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## Department of Health and Human Services

*.....promoting healthy and responsible families*

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### Factsheet regarding a child in quarantine/ill child

1. Public Health and the school may not disclose where the exposure to COVID-19 took place for privacy reasons. Identifying information may be given if the location of the exposure is disclosed. Please note each school may have a slightly different policy for identifying contacts based on classroom size and the availability to space children 6 feet apart. Older children (middle and high school) are asked to help identify their contacts.
2. If a child is in quarantine it means they were identified as a close contact to a positive COVID-19 case. Their siblings do not have to quarantine. Any contacts of the child identified to have had an exposure do not have to quarantine. Only having direct exposure to the positive case warrants quarantine.
3. Cloth masks do not exclude someone from quarantine. Cloth masks are worn to decrease the amount of viral particles in the air, thereby reducing transmission.
4. Obtaining a negative test result during quarantine will not end quarantine sooner. The virus has a 14 day incubation period that the child needs to be excluded through. It can take up to 14 days for the virus to infect someone to be able to show symptoms or to test positive if they do not display symptoms.
5. If a child develops symptoms during their quarantine, please get them tested. This may shorten their quarantine as ill persons with the virus only have to isolate for 10 days from symptom onset. They are considered infectious for 10 days after symptom onset.
6. The definition of a close contact is having physical contact with someone infectious or being within 6 feet of an infectious person for 15 minutes or more within a 24 hour period unless appropriate PPE was used, like in a health care setting or similar environment.
7. If a child becomes ill at school, the school your child attends will determine if siblings of the ill child will also need to go home. If the ill student tests negative they will be able to return after they are feeling well and sibling, if excluded, could come back after negative results received. If a parent does not test an ill child they would have to be isolated at home for 10 days past symptom onset and be well upon their return.
8. Please visit our website for other useful information at [www.ocontocounty covid.info](http://www.ocontocounty covid.info)