during transitions.
  - 3 ft. for 15 minutes is considered close contact.

### **Lunchroom Measures**

- We ask that parents ensure they have completed their Free and Reduced-Price Meals Application on Final Forms or located on the district page.
- The applications determine eligibility for fee waivers and can provide additional funds on the P-EBT cards and other federal programs.
- We will continue to social distance as much as possible.
- Students will have assigned seats.
- Tables and chairs will be sanitized between lunches.

### **Class Transitions**

- Students will limit their time in the hallways or at their lockers.

### **Visitors**

- Visitors are required to wear a mask to protect our students and staff.
- Appointments and meetings must be prearranged and by appointment only.
- No visitors will be allowed during lunch.
- No visitors are allowed in classrooms.
- Visitors are generally discouraged from being in school district facilities except for extra-curricular events or activities.

## **3. Instructional Protocols**

### **Quarantine Procedures for Students who need Chromebooks**

When students are placed in quarantine, they will continue to receive instruction from their assigned teacher(s). Students in need of a device will be able to take home a Chromebook for instructional purposes only. Chromebooks will be available in the main office of each building during school hours. The parent/legal guardian will be required to sign for the device before it is issued. Students will receive instruction through Google classroom and the classroom resources assigned on a daily basis.

### **Teacher Expectations for Quarantined Students**

Teachers will provide work for their quarantined student(s) by following the absence policy. When students are placed in quarantine, their teacher(s) will gather textbooks, workbooks, worksheets, and/or notes at the time of pick up. Students requiring a Chromebook will be directed to the main office to check out a device. It is strongly suggested that digital resources be posted in Google Classroom on a weekly basis.

## **4. Information on Sports and Extracurricular Activities**

School-sponsored sports and extracurricular activities can help students learn and achieve, and they support social, emotional, and mental health. Due to increased exhalation that occurs during physical activity, some sports can put players, coaches, trainers, and others who are not fully vaccinated at increased risk for getting and spreading COVID-19. Close contact sports and indoor sports are particularly risky. Similar risks might exist for other extracurricular activities, such as band, choir, theater, and school clubs that meet indoors.

Prevention strategies for those who participate remain important and should comply with school day policies and procedures. Students should refrain from these activities when they have symptoms consistent with COVID-19 and should be tested.

The use of masking and social distancing to the extent possible is recommended during indoor sports and other higher-risk activities to protect students who are not fully vaccinated.

We currently are following the Ohio Department of Health “Test to Play” guidelines for school sponsored extracurricular or sports activities where masks cannot be properly worn. Students exposed during these activities will be allowed to continue to come to class regardless of vaccination states as long as they remain symptom free AND wear a mask.

Ability to continue to participate in the activity will be determined as follows:

- Properly vaccinated students or students with proof of a positive COVID-19 test within the past 90 days will be allowed to continue to participate without testing as long as they remain symptom free and wear a mask as much as possible.
- Unvaccinated or improperly vaccinated students have a choice to quarantine or “test to play”.
- If an unvaccinated or improperly vaccinated student chooses “test to play” they must provide proof of a negative test within 24 hours of notification. They will also be required to provide a second test result on day 5-7 after exposure to continue to participate. Dates for the required tests will be provided by a District Nurse. Test results must be submitted to the District Nurse before return to participation is granted.