Scenario – Student or Staff Member is Positive or Ill with COVID-like Symptoms

Reminder: Close Contact is defined as those students/staff that have been within 6 feet for at least 15 cumulative minutes. (6/15 rule)

In order to help determine the “6 feet 15 minute” scenario, an assigned seating chart for the bus and a seating chart for the classroom will assist.

SCHOOL ROLE: Per our notifiable disease rule, the Healthcare Provider, school nurse, or principal should immediately report COVID-19 positives or suspects to public health using our online ADPH Report Card. https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/covid19/healthcare.html

STEP ONE: Isolation

Positive or suspected student/staff will be isolated from others in a pre-designated COVID-19 room and sent home.

If Positive

Student/staff must quarantine for 10 days, with 1 day of recovery without fever or fever reducing medications and improvement of respiratory symptoms.

If Symptomatic

Any sick student/staff is advised to see their healthcare provider to determine if student/staff has COVID-19 or other non-communicable disease. Please self-quarantine.

STEP TWO: Identify close contacts to symptomatic staff or student

- The School Nurse will do information gathering and help determine who are close contacts to the positive or symptomatic student or staff.
- The close contacts will be isolated and sent home until COVID-19 is confirmed or other diagnosis is confirmed. The school may require a healthcare provider’s release to return to school/work.
- If COVID-19 is confirmed, the school nurse will advise close contacts (6/15 rule, masked or un-masked) to self-quarantine for 14 days from exposure (see CDC calculator) and monitor their health closely. School nurse will communicate that a representative from the Alabama Department of Public Health will be contacting them.
- Aggressively clean and disinfect per CDC guidance.
**STEP THREE: Report to ADPH**

- The school nurse shall report the positive or suspected case using the ADPH on-line COVID-19 Report Card. [https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/covid19/healthcare.html](https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/covid19/healthcare.html)

- Information needed in the ADPH on-line COVID-19 Report Card includes the list of students in the classroom, teacher/staff names, guardians for the students and telephone numbers. Seating charts for bus and classroom may be uploaded in the ADPH on-line COVID-19 Report Card.

**STEP FOUR: School Communication with Parents/Guardians and School Staff**

The school will use their existing school process to notify parents/guardians that an exposure has occurred. Confidentiality and privacy must be maintained.

**STEP FIVE: CLEANING and DISINFECTING AREAS**

**ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH’S ROLE**

Public Health will investigate and conduct contact tracing. Recommendations will be provided per the Alabama Department of Public Health and CDC guidelines.

**ADPH Case Investigation**

Public Health staff work with a patient to help them recall anyone with whom they have had close contact during the time when they have been infectious.

**ADPH Contact Tracing**

Public Health staff begin contact tracing by notifying exposed individuals (contacts) of their potential exposure as sensitively as possible, not revealing the infected patient’s identity.