

Date

Dear Parent or Guardian,

This letter is to notify you that a case of COVID-19 has been reported at [school] and we have identified your child as a close contact of that individual. Our school district follows Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Tennessee Department of Health guidelines for the management of individuals who have been diagnosed with, or exposed to, COVID-19. Our school district follows these strict guidelines to protect the safety of our students, families, and staff.

We will continue to do everything in our power to ensure the safest environment possible while providing continuity of education to our students. When we can work quickly and collaboratively with the Tennessee Department of Health to identify and advise ill and exposed students and staff, we can avoid the need to close our schools.

The Department of Health will contact you to determine if your child requires quarantine. Please do not send your child to school until you receive further information from the Department of Health.

If the Department of Health confirms your child was a close contact of someone infected with the SARS-CoV-2 virus that causes COVID-19:

- TDH and CDC recommend a 14-day quarantine. Acceptable alternatives to a 14-day quarantine include:
 - Ending quarantine after Day 10 (returning to regular activities on Day 11) without testing if the contact does not have symptoms.
 - Ending quarantine after Day 7 (returning to regular activities on Day 8) if the contact does not have symptoms and if they test negative by a PCR or antigen test collected after day 5.
- Your child **MAY NOT** return to school or school activities while in quarantine.

Date of last exposure at school: _____

Date your child may return to school if exposure is confirmed by public health: _____

Note: return dates are subject to change based upon public health investigation.

While the SARS-CoV-2 virus that causes COVID-19 does not cause illness in every person who becomes infected, it is highly contagious. If your child is a close contact of an infected individual, your child is at risk of getting sick for up to 14 days after they last had contact with that individual. You should continue to monitor your child for COVID symptoms through Day 14. Mask wearing is especially important though Day 14 and should also continue beyond your child's quarantine period.

If your child becomes ill, contact your child's medical provider for guidance.

If you have questions about these instructions, please contact your school or your local health department.

Sincerely,