

## North Newton's Path to Re-Entry (Revised 2-28-22)

The Indiana State Department of Health advised Indiana schools that effective February 23, 2022, they will no longer require or recommend contact tracing and quarantining for schools, but rather look to the CDC for guidance recommendations. Additionally, the CDC declared on Friday, February 25, 2022 that masks would no longer be required on school buses. The focus turns to public education and messaging regarding the education of importance of vaccination, health strategies, and protecting others who might be vulnerable.

Individuals who suspect a COVID-19 infection or any other illness should:

- Get tested
- Isolate to protect others (stay home when sick)
- Rapidly notify close contacts if positive
- Seek healthcare if at higher risk

What Has Changed	What This Means	Recommended Practices
No contact tracing and quarantining in schools required	<p>Students/staff will not be sent home if asymptomatic</p> <p>Students/staff will not have to quarantine if they are close contacts</p> <p>Siblings do not need to be sent home if there is a positive in the family</p> <p>Children of positive parents or other family members do not need to be sent home</p> <p>Staff with positive family members do not need to stay home</p>	<p>ISDH recommends communication with parents, coaches, etc., when positive case presents itself</p> <p>Parents should monitor their child/children for symptoms</p> <p>Staff members should monitor for symptoms</p>

Negative test not required to return to school	Can return if symptoms improved and 24 hours fever free without use of fever reducing medication	Stay home if sick
Schools do not report positives or close contacts to the ISDH	Parents no longer receive texts from ISDH Parents not notified by default of positives in classroom, school or team	Please notify school as courtesy Coaches, teachers, principals may communicate but no requirement to do so
Since there is no contact tracing and quarantining, the 1% mask mandate is null and void.	No mask threshold; masks recommended but not required If student/staff is positive, they should mask on days 6-10	Recommendation to wear a mask but not required except on school buses (federal mandate) For students returning to school, should wear mask days 6-10
Social distancing at 6 feet at all times not required	Students/staff are not required	Use judgement just like during cold and flu season to protect yourself; if sick try to stay away from others so as not to infect them
At-Home tests are scheduled to be available to families	At-Home tests are to be provided for children in the upcoming months	Use of the at-home tests is voluntary and should provide families with another tool to monitor children for possible COVID-19.
Federal mask mandate for school buses removed by CDC on Feb. 25, 2022	Masks are no longer required on school buses. Staff and students may elect to wear them but it is not required	Staff and students may elect to wear face masks on school buses but there is no requirement to do so.

What Has NOT Changed	What This Means	Recommended Practices
If individual tests positive regardless of vaccination status	Student is sick and possibly contagious	Should stay home and isolate from other people for at least 5 days (Day 0 is the first day of symptoms or the date of the day of the positive viral test for asymptomatic persons); Return on Day 6 and should wear mask
If you are sick, stay home	Just like regular cold/flu season or at other times when you are sick, stay home	Stay home when sick, seek medical advice if needed
Notify local health department of excessive absences due to illness-10% threshold	Schools have always had to notify the local health department of excessive absences due to illness in order to be informed of contagious diseases, viruses, etc.	Parents are encouraged to inform their child's school of illness and symptoms