



## Guidance for Quarantine

The providers at Smith County Memorial Hospital, the Smith County Health Department and the administration at USD 237 have worked together to develop the following guidance for students, faculty and staff who have been exposed to COVID-19.

These recommendations are made with the goal of doing as little as possible to disrupt the school year while also keeping students, faculty and staff healthy. The providers, health department and administration will continue to review these recommendations and adjust the guidance if circumstances in the school district change.

The providers at SCMHS strongly encourage all faculty, staff and eligible students to receive COVID-19 vaccines to prevent illness. Vaccines are the first and best line of defense against COVID-19 and greatly reduce the likelihood of severe illness.

Students, faculty and staff who have been exposed to COVID-19 will be asked to follow the county's quarantine policies. Exceptions to quarantine requirements may be made if:

- A vaccinated student or faculty/staff will not need to quarantine. They may return to school as normal and monitor for symptoms. If the student or faculty/staff develops symptoms, they should be removed and follow the school policy on illness.
- An unvaccinated and asymptomatic student or faculty/staff may quarantine for five days and then contact Smith County Family Practice to take a COVID-19 test. If the test comes back clear, the student or faculty/staff may return to school as normal.
- An unvaccinated and asymptomatic student or faculty/staff may return to school and wear a mask for five days and then contact Smith County Family Practice to take a COVID-19 test. If the test comes back clear, the student or faculty/staff may return to school without a mask.
- An unvaccinated and asymptomatic student or faculty/staff may choose to return to school and wear a mask for 10 days while monitoring for symptoms. If the student or faculty/staff develops symptoms, they should be removed and follow the school policy on illness.

If none of these exceptions are acceptable, a student or faculty/staff will be asked to quarantine at home for 10 days and return to school when the individual is released from quarantine by the health department.

Effective 9/20/2021