

LMCSD COVID-19 Health Services Procedures

COVID-19 Positive: All cases are based on days and not hours, regardless of the time of test results. When changes occur to the COVID-19 health procedures, the implementation will occur from the date of change moving forward. The district will not go back and communicate the changes with previously diagnosed cases.

Students who are exhibiting COVID symptoms, are awaiting COVID test results, or are diagnosed positive should notify the school nurse and/or health assistant immediately. Staff members should call the employee COVID hotline when they are experiencing symptoms, are awaiting COVID test results, or are diagnosed positive. **Students and staff members waiting on results from a COVID-19 test should remain home until the results are received to assist in limiting exposure to healthy individuals.**

- **Symptomatic:** Students and staff members who test positive for COVID-19 and are **exhibiting symptoms** will be required to self-isolate at home for 5 days since their symptoms first appeared (Day 0). If they were severely ill with COVID-19, they should isolate for the full 10 days and consult their doctor before ending isolation.
- **Asymptomatic:** Students and staff members who test positive for COVID-19 but are **not exhibiting symptoms** will be required to self-isolate until 5 days have passed since the date of their positive test. If they develop symptoms after testing positive, the 5-day isolation period will start over with Day 0 being the first day that symptoms developed.

Students and Staff Members Returning to School After COVID-19 Positive:

Students and staff members who are fever-free for at least 24 hours (without the use of fever-reducing medications) **and** have improved COVID-19 symptoms (Loss of taste and/or smell may persist for weeks or months after recovery and do not need to delay the end of isolation) may either:

- A) Stay home for the full 10-day period, **OR**
- B) Return to school on Day 6 (or after) and wear a well-fitted mask upon return for the full 10-day period.

Families of students with mask exemptions may choose A or B above. If a student refuses to wear a mask or has difficulty keeping the mask in place, the student will not be able to return to school until after Day 10. Also, the school may need to send the student home if their mask is not being worn properly.

Please note, mask exemptions will not be able to be honored for any individual who tested positive.

Any student or staff member who is still feeling ill should stay out for the full 10 days.

Doctor's Notes: Any doctors notes pertaining to COVID will be reviewed with the family and/or doctor's office. Based upon the information received from the family and doctor, along with the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) guidelines and the district's COVID-19 Health Services Procedures, the Linn-Mar Health Services Department will make the final decision regarding the student or staff member's return to school.

Student Athletes Returning to Play After COVID-19 Positive: Student athletes may return to play when they return to school. They will be required to wear a well-fitted mask during practice and competitions until after Day 10. The athletic director will put into place mask measures that follow the previously-stated guidelines for the individual sport.

Students and Staff Members in a Classroom with COVID-19 Positive Case: Per Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) guidelines, student exposures in the classroom will not require quarantine.

Communication Procedures: When there is a positive COVID-19 case reported, the district will communicate this to families within the affected building as follows:

- For PK-6th Grades: All families within the same classroom will be notified.
- For 7th-8th Grades: All families within the same grade level will be notified.
- For 9th-12th Grades: All families will receive a "COVID in Your School" notification letter each day there is a positive case reported.

Data Collection: The district will collect data on the number of positive COVID-19 cases for both students and staff during the 2021-22 school year. An online, district-wide dashboard will be provided. To access the data dashboard, visit the following link: <https://www.linnmar.k12.ia.us/covid-19-information/>

Mitigation Strategies:

- Required mask usage for students and staff who were positive and returning on to school on Days 6-10. Mask use is encouraged for all others.
- Masks available in all schools for all students and staff
- Masks required on school buses
- Thorough cleaning procedures implemented daily
- Handwashing encouraged
- Lunch Seating:
 - K-6th Grades: Structured in an every-other seat manner
 - 7th-12th Grades: Flexible options available for students that request additional space
- Student desks can be paired in a side-by-side manner, but not face-to-face
- Families will be notified in advance of any school-wide assemblies

Additional Mitigation Strategies for Classrooms with an Absence Percentage of 30% or Greater:

- Additional cleaning methods in the classroom by custodial staff
- Increased handwashing/hand sanitizer usage
- Student desks will be spaced utilizing additional social distancing measures, to the extent the classroom space allows



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Additional Resources:

Free At-Home Tests: Free at-home, COVID-19 test kits are available for students and staff. Please visit the Student Services office at the Learning Resource Center (2999 N 10th Street, Room 211 / 319-447-3019) to pick them up.

LMCSD Health Services Procedures & COVID Information:

For more information on COVID-19 and Linn-Mar Health Services Procedures, please visit:

- <https://www.linnmar.k12.ia.us/covid-19-information/>
- <https://www.linnmar.k12.ia.us/covid-19-information/health/>

General Questions:

- For questions regarding students, please contact the health office of their assigned building.
- For questions regarding staff members, please utilize the employee COVID hotline.