



# LOUDONVILLE

## CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

### RETURN TO SCHOOL PROTOCOL

*All information is subject to change based on updated guidance from the NYS/Albany County Department of Health updated as of 1/4/22.*

#### **FOR FULLY VACCINATED STUDENTS ONLY**

##### **For FULLY VACCINATED STUDENTS who test **POSITIVE** for COVID:**

- You must follow the isolation order from your local health department.
- You may return to school when:
  - Isolation period is complete
  - Dated release issued from student's local DOH
  - All symptoms are resolving
  - You have been fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication
  - No runny nose
  - No disruptive cough
  - No vomiting or diarrhea for at least the previous 12 hours

**PLEASE NOTE: If you become symptomatic or symptoms worsen after isolation, you must remain out of school until symptoms resolve.**

##### **For FULLY VACCINATED STUDENTS who have an **EXPOSURE** to COVID:**

- You are not required to quarantine. If you develop symptoms please see the section below regarding symptoms.

##### **For FULLY VACCINATED STUDENTS who have **COVID-LIKE** symptoms:**

- **If you have NO KNOWN CONTACT/EXPOSURE to someone who has been diagnosed with COVID, you may return to school when:**
  - Receive a negative COVID test result (either rapid test administered by the school with parental authorization or a lab-based PCR test)
  - All symptoms are improving
  - Fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication
  - No runny nose
  - No disruptive cough
  - No vomiting or diarrhea for at least the previous 12 hours

**PLEASE NOTE: If you use a rapid test and the results are **POSITIVE**, please see the section below titled “**SELF-REPORTING FOR A POSITIVE COVID TEST.**”**

**For FULLY VACCINATED STUDENTS who have COVID-LIKE symptoms:**

- **If you have A KNOWN CONTACT/EXPOSURE with someone who has been diagnosed with COVID, you may return to school when:**
  - Receive a negative COVID test result (LAB BASED PCR ONLY)
  - All symptoms are improving
  - Fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication
  - No runny nose
  - No disruptive cough
  - No vomiting or diarrhea for at least the previous 12 hours



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### FOR UNVACCINATED STUDENTS ONLY

#### For **UNVACCINATED STUDENTS** who test **POSITIVE** for COVID:

- You must follow the isolation order from your local health department.
- You may return to school when:
  - Isolation period is complete
  - Dated release from the student's local DOH
  - All symptoms are resolving
  - Fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication
  - No runny nose
  - No disruptive cough
  - No vomiting or diarrhea for at least the previous 12 hours

**PLEASE NOTE: If you become symptomatic or symptoms worsen, you must remain out of school.**

#### For **UNVACCINATED STUDENTS** who have an **EXPOSURE** to COVID:

- You must quarantine for 10 days from exposure.
- If you were exposed to a COVID case **at school**, you are eligible for testing out of quarantine after seven (7) days. Please see the section below titled "**TEST OUT OF QUARANTINE.**"
  - If you develop symptoms, please see the section that follows regarding symptoms.

#### For **UNVACCINATED STUDENTS** who have **COVID-LIKE** symptoms:

- If you have **NO KNOWN CONTACT/EXPOSURE** to someone who has been diagnosed with COVID, you may return to school when:
  - Receive a negative COVID test result (either rapid test administered by the school with parental permission or a lab-based PCR test)
  - All symptoms are improving
  - Fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication
  - No runny nose
  - No disruptive cough
  - No vomiting or diarrhea for at least the previous 12 hours

**PLEASE NOTE: If you use a rapid test and the results are **POSITIVE**, please see the section below titled "**SELF-REPORTING FOR A POSITIVE COVID TEST.**"**

#### For **UNVACCINATED STUDENTS** who have **COVID-LIKE** symptoms:

- If you have **A KNOWN CONTACT/EXPOSURE** with someone who has been diagnosed with COVID, you may return to school when:
  - Receive a negative COVID test result (LAB BASED PCR ONLY)
  - All symptoms are improving
  - Fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication
  - No runny nose
  - No disruptive cough
  - No vomiting or diarrhea for at least the previous 12 hours

## FOR ALL STUDENTS - REGARDLESS OF VACCINATION STATUS

**SELF-REPORT A POSITIVE RAPID TEST:** If you use a rapid test and the results are **POSITIVE**, you must take a picture of the test and the box. You will need to “self report” the positive test result to your local Department of Health, along with the pictures. You will also need to notify the LCS Health Office immediately.

Self Reporting forms are available at the following links:

- **Albany County:** <https://forms.albanycounty.com/Forms/dcu8G>
- **Saratoga County:**  
<https://www.saratogacountyny.gov/covid/covid-19-testing/report-positive-covid-self-tests/>
- **Schenectady County:** [www.schenectadycounty.com/covid19/selfreporting](http://www.schenectadycounty.com/covid19/selfreporting)
- No information is available currently for **Rensselaer or Warren Counties**

**If you have COVID-LIKE symptoms and you receive a laboratory confirmed alternate diagnosis:**

- Obtain a written diagnosis from the healthcare provider for a laboratory confirmed acute illness (ex: laboratory-confirmed influenza, strep-throat, etc.)
  - The healthcare provider must indicate that COVID is not suspected.
- The note from the **healthcare provider must detail the alternate diagnosis as well as a release to return to school.**
  - Assigned note from a healthcare provider documenting an unconfirmed acute illness, such as a viral upper respiratory illness or viral gastroenteritis, will not suffice.

**If you have a pre-existing condition that presents itself with COVID-LIKE symptoms (runny nose, cough, etc.):**

- Obtain a written diagnosis from the healthcare provider of a known chronic condition with unchanged symptoms.
- The note from the **healthcare provider must detail the pre-existing condition, along with all-related symptoms, and must indicate that COVID is not suspected.**

**If you present with COVID-LIKE symptoms and you have tested positive for COVID within the last 90 days, you must remain out of school until:**

- All symptoms are improving
- You have been fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication

\* If your symptoms are not improving, you should contact a medical provider for further guidance.

- You **DO NOT** need a negative COVID test to return to school.



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### TESTING OUT OF QUARANTINE

**Please note that this test out guidance does not apply to direct contacts based on an exposure in the home. This guidance only applies to direct exposures at school and/or work.**

**ASYMPTOMATIC UNVACCINATED INDIVIDUALS** can now “test out” of quarantine. Starting no sooner than the morning of Day 6, asymptomatic individuals can take a lab-based PCR test (i.e. via Quadrant). Note: Rapid test are not acceptable at this time. If the test results are negative, the individual can finish their quarantine period at the end of day seven (7). This allows the individual to end quarantine a full three (3) days sooner and return to school or work at this time.

#### **Example:**

- **Date of Exposure:** 1/1/2022
- **Ten day quarantine period:** 1/2/22 – 1/12/22 (midnight)
- **Test on day six (6):** 1/7/2022
- **NEGATIVE TEST RESULT RECEIVED**
- **New last day of quarantine:** 1/8/2022 (midnight)
- **Date out of quarantine:** 1/9/22 – can return to work/school

#### **IF SYMPTOMS OCCUR**

If an unvaccinated individual presents with symptoms any time during the quarantine period, they will not be permitted to “test out” of quarantine. Testing out of quarantine is only for individuals who remain asymptomatic for the entire period of time.