



WCS COVID-19 Response Protocols

As of August 2022

In response to MDHHS guidelines, Williamston Community Schools will follow these steps in responding to COVID-19. Please note that these protocols are subject to change:

COVID-19 Positive Individual that was onsite while Infectious

1. Staff inform COVID Testing Coordinator (CTC) of the positive case that was onsite while infectious.
2. CTC will contact the positive individual/parent and provide isolation/return to school guidance based on the MDHHS guidelines (**Including masking on days 6-10**). CTC will offer optional home test kits to the family. Testing kits may be sent home with student or picked up in the office, depending on parent preference.
3. CTC will email building administrators, secretaries, classroom teacher (elementary only), bus garage (if applicable), and athletic director (if applicable) with student's return to school date and masking timeline.
4. Secretaries update PowerSchool to reflect the dates the positive student needs to wear a mask at school.
5. CTC will report the positive case to the health department using the online reporting system.
6. CTC notifies the Superintendent of the positive case.
7. CTC will monitor district COVID cases. Notifications to parents and staff will be sent if concerning trends or clusters emerge within the district.

COVID-19 Positive Individual that was NOT onsite while Infectious

1. Staff inform CTC of the positive individual.
2. CTC will contact the positive individual/parent and provide isolation/return to school guidance based on the MDHHS guidelines **(Including masking on days 6-10)**.
3. CTC will email building administrators, secretaries, classroom teacher (elementary only), bus garage (if applicable), and athletic director (if applicable) with student's return to school date and masking timeline.

Student/Staff Exposed to COVID-19 in the Household

1. Staff informs COVID Testing Coordinator of the exposed student/staff member.
2. COVID Testing Coordinator contacts parent/individual and provides guidance based on the MDHHS guidelines **(Including masking on days 1-10 and recommended testing between day 3-7)**. Families will be offered home test kits, if desired, to complete recommended testing.
3. COVID Testing Coordinator will email building administrators, secretaries, classroom teacher (elementary only), bus garage, and athletic director (if applicable) with the student's masking timeline.
4. Secretaries update PowerSchool to reflect the dates the student needs to wear a mask at school.

Isolation

Has COVID-19

Who is Impacted

Any individual who tests positive for COVID-19 and/or displays COVID-19 symptoms (without an alternate diagnosis or negative COVID-19 test) regardless of vaccination status.

Public Health Recommendations



Isolate at home for 5 days; and



If symptoms have improved or no symptoms developed, may leave isolation after day 5 and wear a well-fitted mask, for 5 more days (ending after day 10).*



If positive with no symptoms, monitor for symptoms for 10 days as well.



Quarantine

Exposed to COVID-19

Personal or household contact, regardless of vaccination status, exposed to someone with COVID-19 (see definition below).



Monitor symptoms for 10 days.



Wear a mask around others for 10 days after exposure.**



Test 3-7 days after exposure or if symptoms develop.



Avoid unmasked activities or activities with higher risk of exposing vulnerable individuals.***



Other exposure (from community, social, work setting).



Monitor symptoms for 10 days.



Test if symptoms develop.



Consider wearing a mask around others for 10 days after exposure; at a minimum, mask in settings with higher risk of exposing vulnerable individuals.***

* If a mask cannot be worn, recommend 10 days of home isolation.

** If a mask cannot be worn, individual should home quarantine for 10 days. A Test to Stay protocol may also be developed in partnership between school and local health department.

*** Activities with immunocompromised or other high-risk individuals, social/recreational activities in congregate settings.

Personal/household contacts include individuals who share living spaces, including bedrooms, bathrooms, living room and kitchens. It also includes those who live together, sleep over, carpool or have direct exposure to respiratory secretions from a positive individual. This would include exposure in childcare settings for those under 2 years of age.

