

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



How is it determined that an individual is COVID-19 positive?

A person is considered to have COVID-19 if they have received a positive test.

What is a close contact?

Close contact is defined as being within six feet for 10 cumulative minutes or more in a single day without masks. People who are close contacts of a COVID-19 positive or presumed positive individual during that person's infectious period are considered exposed and should quarantine.

Will a student or staff member know if they are a close contact/exposed?

Individuals will be notified if they are a close contact to a known case. *Note: Due to privacy laws, notification/communication from the school or district will not include identifying information about the individual who tests positive, such as name, grade or class.*

What is the length of the quarantine period?

Close contacts must remain in quarantine until they have met the criteria for release from quarantine as set for by KDHE or Johnson County Department of Health and Environment (JCDHE) and as communicated by the Blue Valley School District.

What is the infectious period for COVID-19?

For COVID-19 positive individuals who have symptoms, they are considered infectious 48 hours prior to the onset of symptoms through at least 10 days after the onset of symptoms. For COVID-19 positive individuals who do not have symptoms, they are considered infectious 48 hours prior to the date the test sample was collected through a minimum of 10 days from the date the test sample was collected.

What is the length of the isolation period?

Individuals who test positive for COVID-19 must remain in isolation until they have met the criteria to be released from isolation as established by KDHE or JCDHE. Isolation can generally be discontinued 10 days after symptom onset, resolution of fever for at least 24 hours and a note from medical provider. If an individual still experiences significant symptoms or fever, this time frame would be longer.

How will contact tracing be handled? Contact tracing will be provided by Johnson County Department of Health and Environment (JCDHE) in partnership with the district's health professionals' team.

What happens if a student must quarantine for a period of time? What will happen with schoolwork? If a student is enrolled in in-person learning, a quarantine absence would be treated like other extended absences due to illness. Students would work with their in-person teachers and building personnel to request assignments and complete school related work. They will not transition to VirtualED.

What happens if there is a positive case of COVID-19 in a school or district building?

If an individual in a school **tests positive for COVID-19**, the positive case will be shared on the BV COVID Dashboard. Due to privacy laws, this notification will not include identifying information about the individual who tests positive, such as name, grade or class. Through the contact tracing process, if you or your child have been exposed, you will be contacted individually.

What has to happen for a cohort or class to be quarantined or a school closure? The district will work closely with the Johnson County Department of Health and Environment (JCDHE) should cases arise in a school/building to determine next steps. JCDHE will work closely with the district's health professionals team on a case by case basis to advise on a course of action related to a cohort, class or school closure.

When can I expect communication related to COVID-19 cases in my child's school?

Families will be contacted directly if, through the contact tracing process, conducted by JCDHE and the district's health professionals' team, your child was identified as having low-risk exposure or high-risk exposure/close contact of a student or staff member who tested positive for COVID-19. If your child was not considered to be a low or high-risk exposure, then you will not be contacted. When a school or building has a positive case, the positive case will be recorded on the BV COVID Dashboard by the school and the district.

What are the differences between quarantine and isolation?

- **COVID-19 Quarantine:** Keeps someone who might have been *exposed* to the virus away from others. Individuals in quarantine should remain in quarantine until they have met the criteria for release from quarantine as set for by KDHE or Johnson County Department of Health and Environment (JCDHE) and as communicated by the Blue Valley School District.
- **Isolation:** Isolation separates people who are *infected* with the virus away from people who are not infected. Individuals with confirmed or presumed COVID-19 should isolate within their household and use a separate bedroom/bathroom, if possible. Sleeping areas should not be shared. Individuals should not spend time in common household areas (living room, kitchen); if face-to-face interactions must take place, all household members should mask. Disinfect frequently touched surfaces in the household often.
 - **COVID-19 Symptomatic Isolation** - Isolate for:
 1. At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared AND
 2. At least 24 hours fever-free without the use of fever-reducing medications AND
 3. Improvement in initial symptoms
 - **COVID-19 Asymptomatic Isolation** - Isolate for:
 1. Ten days from a positive test. Use the date specimen was collected, not the date of results.