

# SCHOOL DISTRICT OF OKALOOSA COUNTY

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## Updated Guidelines for Release to Attend School/Work During Quarantine February 1, 2021

The Okaloosa County School District has worked closely with the Okaloosa County Department of Health the last several days and would like to share information with parents regarding a student's ability to return to school prior to the end of the 14-day quarantine period. The following may be used with respect to those students who are quarantined as a close contact to a positive COVID-19 case. (The guidance is also applied to school staff.)

1. A student who does not have symptoms can be released by the Department of Health to return to school on **Day 11** if cleared by the DOH-Okaloosa. To attend school on Day 11, parents/students must commit to
  - Your child always wearing a face mask, except when eating lunch, to include full covering of the nose and mouth
  - No participation in sports, clubs, or other school group activities in which physical distancing cannot be maintained.
  - Practice frequent and proper handwashing.
  - Limit close interactions with other students and District staff, as much as feasible, during the school day. Assistance in distancing will be provided at each school.
  - Closely watch your child for signs of COVID-19 illness during these in-school quarantine days. Call your child's doctor if your child becomes sick and needs medical attention.
  - If unable to commit to the above requirements, your child will need to complete the 14 days of quarantine at home.
2. A student has the ability to come back to school as early as **Day 8** of quarantine, if a negative PCR test is obtained on **Day 5** or later. Parents should coordinate with DOH-Okaloosa, not your child's school, if you want to pursue this option.
  - All of the above requirements must be met in this option as well.
3. A student who is under quarantine whose parent is unable to commit to the above requirements for return to school must complete the 14 days of quarantine at home and will be allowed to attend school on Day 15.

As a reminder, Okaloosa-DOH is the authority to release students to return to school early. The information above is taken from their guidance to parents. Your school can help you with questions related to school activities. It is our belief that these revised guidelines can help students return to school sooner in a safe manner.

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