

Riverside Christian Academy

RCA has assembled a COVID-19 committee led by pediatrician Dr. Kyle Spears to ensure a safe learning environment for students. The policy reflects the Tennessee Department of Health's guidance, and all policies are contingent and subject to change based on county and school COVID-19 transmission data in the interest of students, staff, and public health.

Please do not send symptomatic students to school. Consult Addendum 1: Return to School Policies.

Jade Butcher, RN, will be on site to monitor the health of students and staff. She will also coordinate any contact tracing, quarantine situations, and timelines with the Health Department.

Masks or face coverings will not be required but left to the discretion of the student and family.

Social distancing will not be required but teachers will keep seating charts so that administration will be able to contact trace in coordination with the Health Department in the event of a COVID-19 case or quarantine.



2021-2022 COVID-19 Policy

Virtual learning will be implemented if COVID-19 cases rise to a level that qualifies such intervention. All absences will require make-up work, which should be arranged with the teacher.

Heightened sanitization measures will continue to help mitigate the transmission of COVID-19.

If any student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19, all parents and staff will be notified of the positive case. The identity of the student or staff member will not be named publicly in accordance with legal and ethical privacy laws. Concerned parties will be notified of any possible contact with COVID-19 positive students or staff members. RCA will notify and consult the health department for further instructions.

Addendum 1 – Return to School Policies

All policies in the chart below supersede the student handbook policies.

SITUATION	RETURN TO SCHOOL	REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION
Short duration (less than 24 hours) of possible COVID-19 symptoms (excluding fever 100.4 or greater) that does not persist beyond that time and with no new symptoms developing over the next 24 hours.	After being fever and symptom free for 24 hours.	Parent note stating the child has been fever and symptom free for 24 hours.
COVID-19 symptoms with negative COVID-19 *test after symptom onset (Per the TN Dept. of Health, negative test results must be from a PCR test. Negative rapid antigen test results will not be accepted.)	After being fever and symptom free for 24 hours.	Documentation of a negative PCR *test obtained after onset of symptoms. Individual must NOT have had a positive COVID-19 test during this illness.
COVID-19 symptoms with confirmed alternative diagnosis	Per medical provider guidance based on diagnosis and when fever and symptom free for 24 hours.	Written documentation from licensed medical provider stating what condition symptoms were caused by, and that the illness is not COVID-related.
COVID-19 symptoms WITHOUT a doctor's release	After 10-day isolation AND 24 hours fever and symptom free	Communicate with school nurse regarding quarantine at jade.butcher@rcaknights.org
Chronic condition that may result in COVID-like symptoms	Doctor and parental release for conditions like asthma, seasonal allergies, acid reflux, etc...	Chronic condition with COVID-like Symptoms form (Addendum 2)

All students returning to school after illness should report to the office with required documentation before going to chapel.

**COVID-19 Tests are more reliable 48 hours after symptom onset. We discourage COVID testing on the first day of symptoms.*

Addendum 1, Continued- Return to School Policies

All policies in the chart below supersede the student handbook policies.

SITUATION	STEPS TO TAKE	REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION
Close contact with an individual with COVID-19. (CDC's definition is exposure within 6 ft of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period within 2 days of onset of illness.)	After 10-day quarantine if individual never developed symptoms. If symptoms developed, individual may return 10 days after onset of symptoms, and they have been fever and symptom free for 24 hours. TDOH recommends masking and social distancing thru day 14 after return.	Communicate with school nurse regarding quarantine at jade.butcher@rcaknights.org
Positive COVID-19 *Test (Both PCR & rapid antigen tests are accepted for a positive result)	After 10 day isolation AND 24 hours fever and symptom free	Communicate with school nurse regarding quarantine at jade.butcher@rcaknights.org
Previous COVID-19 positive case within the last 90 days) who is exposed to someone with a positive case.	Does not require quarantine unless symptoms develop within 14 days.	None
Fully vaccinated individual who is exposed to someone with a positive case.	Does not require quarantine unless symptoms develop within 14 days.	None

Students becoming ill at school will be evaluated by the school nurse. Some low risk COVID-like symptoms may be treated at school (i.e. congestion, runny nose, headache, stomach ache). Otherwise, the student will be sent home from school.

All students returning to school after illness should report to the office with required documentation before going to chapel.

**COVID-19 Tests are more reliable 48 hours after symptom onset. We discourage COVID testing on the first day of symptoms.*

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Addendum 2 - Chronic Condition with COVID-Like Symptoms Form

School Phone: 931-438-4722

School Fax: 931-438-4727

Attendance Record Keeper: krysa.spears@rcaknights.org

*My child, _____, grade _____ has
a chronic condition: _____ that can result
in COVID-like symptoms. He/she is not contagious, and his/her
symptoms are not a threat to the health of his/her classmates.*

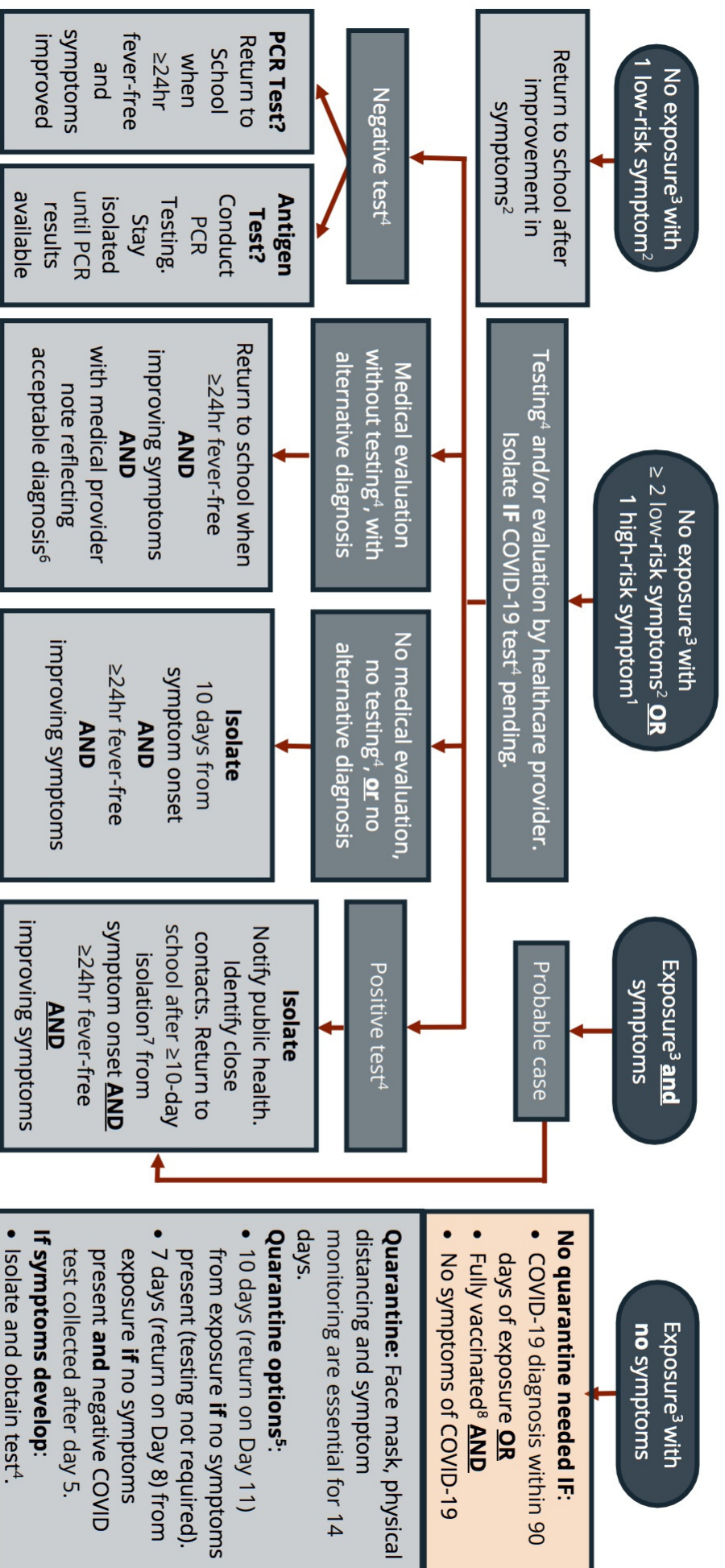
Parent Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Doctor Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Additional Notes:

Public Health COVID-19 Return to School Decision Support Algorithm

Symptoms of COVID-19 may include: **new cough, difficulty breathing, loss of taste or smell, fever (>100.4°F)¹, chills, congestion/runny nose, sore throat, headache, nausea/vomiting, diarrhea, muscle pain, fatigue²**



1 High risk symptoms

2 Low risk symptoms not due to chronic conditions such as allergies, migraines, etc.

3 Exposure defined as within 6 feet of a case for cumulative total of ≥15 minutes over 24-hr period.

4 **Test** refers to SARS-CoV-2 PCR or antigen test. Antibody tests are not approved for return to school.

5 A small risk of transmission still exists until 14 days past exposure. Mask use, physical distancing and symptom monitoring is important through day 14.

6 Examples of acceptable diagnoses would include urinary tract infection, strep throat confirmed by positive strep test, rash from poison ivy, etc. Diagnoses of respiratory and viral conditions such as upper respiratory tract infection (URI), pneumonia, pharyngitis without positive strep test, viral illness, etc. **DO NOT** exclude the diagnosis of COVID-19 and **DO NOT JUSTIFY RETURN TO SCHOOL**.

7 Consult CDC guidance if severely ill or immunocompromised.

8 Someone is considered fully vaccinated if they are ≥2 weeks following receipt of the second dose in a 2-dose series or ≥2 weeks following receipt of one dose of a single-dose vaccine.