



DSC COVID-19 Protocol

(revised 8/5/21)

- Face Masks (school):** In response to CDC & ISDH guidance and current COVID-19 indicators, the DSC will move to **Level 2** on 8/9/21 (see attached). The **Level 2** mitigation measures recommend face coverings for unvaccinated students and staff members. However, face covering use will be optional.
- Face Masks (bus):** Federal order requires all students and staff, regardless of vaccination status, to wear face coverings on school buses until further notice.
- Prevention Strategies:** Ventilation, handwashing and respiratory etiquette, staying home when sick and getting tested, social distancing (when possible), contact tracing, isolation and quarantine requirements, promptly identifying cases, clusters and outbreaks, cleaning and disinfection.
- COVID-19 Symptoms:** Cough or shortness of breath, sore throat, headache (particularly new onset of bad headache), diarrhea, nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain and/or new loss of taste or smell. Individuals with these symptoms should stay home and consult their medical professional for potential COVID-19 testing.
- Contact Tracing:** Per Indiana Executive Order, DSC schools will continue to collaborate with the state and local health department, to the extent allowable by privacy laws and other applicable laws, to confidentially provide information about people diagnosed with or exposed to COVID-19. This allows DSC to identify which students, teachers, and staff with positive COVID-19 test results should isolate, and which close contacts should quarantine.
- Close Contact:** An individual who was within 6 feet of a person diagnosed with COVID-19 for a total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period is considered a close contact. The definition applies regardless of whether either person was wearing a mask except in the following situations:
- If all students are masked and receiving education during the school day – 3 feet or more of distance can be used to begin contact tracing if a positive case is identified.
 - In all other school day situations, 6 feet will be used as the threshold for contact tracing.
- Quarantine:** Quarantine is used for unvaccinated students and staff who have been exposed to someone with COVID-19. Close contacts, identified through contact tracing, must quarantine for 10 days. All quarantined individuals should regularly monitor for symptoms and wear a mask for 14 days.
- **Testing option:** Quarantined individuals should obtain a PCR COVID test between days 5-7 or BinaxNOW test on day 8. If either test is negative, student or staff member may return to school on day 8. If test is positive, follow isolation guidelines (listed below).
 - **Fully vaccinated individuals:** No need to quarantine. However, the individual should be tested 3-5 days after exposure and wear a mask until a negative test is obtained.
 - **Tested positive in the last 90 days:** No need to quarantine.
- Isolation:** Isolation is used for individuals **with** COVID-19 illness to separate from those who are not infected. Individuals in isolation must stay home for at least 10 days following the onset of symptoms or a positive test result. Individuals may return after 10 days as long as symptoms are improving and they are fever free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medications.
- Attendance:** In an effort to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in DSC schools, all students and staff members are encouraged to stay home when they are not feeling well and/or are symptomatic. All perfect/excellent attendance programs for students and staff will be suspended for the 2021-2022 school year. The DSC believes these programs may encourage students and staff to attend school when not feeling well. In the midst of a pandemic, it would be irresponsible to continue with these programs/incentives.