



RUSSELL COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

506 - 14TH STREET
POST OFFICE BOX 400 PHENIX CITY, AL 36868-0400
TELEPHONE: (334) 468-5540 FAX: (334) 448-8314
<https://www.myrcsd.org>

Dr. Brenda Coley
Superintendent

*Kenneth Barnes
Barbara Clark
Keith Mitchell
Tommy Pugh
Timothy Simpson
Eugenia Upshaw
Joseph Williams*

Dear Russell County School District Families,

As we are experiencing a rise in COVID-19 positive cases, it is our goal to ensure the safety and well-being of all students and employees. Therefore, please be aware of the following COVID-19 procedures and guidelines:

If your child was identified as a close contact of another individual that tested positive for COVID-19:

Your child must stay at home for a minimum of 5 to 10 days or possibly more if unable to isolate from a positive family member (see the criteria below to return on the 6th day). The COVID-19 incubation period and the ideal time period to remain at home is a minimum of 5 days after last exposure to a case depending if the positive person was asymptomatic, mildly ill, or severely ill. Please refer to the ADPH website and your child's school nurse for his/her return date.

- Continue to monitor for symptoms daily through day 10.
- If any one of the following symptoms are observed, isolate immediately and seek testing; fever, cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new taste or smell disorder, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, or diarrhea.
 - If your child exhibits the symptoms listed above, please contact his/her physician to provide you with guidance.
 - If your child receives a positive diagnosis, please report the diagnosis to the school nurse.

Wear a mask, stay at least 6 feet from others, avoid crowds, wash hands frequently, and take other steps to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Criteria to Return Early

Your child may return to school early when the following criteria are all met:

- Able to completely isolate from the COVID-19 positive person
AND
- Receives a negative test 5 days after exposure to the positive person (taken on the 6th day) with documentation provided to the school nurse
AND
- Remains symptom free for 10 days. If your child develops any symptoms of illness during this time, please have him/her evaluated by a healthcare provider. If your child receives a COVID-19 positive diagnosis, please report the diagnosis to the school nurse.

People who have been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19 should separate at home, unless they meet the following exceptions:

- Fully vaccinated (2 weeks after the last required vaccination dosage)
- Diagnosed with COVID-19 within the last three months
- Stay at least 3 feet away from others while at school or 6 feet away from others while at home when properly and consistently masked

Please visit <https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/covid19/schools.html> for more information.

We appreciate your support as we continue to navigate through this Health Pandemic. Remember, *"We are all in this together!"*

***An Equal Opportunity Institution
All Schools Accredited by AdvancEd***