



Frequently Asked Questions Related to COVID-19 and Other Illness

Information taken from CDC and WI Department of Health websites
(Updated 12/8/20)

1. **My child does not feel well but I don't know if it is COVID-19; what should I do?** St. Paul's Lutheran School is not qualified to provide medical diagnoses. If you are concerned, you should contact your family physician. Regardless of the diagnosis, your child should stay home until he/she is 24 hours fever-free without any medication and is not exhibiting other symptoms.
2. **Does St. Paul's Lutheran School require COVID-19 testing for its students?** No, St. Paul's Lutheran School does not require students to be tested. There is no mandate related to testing. Families are free to make their own decisions in this matter.
3. **Someone in our immediate family is being tested for COVID-19. Do I need to keep my child home from school until the results are back?** Yes, St. Paul's Lutheran School requires that your child(ren) stay home until the results of the test have been returned.
4. **Someone in our home has tested positive for COVID-19. May my student come to school?** No, students who live with someone who has tested positive must remain at home. The student's quarantine period begins the day after the ill person is 10 days past the onset of their symptoms or has been fully recovered for 24 hours. The best practice is to have the student quarantine for 14 days. However, people who do not display any COVID-19 symptoms are eligible to shorten their quarantine.
5. **How can I shorten my child's quarantine period?** On day 6, or later, of quarantine, you may choose to have your child tested for COVID-19. On day 7, or later, if you receive a negative test result and he/she is not exhibiting any symptoms, your child may return to school. We will need to see the confirmation of the negative test result before the child may return to school. Please continue to monitor your child for symptoms and respond accordingly.
6. **I think that my child has been exposed to COVID-19. What should I do?** If you feel that your child has come into *close contact* with a COVID-19 positive person, he/she should
 - a. Stay home for 14 days after your last contact with a person who has COVID-19.
 - b. Be alert for symptoms. Watch for fever, cough, shortness of breath, or other symptoms of COVID-19.
 - c. If possible, stay away from others, especially people who are at higher risk for getting very sick from COVID-19.
7. **What is considered *close contact*?**

Close contact has occurred if any of the following situations happened while an individual spent time with the person with a confirmed or probable case of COVID-19, even if they did not have symptoms during their infectious period:

 - Had direct physical contact with the person (for example, a hug, kiss, or handshake).

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- Were within 6 feet of the person for more than 15 minutes. This includes single encounters of more than 15 minutes OR multiple encounters within a single day adding up to more than 15 minutes.
- Had contact with the person's respiratory secretions (for example, coughed or sneezed on; contact with a dirty tissue; shared a drinking glass, food, towels, or other personal items).

8. My child must remain at home to quarantine/isolate because of exposure to COVID-19. What should I do?

Notify the office and the homeroom teacher that your child will be at home for and missing school for approximately 12 days.

9. My child tested positive for COVID-19. When may he/she return to school? Your child may return to school 10 days after symptoms first appeared unless he/she has a fever and/or is still actively ill. All people coming to school must be fever-free for 24 hours before entering the building.

10. My child has symptoms of illness like a headache, stomach ache, diarrhea, sore throat, cough, and/or body aches. The symptoms subside with OTC pain reliever. Is it alright to send them to school? Generally speaking, it is unwise to medicate your child so that they are "well" enough to attend school. OTC pain relievers may mask symptoms and give a false sense that your child is feeling well. Further, once the medication wears off, the symptoms return and now the other children and teachers have been exposed. Give the gift of time and allow your child to rest at home.

11. How will my child receive academic instruction and support while at home due to COVID-19?

The homeroom teacher will coordinate the instruction and homework that needs to be completed while your student is out. If you have a Middle School student, contact with departmental teachers will also occur. Personal contact with the teacher may include Google Classroom applications like Meet and Chat, emails, telephone calls, and hard copies of work to be completed.

***For more detailed information, please go to the Waukesha County Public Health website. The new Quarantine Options for Asymptomatic People are found here:**

<https://www.waukeshacounty.gov/globalassets/health--human-services/public-health/public-health-preparedness/covid/new-cdc-quarantine-guidelines-handout.pdf>