



## **Berry Patch Covid-19 Protocol FAQs**

**11.7.21**

**Can my child be a close contact if they weren't with the positive person when they developed symptoms?** *Yes, if your child was with someone for 15 minutes or more within 6 feet anytime in the 48 hours BEFORE symptoms developed for the positive person, they are considered a close contact.*

**Do I need to let The Berry Patch know if my child is a close contact from someone not connected to The Berry Patch?** *Yes, if your child is a close contact of anyone who has tested positive for COVID, please report it to The Berry Patch right away.*

**If school is not in session do I need to let you know if my child is a close contact or tests positive for COVID?** *Yes, please let us know right away so that we can make sure that any necessary communication is done as soon as possible.*

**How will I know if my child was exposed to COVID at The Berry Patch?** *Your class will be notified if we receive information about a positive COVID test from a Berry Patch family or staff member and are able to confirm close contacts. Please let us know as soon as you are able if your child tests positive for COVID.*

**How long does my child have to be quarantined if someone in our household tests positive for COVID?** *Your child will need to quarantine for 14 days AFTER their last exposure to the positive case. If the positive family member is able to isolate for 10 days from the positive test result, and all family members test negative at Day 5 of Quarantine and no one develops symptoms or tests positive, your child may return on Day 15. In many cases for families with young children, total isolation of a parent or sibling is not possible, so the 14 day Quarantine begins AFTER the positive person's 10 day infectious period. Testing is then required on day 5 of the 14-day Quarantine. A negative PCR test (or positive test with 10-day isolation) is required for return to school.*

**Can my child do a shortened Quarantine if they are a close contact of someone NOT in our household ?** Yes, if the close contact is NOT in your household, your child can return to school after a 7-day Quarantine (7 days from exposure, returning on Day 8) if they do not develop symptoms during their Quarantine and have a negative PCR test at least 5 days after exposure. Alternatively, your child can do a 10-day Quarantine (10 days from exposure, returning on Day 11) without testing if they do not develop symptoms.

**If my child is in Quarantine because they are a close contact and develop symptoms, should he/she get tested?** Yes!

**My child has developed a runny nose, can they still come to school?** Any cold symptoms can potentially be from COVID exposure. This is the most common symptom presentation in children who test positive. Please contact us and monitor your child's runny nose for 24 hours. If it continues to run clear he/she may return to school. If it worsens or other symptoms develop, please keep your child at home and we will work with you to determine next steps.

**If my child stays home (or is sent home) because of two more common symptoms or one less common symptom, what do we do next?** Decide which path you will take for your child to return to school (see updated [MDH Decision Tree](#)):

1. Get tested (send results to us) and if negative return to school when symptoms have improved, **OR**
2. See your Physician and get alternative diagnosis (send Doctor's note with diagnosis) and return to school when symptoms have improved, **OR**
3. Remain home 10 days and return to school if symptoms have improved.

**Our family is traveling to see relatives in California for Thanksgiving. Does our child need to be quarantined when we return?** We are no longer presuming close contact with travel so your child is not required to be quarantined for any travel after November 1st. Families may choose to Quarantine for 3-5 days upon return from travel to see if symptoms develop or you are notified of close contacts from your travel. We ask that all families are vigilant in watching for symptoms and report any symptoms or known close contact exposure from all multi-family indoor activities (visiting a waterpark, birthday parties, etc.) as well as travel.