



School Re-Opening Questions & Answers July 28, 2020

Please remember this is a fluid situation with weekly/daily changes in recommendations as we continue to experience and learn more. I encourage you to call 330-812-3868 or email tburford@schd.org if you have any additional questions or concerns or need any additional clarification.

Q) When being released from isolation after staying home for 10 days since symptoms first appeared is it 24 hours or 3 days with no fever?

A) Recently there was a change in the CDC guidance from 3 days with no fever to at least 24 hours with no fever without fever-reducing medication AND an improvement in symptoms.

Q) Is it necessary for the school faculty, staff, and/or students to be tested for COVID-19 before the school year begins?

A) Testing prior to school is not necessary, nor is it recommended at this time. COVID-19 testing is merely indicative of status at that point in time (ie: a person testing negative today, could be tested again tomorrow and be positive).

Q) Is the school required to document the daily symptom checks of employees and/or daily temperature checks of students?

A) While it is recommended to do daily symptom and temperature checks of both students and employees, no documentation is required by the state or local health department. Any documentation requirements would fall under individual school district policies. Additionally, symptom monitoring and temperature checks should be encouraged to be done each morning at home prior to arrival at school to prevent exposure to other children and staff. This can be assessed formally or informally by the school.

Q) At our daily temperature check of students arriving at school, if a student registers a fever and, as a result, is being sent home, what is the protocol for that student's sibling who is also enrolled in our school?



A) If the sibling does not have a fever or symptoms consistent with COVID-19, the sibling does not need to be sent home at that time. The sibling would only enter quarantine if the index student tests positive or is diagnosed by a physician as a clinical case of COVID-19. Fevers or other symptoms can always be a result of other ailments (Strep throat, UTI, etc.).

Q) We are reading conflicting information regarding the temperature associated with the COVID-19 fever. Is it anything at or above 100.0°F or is it to be anything at or above 100.4°F?

A) This has been very confusing as guidance has changed over the past few months. The most current CDC guidance for COVID-19 surveillance states fever is defined as subjective fever (feeling feverish) or a measured temperature of 100.4°F (38°C) or higher. Note that fever may be intermittent or may not be present in some people, such as immunocompromised, or those taking certain fever-reducing medications.

Q) Should the school be aware that faculty, staff, or students have travelled to one of the states from which the Governor requires a quarantine upon return, what is our school's duty to enforce the quarantine?

A) This is advised, but not mandated at this point in time. It would ultimately be up to each individual school policy. Please be aware this is a fluid situation and locations and recommendations change frequently. Refer to the link below for the most updated travel advisories per ODH for the state of Ohio.

<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/families-and-individuals/covid-19-travel-advisory/covid-19-travel-advisory>

Q) What are the SCPH requirements of the school regarding enrollment of unvaccinated students?

A) SCPH continues to encourage all children to be fully immunized. Immunization exemptions do exist for those children who may have medical contraindication, acquired immunity, or parental refusal due to religious conviction or conscience. Refer to the link below for an information brief dated February 20, 2020 about Ohio immunization laws:

<https://www.lsc.ohio.gov/documents/reference/current/membersonlybriefs/133Ohio%20mmunization%20Laws.pdf>

