



## 2021-2022 Districtwide Expectations for the Exclusion of Students due to COVID-19

Bridgeton Public Schools continues to be committed to instructing our students during the ongoing pandemic, especially when required to be excluded due to COVID19 exposure or sickness. The following are the parameters that are used to medically exclude students due to COVID19:

### Students with COVID or COVID-like symptoms

- During the MODERATE, HIGH, or VERY HIGH risk level, students with COVID-like symptoms are excluded for 10 days.
- During the LOW risk level, students with COVID-like symptoms are excluded for 24 hours symptoms free without the use of fever-reducing medication.
- Students will follow the same isolation timeline if they have COVID-like symptoms as they would if they were diagnosed with COVID, unless and until the parent gets them tested (molecular not antigen) to prove that it is not COVID.

### Close contacts of students with COVID or COVID-like symptoms

- We must still exclude household members or close contacts between 10 and 24 days depending on if the parent chooses not to get the sick student tested, a positive case in the household, and the risk level.
  - LOW and MODERATE – close contacts are excluded for 10 days (or 7 days with negative test results collected at 5-7 days).
  - HIGH or VERY HIGH – close contacts are excluded for 14 days.
- The following protocol is utilized following the NJ Department of Health guidance [https://www.state.nj.us/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/RecommendationsForLocalHealthDepts\\_K12Schools.pdf](https://www.state.nj.us/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/RecommendationsForLocalHealthDepts_K12Schools.pdf)

While students are medically excluded due to the above CDC guidelines, each school will complete the following activities to ensure that students are continuing to be educated on a consistent basis.

Grade level	Exclusion Activities
Pre-K	Students will be given Enrichment packets iPads will be distributed for live small group instruction sessions and parent engagement. Class Dojo will continue to be utilized for parent engagement and communication.
Kindergarten- Grade 2	Students will attend classes virtually via livestream through Webex utilizing district issued iPads. Enrichment packets to support instruction may be distributed. Class Dojo will also be used for parent engagement as well as the posting of assignments.
Grade 3- Grade 5	Students will attend classes virtually via livestream through Webex and/or Teams utilizing their district issued laptop. Student assignments will be completed via Teams Teachers will communicate with parents through Class Dojo
Grade 6- Grade 8	Students will attend classes virtually via livestream through Webex and/or Teams utilizing their district issued laptop. Student assignments will be completed via Teams Teachers will communicate with parents through Class Dojo
Grade 9- Grade 12	Students will attend classes virtually via livestream through Webex and/or Teams utilizing their district issued laptop. Student assignments will be completed via Teams Teachers will communicate with parents through Class Dojo

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Bridgeton Public Schools continues to be committed to instructing our students during the ongoing pandemic, especially when required to be excluded due to COVID-19 exposure or sickness. Here are a few frequently asked questions and answers to help when/if your child must stay home due to COVID sickness or exposure:

1. How long must my child stay home if my child's school requires them to be excluded due to COVID or COVID like symptoms?
  - a. During the MODERATE, HIGH, or VERY HIGH risk level, students with COVID-like symptoms are excluded for 10 days.
  - b. During the LOW risk level, students with COVID-like symptoms are excluded for 24 hours symptoms free without the use of fever-reducing medication.

2. What are COVID symptoms?

COVID symptoms include the following:

- TWO OR MORE of the following symptoms: fever (measure or subjective), chills, rigors (shivers), myalgia (muscle aches), headache, sore throat, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, fatigue, congestion or runny nose; OR
- ONE of the following symptoms: cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, new loss of taste, or new loss of smell.

If your child has a chronic medical condition or disability, that may present symptoms similar to the ones listed above, such as asthma, allergies, or migraines, you must provide the School Nurse with a current diagnosis from their primary care provider.

3. What should I do if I find out my child exhibits COVID symptoms or has been exposed to COVID while at home?

Please contact your child's school nurse to report your child's illness. The school nurse will gather the information and instruct you further if a COVID test is needed.

If your child has COVID-like symptoms, and you choose to get them tested, they must get a molecular (PCR) test. We cannot accept antigen (rapid) tests for symptomatic students.

4. Why is it that if a child has COVID-19, they are excluded for 10 days, but if my child is a close contact, he/she is excluded for 14 days?

The exclusion period of 14 days for close contacts is because it usually takes 3-4 days after an infection before for an infected individual will test positive, and then 10 days for the virus to run its course.

5. If my child is medically excluded due to COVID, will they still receive instruction?

Yes!

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Students in PK will receive Enrichment packets as well as iPads for small group instruction and parent engagement.

Students in Grades K-2 will receive virtual instruction using their district issued iPads. Enrichment packets may also be distributed to support instruction. Assignments will be posted through Class Dojo.

Students in Grades 3-12 will receive virtual instructions using their district issued laptops. Assignments will be completed through Teams.

6. Are there any testing sites that I may use if my child has COVID symptoms?

Yes! There are several sites in the Cumberland County area which perform both the Rapid test and PCR test.

Complete Care of NJ  
1026 N. High Street  
Millville, NJ  
856-451-4700

Monday- Tuesday Appointment Only  
Wednesday- Friday: Appointments and Walk ins

Child Family Center  
1100 Coombs Rd  
Millville, NJ  
7am-4:30pm Monday through Friday  
No appointment necessary

MPS Maintenance Garage  
Corner of D St. and N. 7<sup>th</sup> Street  
Millville, NJ  
7am- 7pm Seven Days a week  
No appointment necessary

7. If my child is fully vaccinated against COVID19, do they still have to quarantine if they have been exposed and are considered a close contact?

No!

Students that are fully vaccinated against COVID19 do not have to quarantine if they are found to be a close contact to someone diagnosed with COVID19. Your child is considered "fully vaccinated" if it has been at least 2 weeks since their 2<sup>nd</sup> dose of the vaccine. Proof of the vaccine must be on file with your child's School Nurse.