



## Yavapai County Community Health Services

Our Mission: "Yavapai County Community Health Services will provide leadership, information, and services that contribute to improving the health and well-being of Yavapai County residents."



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

August 11, 2021

Dear Yavapai County Superintendents,

Thank you for your diligent efforts to maintain healthy school environments that support in-class education, student development, and limit opportunities for Covid-19 to spread. As a community, we must all work together to slow the spread of Covid-19 during this pandemic, and we appreciate your cooperation and necessary support in our schools.

It is our role, as local public health, to conduct case investigations and require quarantine or isolation when a person has tested positive for or is exposed to Covid-19. This is not a suggestion or optional and includes requiring all individuals who have COVID-19, or who have been exposed to COVID-19 through contact with a COVID-19 case, stay home and away from others. Symptoms of COVID-19 can be mild, and it is possible for individuals without symptoms to spread this highly contagious virus.

Schools are responsible for excluding students that local public health identifies as cases or close contacts that need to be in quarantine or isolation. This requires school leadership to notify parents of suspected exposures on school grounds in order for those students to quarantine at home until one of the following is met: [ADHS 'Release from Isolation and Quarantine' Guidance \(azdhs.gov\)](https://www.azdhs.gov/dhsx/divisions/division04/communicable_diseases/04_01_infectious_diseases/04_01_01_covid-19/04_01_01_covid-19_guidance/04_01_01_covid-19_guidance_release_from_isolation_and_quarantine_guidance.pdf)

### Criteria 1

- At least 10 days have passed since they were exposed to COVID-19; AND
- Remain symptom free for that 10-day period.

### Criteria 2

- At least 7 days have passed since they were exposed to COVID-19; AND
- Your child tests negative for COVID-19 at least five days after the above date; AND
- Your child has been symptom free for that seven-day period.

Parents are requested to protect unvaccinated students by quarantine, even if they do not have symptoms. It is also recommended that individuals receive a COVID-19 test 5 days after exposure and continue to wear a mask. YCCHS strongly recommends wearing a mask indoors in public, regardless of vaccination status.

Visit <https://yavapaiaz.gov/chs> for more information about COVID-19.

Keeping kids Covid-free is critical to ensure in-person learning, prevent unforeseen complications, and help stave off more aggressive Covid variants.

Sincerely,

**Leslie Horton MA, MCHES**

Director, Health Officer

Yavapai County Community Health Services