

SAFE RETURN 2021-2022 UPDATE August 06, 2021 Revised

Silsbee ISD will observe the following practices for both students and staff based on the TEA's Public Health Guidance released on August 5, 2021, and the Recommendations for Schools in Hardin County. This guidance addresses:

- On-campus instruction
- Non-UIL extracurricular sports and activities
- Any other activities that students must complete

Individuals Who Have COVID-19

Individuals who are actively sick with COVID-19 or who have received a positive test result for COVID-19 must not attend school in person or come to work.

The stay-at-home period or conditions for re-entry are:

- Fever free without medication for 24 hours; and
- At least 24 hours with improvement of all symptoms; and
- 10 days from positive test

Individuals who test positive for COVID-19 but do not have any symptoms must stay home until at least 10 days from the day they were tested.

Parents must ensure they do not send a child to school on campus if the child has COVID-19 symptoms or is test-confirmed with COVID-19, until the conditions for re-entry are met.

Individuals Who Are Close Contacts

TEA guidance states given the data from 2020-21 showing very low COVID-19 transmission rates in a classroom setting and data demonstrating lower transmission rates among children than adults, school systems are not required to conduct COVID-19 contact tracing. If school systems are made aware that a student is a close contact, the school system should notify the student's parents. Parents of students who are determined to be close contacts of an individual with COVID-19 may opt to keep their students at home during the recommended stay-at-home period (quarantine).

Exceptions:

- If the individual is fully vaccinated, they do not need to quarantine. OR
- If the individual has had a COVID-19 infection in the previous 3 months.

The stay-at-home period can end for individuals experiencing no symptoms on Day 10 after close contact exposure, if no subsequent COVID-19 testing is performed. Alternately, individuals can end the stay-at-home period if they receive a negative result from a PCR acute infection test after the close contact exposure ends.

Positive Case Contact Tracing

The school district will not be conducting contact tracing of reported positive cases. These cases will be reported to the Hardin County Health Department who will conduct contact tracing as necessary.

Parent Notification

Parents notifications will be issued by campus/grade level and/or activity whenever there is a COVID positive staff member or student. It is important for parents to ensure they have provided a current phone number and/or email address.

Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers

All school employees have been deemed Essential Employees. Silsbee ISD employees may continue to work after a potential exposure to COVID-19 if they remain symptom free. The employee should adhere to the following practices before and during their workday.

- **Pre-Screen:** Employees should self-monitor daily by measuring their temperature and assessing their symptoms prior to reporting to work.
- **Wear a Mask:** It is recommended the employee wear a face mask while in the workplace for 14 days after last exposure.
- **Social Distance:** The employee should practice social distancing as work duties permit in the workplace.
- **Disinfect and Clean workspaces:** Clean and disinfect all areas such as offices, bathrooms, common areas, shared electronic equipment routinely.

If an employee begins to have symptoms they should notify their employer, separate themselves from others, go home when possible and arrange for testing.

Symptoms of COVID-19

- **Feeling feverish** or a measured temperature or greater than or equal to 100.5 degrees Fahrenheit
- **Loss of taste or smell**
- **Cough**
- **Difficulty breathing, shortness of breath**
- **Headache**
- **Chills**
- **Sore throat**
- **Shaking or exaggerated shivering**
- **Significant muscle pain or ache**
- **Diarrhea**