

## COVID-19: Exclusion Information for Families

*Boscobel Area Schools*

*During the pandemic, we are working to reduce transmission of COVID-19. Decisions to send students home are based on school board protocols.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade/Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Your child/student has met COVID-19 exclusion criteria (for school and all school activities) due to the following:

- They have tested positive for COVID-19 (with or without symptoms) or were diagnosed with COVID-19 by a health care provider, and have not yet finished their (10-day) isolation period.
- They are not fully vaccinated and have come in contact with a COVID-19 case in the past 14 days.
- They have reported or demonstrated the following symptom(s) at school:
  - Any one of the following symptoms
    - Shortness of breath/trouble breathing
    - New loss of sense of taste or smell
  - **OR** at least two of the following symptoms
    - Cough
    - Fever (100-100.4 or higher) or chills
    - Headache
    - Sore throat
    - Fatigue
    - Muscle or body aches
    - Runny nose or nasal congestion
    - Nausea or vomiting
    - Diarrhea

Symptomatic staff and students will be isolated and asked to wear a mask until they leave the building. Parents should have a plan in place for students to be picked up promptly if they become sick at school. School staff will follow school board criteria for exclusion and for re-entry to school. We will also consider information provided from health care providers.

### **INSTRUCTIONS FOR A SICK CHILD**

Please keep your child home from school and all school activities and work together with the school to continue instruction while they are out. Your child can return to school and in-person instruction/activities after 10 days, as long as their symptoms have improved and they have not had a fever for 24 hours. **Having your child tested for COVID-19 *may* allow them to return to in-person learning earlier than this date, as long**

**as they are not positive and have not been in contact with a positive case. Only PCR testing will be accepted for this purpose.** The test for COVID-19 involves a quick swab of the inside of the nose. Your child can be tested by their regular health care provider, at a local clinic/hospital, at a school-based testing site, or at a community testing site. If you plan to have your child tested by your health care provider, remember to call before you go to the site. Tell them about your child’s symptoms and whether your child had close contact to someone who has COVID-19. You can take this letter along to show your provider. Alternately, you can look for a community testing site near you at <http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/community-testing.htm>. Keep in mind that some community testing sites will not test children under a certain age. Call ahead to be sure your child can be tested. Minors may need to be accompanied by a parent or guardian to be tested.

If your child is tested and the result is **positive** for COVID-19, contact your local health department and the school for next steps. If your child is tested and the result is **negative** (PCR) for COVID-19, your child can return to school for in-person instruction when their symptoms have improved and they do not have a fever for 24 hours (without the use of fever-reducing medications). Please call the school ahead of time to be sure it is safe for your child to return to class. The school will require proof of negative test results. If you seek medical care and your child is diagnosed with something other than COVID-19, you should follow your health care provider’s advice and provide a medical note to the school indicating the date when your child can safely return to in-person instruction. Your health care provider may use the DPH childhood diseases wall chart guidelines to determine this date: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p4/p44397.pdf>.

*You should seek emergency medical treatment for serious symptoms such as bluish lips or face, inability to wake or stay awake, new confusion, persistent pain or pressure in the chest or shortness of breath/difficulty breathing.*

#### **INSTRUCTIONS FOR OTHERS IN THE HOUSEHOLD (WHEN SOMEONE IS SICK)**

Current scientific research shows that both children and adults can have COVID-19 and spread it to others without showing symptoms or feeling sick. To prevent spread to others in the school, public health recommends keeping all school-age children in your household home. However, the school board has decided that siblings or household members of symptomatic individuals may continue to attend school as long as they do not have symptoms. These individuals must mask at school for 14 days regardless of exemptions or current masking protocol.

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Communication is crucial during this process. You can reach the school by calling 375-4165 (elementary school) or 375-4161 (middle/high school). Remote instruction or school work can be arranged through communication with teachers or building offices. You can reach Grant County Health Department at 608-723-6416. Test results can be faxed to the school nurse at 608-375-4192 or emailed to [nurse@boscobel.k12.wi.us](mailto:nurse@boscobel.k12.wi.us). Hard copies or printed results are also accepted. Families may find the following documents helpful:

[https://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/sspw/pdf/Returning\\_to\\_School\\_After\\_COVID-19.pdf](https://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/sspw/pdf/Returning_to_School_After_COVID-19.pdf)  
<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p02598a.pdf>

Additional Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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