



STAYING SAFE

PROTOCOLS FOR RESPONDING TO COVID-19

October 14, 2020

Dear Parent / Guardian:

The 2020-2021 school year is underway, and we could not be prouder of how our students and staff have handled the many changes and challenges we have been navigating as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. As a parent, we know the health, safety, and well-being of your child is your first concern. We want you to know that the health and safety of our students, families, staff, and community has and always will be our top priority as well.

As we navigate ahead, we want to share some important protocols for how Berks County Intermediate Unit administrators and staff will be responding to various COVID-19 situations. The attached document identifies common scenarios that students and families may experience and the protocols that have been put in place based on the latest guidance provided by the multiple governing agencies supporting our programs. Please review the document and refer to it for step-by-step instructions on what to do or what to expect during situations your child or family may encounter.

We all play a critical role in helping to keep each other safe, and we appreciate your collaboration in this effort. If your child experiences a COVID-19 related event, please

notify your child's teacher or the program supervisor immediately so that we can respond accordingly and work to ensure the health, safety, and well-being of all impacted.

As always, our goal is to send you timely, accurate, and clear information. We will continue to make all decisions related to COVID-19 based on the attached protocols and latest guidance communicating with you through a streamlined communication process in the event your child or family may be impacted. We will remain vigilant doing everything possible to keep our classrooms, programs, and services safe.

We encourage our families to continue practicing proper hand hygiene, physical distancing when outside of the home, wearing face coverings, covering coughs and sneezes, cleaning and disinfecting high-touch areas, and checking health on a daily basis.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher or program supervisor.

Sincerely,

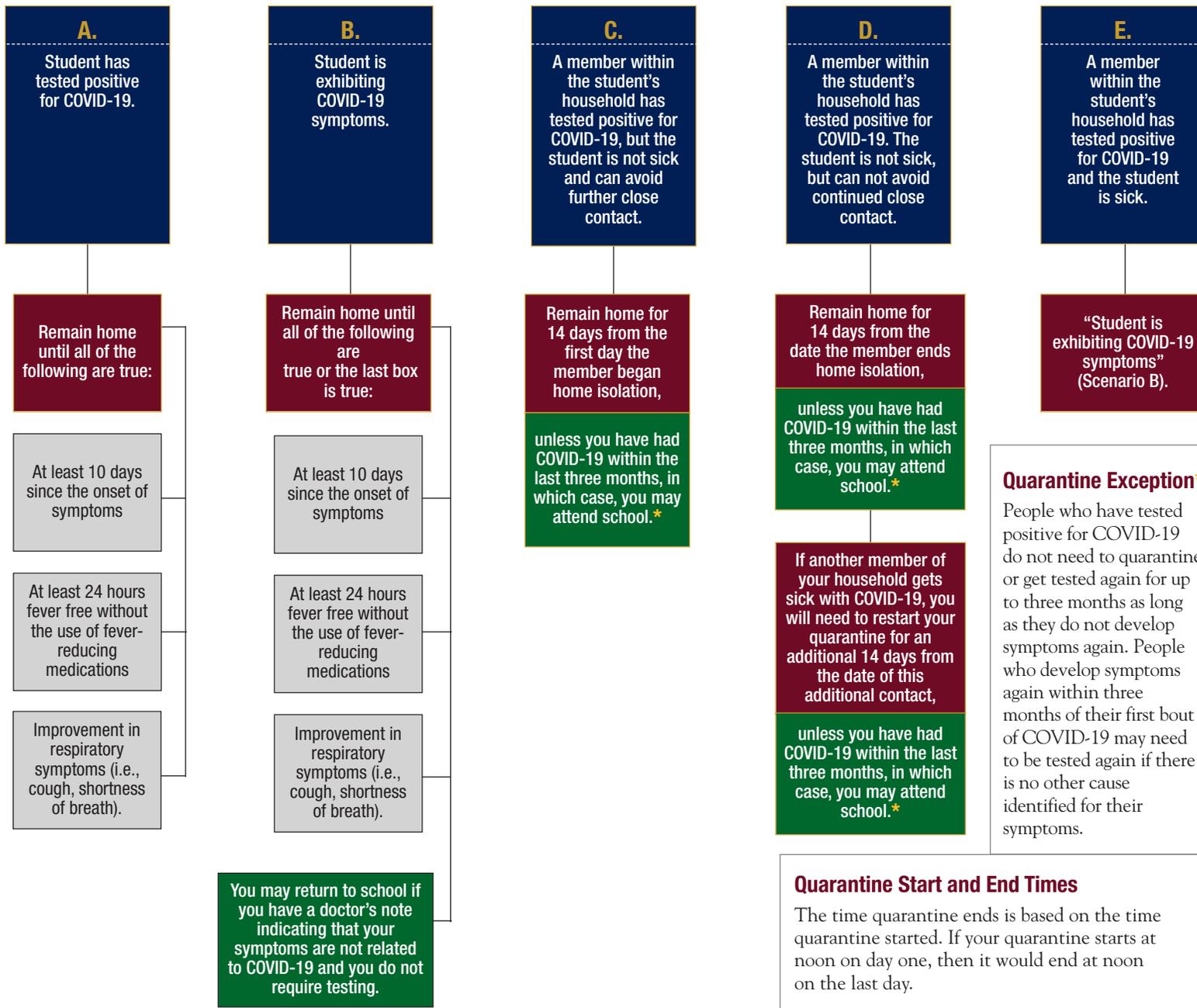
Dr. Michelle Reichard-Huff
Director, Office of Early Childhood and Student Services
Berks County Intermediate Unit

STUDENT AND FAMILY COVID-19 SCENARIOS

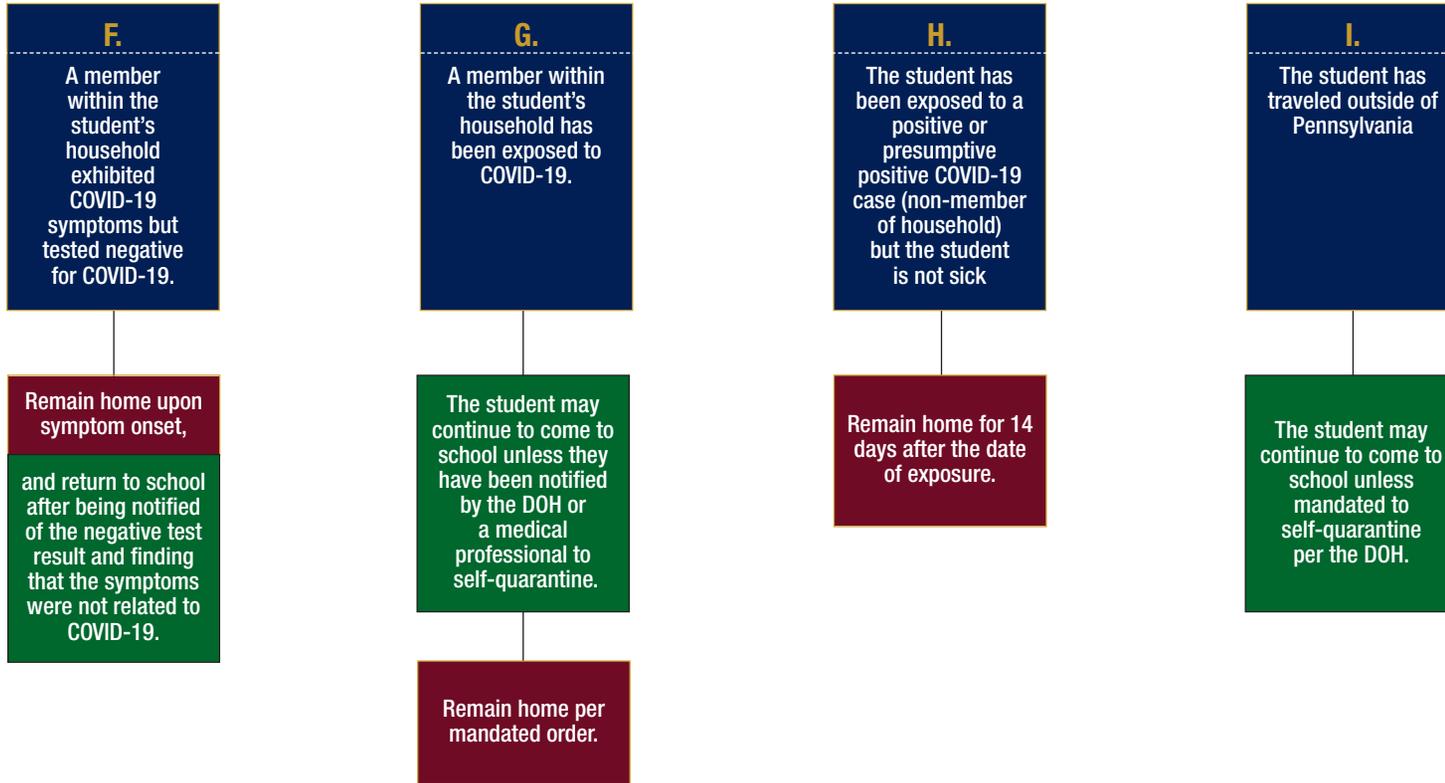


If the student or a member of the family has confirmed exposure to or a diagnosis of COVID-19, your healthcare provider or the Department of Health (DOH) will provide guidance and recommendations, including isolation for the case and quarantine for close contacts. Please share that guidance with the BCIU to assist us in planning for the student's safe return to school.

In the absence of specific guidance from your healthcare provider or the DOH, the BCIU will follow this flow chart.



STUDENT AND FAMILY COVID-19 SCENARIOS



Isolation / Quarantine Guidelines Definition of Exposure / Direct Contact

Exposure occurs when there is a physical contact (contact within six feet for 15 minutes or more) between an infected person and yourself.



COVID-19 Symptoms

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), people with COVID-19 have a wide range of symptoms. Symptoms may appear two–14 days after exposure to the virus. COVID-19 symptoms may include:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

This list does not include all possible symptoms. The CDC will continue to update this list as they learn more about COVID-19.




If your child or a member of your family experiences a COVID-19 event, please notify your child's teacher or therapist.

Office of Early Childhood and Student Services'
Primary Contact:
Shannon Celmer
610-987-8511



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Due to the dynamic nature of COVID-19, this toolkit is based on guidance from federal, state, and local governing agencies as well as BCIU policies and procedures in place. As guidance evolves, content contained in this toolkit may change, be amended, or augmented. The BCIU will always adhere to the most recent recommendations from governing agencies.