

# **Healthy Guidelines for Schools**

## Things to check for and when/how long to keep your child at home

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment recently released new guidance for K-12 schools to guide response to the COVID-19 pandemic. PSD staff and students are required to wear a mask on school grounds.

**Critical Symptom**: Loss of taste or smell

**Critical Symptom Response:** Follow home isolation for 10 days following symptom onset **AND** be 24 hours fever free without use of fever-reducing medication before returning to school. COVID test recommended.

#### **Major Symptoms:**

- Feeling feverish, having chills, temperature of 100.4 F or greater
- New or worsening cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing

### **Major Symptom Response:**

- 1. If symptoms resolve within 24 hours of onset **AND** stay resolved an additional 24 hours, return to school. (48 hours total)
- 2. If symptoms **DO NOT** resolve within 24 hours, either:
  - Follow home isolation for 10 days following symptom onset AND 24 hours fever free without use of fever-reducing medication before returning to school.
  - Get a polymerase chain reaction, or PCR, COVID-19 test. If test is negative, return to school once symptom-free for 24 hours. If positive, follow home isolation for 10 days following symptom onset AND 24 hours fever free without use of fever-reducing meds before returning to school.

#### **Minor Symptoms:**

- Sore throat
- Runny nose or congestion
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- Fatigue
- Nausea, vomiting
- Diarrhea

#### **Minor Symptom Response:**

- 1. If symptom resolve within 24 hours of onset **AND** stay resolved an additional 24 hours, return to school. (48 hours total)
- 2. If symptoms resolve within 48 hours of onset **AND** stay resolved an additional 24 hours, return to school. (72 hours total)
- 3. If symptoms **DO NOT** resolve within 48 hours, either:
  - a. Follow home isolation for 10 days following symptom onset AND 24 hours fever free without use of fever-reducing meds before returning to school.
  - b. Get a polymerase chain reaction, or PCR, COVID-19 test. If test is negative, return to school once symptom-free for 24 hours. If positive, follow home isolation for 10 days following symptom onset AND 24 hours fever free without use of fever-reducing meds before returning to school.

The school nurse or PSD health staff will determine when a student is able to return to school. Please contact the front office at 970.488.4450 to connect with Chelsea Haney (health tech) or Lynne Ryan (school nurse) with any questions.