

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Martin Luther King, Jr. Middle School considers the health and well-being of our students, teachers, and staff to be of the utmost importance. On 8-16-21, we were alerted to a student/teacher/staff member who was diagnosed with COVID-19. We have been working closely with local public health officials to ensure the proper recommendations are followed to isolate the student/teacher/staff diagnosed with COVID-19, identify close contacts, and clean and disinfect areas of the school building.

Your child was identified as a close contact to someone diagnosed with COVID-19.

A close contact includes being within 6 feet of a person with COVID-19 for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more OR having direct contact with secretions from a person with COVID-19 (e.g. being coughed on, kissing, sharing utensils or water bottles, etc.). As a result, your child is at risk of infection beginning 2-14 days after exposure.

For your child's safety and the safety of the public, the Georgia Department of Public Health requires that you actively monitor your child's health for COVID-19 symptoms and keep him/her quarantined at home.

All close contacts are instructed to take the following steps during the quarantine period:

1. **Quarantine.** Your child should quarantine at home, except in case of emergency or to be tested for COVID-19, until he/she completes all DPH requirements for persons exposed to COVID-19 found at <https://dph.georgia.gov/contact>. He/she should not attend school or extracurriculars during this time.
2. **Check for temperature and symptoms.** Twice a day check your child's temperature and assess him/her for the below COVID-19 symptoms using the following checklist:

<input type="checkbox"/> Fever or chills	<input type="checkbox"/> New severe/bad headache	<input type="checkbox"/> Sore throat
<input type="checkbox"/> New cough	<input type="checkbox"/> New loss of taste or smell	<input type="checkbox"/> Fatigue
<input type="checkbox"/> Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing	<input type="checkbox"/> Congestion or runny nose	<input type="checkbox"/> Diarrhea
<input type="checkbox"/> Muscle or body aches	<input type="checkbox"/> Nausea or vomiting	
3. **Get tested.** CDC and DPH recommend your child get tested for COVID-19 at least once during their quarantine period. If your child has no symptoms, the test should take place no earlier than the 5th day of quarantine. If your child develops symptoms, the test should be obtained earlier. **Please note that even if your child's test results are negative, he/she must remain in quarantine until completing all DPH requirements for persons exposed to COVID-19 found at <https://dph.georgia.gov/contact>.**
4. **Alert the school.** Alert the school IMMEDIATELY if your child develops COVID-19 symptoms. Depending on when your child developed symptoms and his/her last day in school, additional contact tracing may need to be done by the school.

QUARANTINE INFORMATION

You may test out of quarantine any day after 7 full days have passed since your most recent exposure occurred, if you fulfill all **THREE** of the following criteria:

- **Do not experience any symptoms during your monitoring period,**
- **Are tested for COVID-19† The test should be a diagnostic test (PCR or antigen). It is preferred that the specimen for your test is collected no more than 48 hours before the time of planned quarantine discontinuation, however, it should not be collected before day 5 of your quarantine period.**
- **Receive a negative result,**

• You may not discontinue quarantine until you have completed a minimum of 7 full days since your most recent exposure, even if you receive your negative test result earlier. If your result is positive, you must follow DPH isolation guidance <https://dph.georgia.gov/isolation-contact> o If you are unable to be tested for COVID-19 during your quarantine period, you may discontinue quarantine any day after day 10 if you do not experience any symptoms during your monitoring period. • If you discontinue quarantine prior to 14 days, you should continue to monitor your child's symptoms.