

Stay at Home Illness Procedure SY 2020-21

Elmhurst School District #205 Stay at Home, Illness and School Exclusion for Students

When your child will be absent from school, the Parent/Guardian must call the attendance line each day to report the absence. Each student is required to complete the Daily Self Certification at home, including a temperature check prior to getting on the bus or arriving at the school via other transportation.

District #205 is following the latest guidance from the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) for COVID illness and exposure management. The guidelines are subject to change as COVID 19 continues to be an evolving situation.

Your child* should not attend school if any of the conditions below are present:

- Being diagnosed as positive with COVID-19;
- Being near someone diagnosed positive or thought to be ill with COVID-19,
- Someone in the household is sick with COVID-19 and has testing results pending within the previous 14 days;
- Fever/chills: Presence of fever 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher. Students should not attend school until they are FEVER FREE for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medicine (i.e. acetaminophen, ibuprofen, etc.).
- abdominal pain from unknown cause,
- New cough, respiratory difficulty or shortness of breath,
- Muscle or body aches,
- New loss of sense of taste or smell,
- Sore throat,
- New onset of moderate to severe Headache,
- Fatigue from unknown cause,
- New runny nose and/or congestion,
- Severe earache or stomach ache that makes it difficult to participate in the school day.
- Vomiting or Diarrhea
- Bright red rash; swollen/cracked lips tongue, hands, and/or feet; reddened or discolored palms and soles of the feet.

If a student exhibits any one of the above listed symptoms, contact the school nurse, self-certify that they have symptoms of COVID, and contact their medical provider. Medical evaluation and/or testing is strongly recommended. * Siblings that are school age should also be kept home until a determination has been made for the ill child whether the symptoms they are experiencing are COVID related.

Exceptions apply for people who have allergies and other chronic medical conditions. The key factor here is to understand which symptoms are new or unusual to you/your child.

Additionally, students should stay home from school if he/she has:

- Eye symptoms of eye redness, itchy or crusty eyes/lashes, drainage from eyes
- The first 24 hours of antibiotic treatments (i.e. strep throat, pink

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If your child becomes ill at school, and is presenting with COVID-19 like symptoms:

- Students presenting with COVID symptoms or as possibly symptomatic for COVID-19 will be held in a designated room (not in the nurse's office barring other Physical complications) and will be required to wear a medical mask until they can be picked up by their parents/guardian.
- Parents or the designated guardian must be prepared to pick up their sick child from school within 30 minutes of the call from the Nurse. If you are unable to pick your child up in a timely manner, the child's emergency contacts will be called. The student will be referred for follow up with a medical provider or Primary Care Physician.

Other Communicable Diseases and Injury: Your child will be sent home if

- they have any of the above symptoms, complain persistently of feeling unwell and are having difficulty participating in their school day requirements.
- they have a suspected communicable disease.
- They have an Injury that requires medical follow up or prevents them from further participation in their school day
- Please call the health office to speak to the R.N. if your child is diagnosed with a communicable disease such as strep throat, conjunctivitis, measles, influenza, Fifth's Disease, chicken pox, MRSA, impetigo, mono, or shingles.
- IDPH identified rule for school exclusion based upon the currently published criteria for exclusion from school for all communicable disease will be followed.
- When the child returns to school, he/she must be fit enough to participate in all activities. If there is a restriction from some activity (recess/PE) there must be a PHYSICIAN'S NOTE explaining why and for how long. See **Excusal from PE** in student handbook.

Returning to School/ Work from Illness

Strong communication between the parent/guardian and the school is essential to promote safe and successful return to school practices.

Parents must call the Nurse prior to the student returning to school from an illness related absence to ensure that criteria for return to school has been met.

In order to return to school or work (following symptoms), one of the following must be true:

1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A minimum of 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared AND ● 24 hours have passed with no fever without the use of fever-reducing medications AND ● COVID-19 symptoms have subsided (for example, cough, shortness of breath)
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OR

2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A person is tested and they test negative and s/he provides that test result to the District (NOTE: The test
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OR	
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A person is able to produce a note from a health care provider with an alternative diagnosis AND • S/he has been fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication AND • S/he has met return-to-work symptom criteria for the alternative diagnosis.

For people who **test positive** for, or who have a **clinical diagnosis** of, COVID-19, return to school and work protocols are different:

4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared AND • 24 hours have passed with no fever without the use of fever-reducing medications AND • COVID-19 symptoms have subsided (for example, cough, shortness of breath) AND • You have received a letter or some other notification from your Local Health Department indicating that it is safe to return to work.
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For people who are close contacts to people who have tested positive for or who have a clinical diagnosis of COVID-19, current [CDC Guidance](#) requires individuals to quarantine.

When you quarantine, you are taking the following actions:

5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay home for at least 14 days from the date of your last exposure to the person with COVID. • If possible, stay away from others who are at higher risk for COVID-19. • Monitor for symptoms. <p>Your return to school could be a later date IF:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You have additional or ongoing exposure to COVID-19 • You develop symptoms of or test positive for COVID-19.
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People who are not close contacts, but who may have come into contact (i.e. passed the person in the hallway, been in the same room, etc.) with the infected individual will be notified. However, those people (non-close contacts) are not required to quarantine. In all situations, if you believe that you or your child are a close contact (using the definition above), please let us know so that we can assist you in [quarantining](#).

Resources:

- 1) [Illinois Department of Public Health Exclusion Document](#) (9/10/2020)
- 2) [Illinois Department of Public Health Isolation and Quarantine Releasing COVID-19 Cases from Isolation and Quarantine | IDPH](#)
- 3) American Academy of Pediatrics
 - a) [All AAP | AAP](#)
 - b) [2019 Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)

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