

## SAN FELIPE DEL RIO CISD

Press Release - January 31, 2022

# SFDRCISD UPDATES COVID-19 MITIGATION PLAN TO ALIGN WITH NEW DSHS RULE

The District has updated the COVID Mitigation Plan based on new guidance from the Texas Department of State Health Services. To protect children returning to school and the public health, safety, and welfare of the state during the COVID-19 pandemic, DSHS amended §97.7 in Texas Administrative Code, Title 25 to add COVID-19 to the list of diseases requiring exclusion from schools. The rule which was adopted in December, describes the criteria for COVID-19 that require exclusion from schools and provides guidance on readmission criteria.

Under the DSHS Rule, the <u>COVID-19 School Readmission Criteria</u> explains the following with regard to "Students with COVID-19 Symptoms, or Test-Confirmed with COVID-19":

- A school administrator must exclude from attendance any child having or suspected of having a communicable disease which includes COVID-19.
- If symptomatic, schools shall exclude until at least 10 days have passed since symptom onset, and fever-free, and other symptoms have improved.
- Children who are positive for COVID-19 but do not have any symptoms must stay home until at least 10 days after the day they were tested.

This rule applies to students regardless of vaccine status and took effect last Wednesday, January 26, 2022.

While the DSHS Rule does not address "Students Who Are Close Contacts", <u>TEA's Public Health Guidance</u> refers to the <u>CDC's guidance</u> for determining quarantine:

Students Who Are Not Fully Vaccinated	<ul> <li>Quarantine for 5 full days.</li> <li>Test after 5th day of exposure to a confirmed case.</li> <li>If positive, student follows DSHS Rule and remains under quarantine for an additional 5 days. (Total of 10 days)</li> <li>If negative, student returns to school on Day 6 pending release from health care provider or LHA.</li> <li>Students must wear a well-fitted mask for 10 days.</li> <li>Monitor for symptoms for 10 days. If symptoms develop, isolate immediately and follow DSHS Rule.</li> </ul>
Students Who Are Vaccinated (No Symptoms)	<ul> <li>No quarantine.</li> <li>Test after 5<sup>th</sup> day of exposure to a confirmed case.</li> <li>If positive, student follows DSHS Rule and remains under quarantine for 10 days.</li> <li>If negative, student remains in school.</li> </ul>

	<ul> <li>Students must wear a well-fitted mask for 10 days.</li> <li>Monitor for symptoms for 10 days. If symptoms develop, isolate immediately and follow DSHS Rule.</li> </ul>
Students Who Are Vaccinated (Symptomatic)	<ul> <li>Quarantine for 5 full days.</li> <li>Test after 5<sup>th</sup> day of exposure to a confirmed case.</li> <li><i>If positive</i>, student follows DSHS Rule and remains under quarantine for an additional 5 days. (Total of 10 days)</li> <li><i>If negative</i>, student may return to school on Day 6.</li> <li>Wear a well-fitted mask for 10 days.</li> </ul>

In summary, the District will begin the immediate process of informing parents, health providers and the Local Health Authority of the amended statute and the revised Student COVID Mitigation Plan.

Together We Are Better!



### **SFDRCISD Student Mitigation Plan for COVID-19**

Fact: To protect children returning to school and the public health, safety, and welfare of the state during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) amended §97.7 in Texas Administrative Code, Title 25 to add COVID-19 to the list of diseases requiring exclusion from schools. Effective Jan. 26, 2022, the District will comply with the DSHS Rule (COVID-19 School Readmission Criteria) pertaining to students suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19.

Parent reports student is lab confirmed OR experiencing COVID-19 symptoms.



- \* Parents must notify the school office (attendance clerk) of their student's suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19.
- \* Parents are highly encouraged to seek COVID-19 testing to confirm illness.
- \*The school attendance clerk will notify the school nurse for reporting to the Student **COVID Response Team and the Local Health**



Note: If a student develops symptoms while at school, then he/she will be immediately isolated by the school nurse.

> Parents must promptly pick up their son/daughter from school.

Under the DSHS Rule, A school must exclude from attendance any child having or suspected of having a communicable disease (COVID-19). If symptomatic, schools shall exclude until at least 10 days have passed since symptom onset, and fever-free, and other symptoms have improved.

Children who are positive for COVID-19 but do not have any symptoms must stay home until at least 10 days after the day they were tested.



\* The parent shall notify the school office (attendance clerk), when the student has been cleared to return to school by his/her licensed health care provider or Local Health Authority (LHA). All absences accompanied by a release letter will be considered an excused absence.

Parent reports that the student has had close contact with a person who is experiencing COVID-like symptoms or is confirmed positive for COVID-19. (Regardless of household or other individual)



- \*Parents must notify the school office (attendance clerk) of their student's exposure to an individual who is confimed or suspected to have COVID-19
- \*The school attendance clerk will notify the school nurse for reporting to the Student COVID Response Team.



#### **Students Who Are Not Fully Vaccinated**

- \*Quarantine for 5 full days.
- \*Test after 5<sup>th</sup> day of exposure.
- \*If positive, student follows the DSHS Rule and remains under quarantine for an additional 5 days. (Total of 10 days)
- \*If negative, student may return to school on Day 6 pending release from health care provider or LHA.
- \*Student must wear a well-fitted mask for 10 days.
- \*Monitor for symptoms for 10 days. If symptoms develop, isolate immediately and follow DSHS Rule.



#### Students Who Are Vaccinated (No Symptoms)

- No guarantine.
- \*Test after 5th day of exposure.
- \*If positive, student follows DSHS Rule and remains under quarantine for 10 days beginning day of positive result.
- \*If negative, student remains in school,
- Student must wear a well-fitted mask for 10
- \*Monitor for symptoms for 10 days, If symptoms develop, isolate immediately and follow DSHS Rule.



Parent reports that someone in their household or workplace has

had close contact with an

individual who is confirmed positive for COVID-19.

A student who has not had close contact

with an infected invidual does not need

to guarantine. The student should resume his/her usual

class schedule.

#### Students Who Are Vaccinated (Symptoms)

Under the DSHS Rule, a school must exclude from attendance any child having or suspected of having a communicable disease (COVID-19) regardless of vaccine status.

- \* Quarantine for 5 full days.
- \* Test after 5th day of exposure to a confirmed case.
- \* If positive, student follows DSHS Rule and remains under quarantine for an additional 5 days.
- If negative, student may return to school on Day 6 pending release from health care provider or



\* The parent shall notify the school office (attendance clerk), when the student has been cleared to return to school by his/her licensed health care provider or Local Health Authority (LHA). All absences accompanied by a release letter will be considered an excused absence.

Note: The determination of a quarantine lies solely on the student's health care provider and the local health authority, not the school district.

Revised 1/30/2021