

UPDATED LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH COVID-19 CONTACT TRACING PROTOCOL

St. James Parish Schools is committed to the safety and well-being of all students, teachers, and staff. Please find the **UPDATED** LDH COVID-19 guidelines below:

REMEMBER If your child.....

- Has been exposed to a person positive for COVID-19
- Has any symptoms of illness
- Has been tested for COVID-19 & awaiting results
- Has tested positive for COVID-19 by Molecular or PCR

DO NOT send your child to school and **CALL** to **NOTIFY** your school's administrative office immediately.

***CLOSE CONTACT is defined as having been within 6 feet of an infected person for a CUMULATIVE TOTAL OF 15 MINUTES or more over a 24-hour period.** The infectious period includes the 48 hours before the day the person became ill or the 48 hours before the specimen collection if asymptomatic.

***SUSPECTED CASE** is someone who is clinically diagnosed with COVID-19 or meets the following clinical criteria:

- At least one of the following major COVID-19 symptoms: cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, or new changes in sense of smell or taste **OR**
- At least two of the following minor COVID-19 symptoms: fever, chills, rigors, muscle ache/myalgia, headache, sore throat, nausea/vomiting, diarrhea, congestion/runny nose or fatigue.

Close contacts of SUSPECTED CASES will be quarantined after 48 hours if SUSPECTED CASE does not inform school of MOLECULAR or PCR COVID-19 test results or an alternative diagnosis made by physician. Quarantine will be a total of 14 days. Close contacts CANNOT test out of a quarantine.

If a SUSPECTED CASE tests negative by MOLECULAR or PCR COVID-19 TEST, he or she can return to school after 24 hours symptom free. All close contacts without symptoms that have been quarantined may return to school as well.

***CONFIRMED CASE** is someone who receives a positive test result. This person must quarantine for 10 days. Close contacts CANNOT test out of a quarantine of 14 days.

*****ANTIGEN COVID TEST WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO RETEST with a PCR or Molecular Covid-19 Test or remain in quarantine. (ASK YOUR PROVIDER PRIOR TO MAKING APPOINTMENT ON TYPE OF TEST OFFERED.)*****