



Stratford Public Schools: Remote Learning during Quarantine Quarantine Protocol

Students who test positive for COVID-19 are required to quarantine. Stratford Public Schools recognizes that there may be times when a student is identified as a close contact, either because of their relationship with an individual who has contracted COVID-19 outside of school or because he/she has come in contact with one who has contracted COVID-19 in school and must also quarantine. Students who have been identified as a “close contact” may return to school after day 10 post exposure and symptom-free.

The CDC has included an exception in their definition of a “close contact” for students in a classroom setting. Students (not teachers or other individuals) within a classroom setting (not on buses or in other non-classroom settings) will not be considered close contacts if they are not within 3 feet of a known COVID-19 case for 15 minutes or more (cumulative over a 24-hour period), provided:

- Contact between students happened exclusively inside a PreK-12 school classroom (e.g. No additional contact in a cafeteria, on a bus, during sports, outside of school, etc.);
- Both parties were wearing a well-fitting mask consistently and correctly during the entire duration of their contact; and
- The student who is considered to be a close contact remains asymptomatic.

Students who must quarantine will qualify for remote learning if:

- A close contact as identified and confirmed by school personnel
- A confirmed positive case of COVID-19

Fully vaccinated students and staff no longer need to quarantine from school or other activities following contact with a COVID-19 case if they remain symptom-free. They should also be tested 3-5 days after exposure but can continue with activities until such time as they receive a positive test and wear a mask when in public or otherwise engaged in activities with individuals outside of their household until they receive a negative test (or for 14 days with no test).

Remote Learning During Quarantine

In the event a student must quarantine, school personnel will work closely with families to coordinate access to supplies and technology as needed and a schedule varied by age, grade level and content/course. The schedules developed for each grade level will take the following into account:

- Development level of students
- Amount of screen time required of students
- Natural breaks that would occur during a typical, in-person school day including:
 - Mask breaks
 - Transitions and routines such as passing times, arrival, and dismissal.
 - Bathroom breaks
 - Recess/Lunch
 - Center time

Given these circumstances, students in the elementary levels will log on for a shorter synchronous school day than that of students at the secondary

level. Supplementary staff, such as full-time tutors at the elementary level and/or specialists, will be utilized to support students at home. Remote learning poses challenges in reviewing student work in real time, asking and answering questions, assessment, and on the spot remediation or enrichment that might occur if attending in person. Communication between home and school will be important during a time of quarantine.

Quarantined Middle and High School Students

Stratford teachers maintain an active Google Classroom page in which they post the daily assignments, homework, assessments, and related tasks. Middle and high school teachers will also display a Google Meets (livestream) link in the “Banner” for each class section. In this format, students will observe the class in action and follow teacher directions from their home. Students will continue to access the daily assignments through Google Classroom.

Middle and high school students will have access to livestreaming which will provide one-way, real-time access to class. Teachers will not be interacting with remote students during class time and may need to move throughout the room to monitor and assist students thus preventing the teacher from being able to maintain a continuous presence in front of a device. Staff working with remote learners will coordinate specific strategies (e.g., email, conferencing) to address this challenge beyond the live streaming instruction that will occur.

Quarantined Elementary School Students

In addition to the Google Classroom on which they post the daily assignments, homework, assessments, and related tasks, elementary teachers will post a link to a full-time tutor in the “Banner” for their classes. This tutor will support elementary students (grades K-6) in their grade-level work. Elementary students will not have access to a

“livestream” classroom. Please contact your child’s teacher if you have questions.

Learner Expectations for Students in Quarantine

- Students will be required to use an assigned, district-issued device for remote learning purposes. Techsupport will not be provided for personal devices.
- Students will be expected to complete and submit assigned work during the period of quarantine.
- Secondary students are required to join their classes remotely through Google Meet (livestream) during the period of quarantine unless too ill to do so.
- Elementary students are required to work with the assigned tutor unless too ill to do so.
- Students will communicate with their teachers via email, chat and Google Meet (at the secondary level).
- Students absent for reasons other than COVID-19 may request work and/or work with the teacher to make up work with a reasonable timeframe upon return.

Attendance

Students who are quarantined will receive an excused absence for the days they are quarantined. Students staying home for general illness or unable to attend in person will be recorded as either absent excuses, or absent unexcused, depending on reason provided for such absence and the state definitions of excused and unexcused absences.

Appropriate Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities highly benefit from in person instruction. To that end, consistent with CDC and State of Connecticut, Bureau of Special Education Guidance, student Individual Education Programs (IEP) will be

delivered consistent with the plan. Communication between parents and teachers/related service providers should occur. Outreach to parents will include phone calls, emails, virtual meetings, and possible home visits. Students with disabilities are mandated to follow all established health and safety guidelines.

Remote Learning During Quarantine

Recognizing the ongoing impacts of a post COVID-19 environment, accommodations will be made for students with disabilities who are designated to participate in remote learning due to being quarantined. To accommodate our special education students, all Stratford special education teachers will maintain an active Google Classroom page (or work with general education teacher's page) in which they post the daily assignments, homework, assessments, and related tasks during the quarantine period.

Secondary Special Education Students

Special education students will follow the same directions as general education students for access to the general education curriculum when quarantined. (refer to *"Quarantined Middle and High School Students"* above). In addition, Special Education students will:

- Have the options to receive IEP services (Speech, OT, PT, Social Work and Resource) virtually. Special education staff will update or create the Remote Learning Implementation Models used last year to dictate how services will be adapted during virtual learning due to quarantine. Please note these Learning Implementation Models are living documents and can be adjusted through communication between service providers and families, it is not part of an IEP. It does not need a PPT meeting in order to be adjusted.

Elementary Special Education Students

Special education students will follow the same directions as general education students when quarantined for access to the general education curriculum. (Refer to *"Quarantined Elementary School Students"* above). In addition, Special Education students will:

- Have the options to receive IEP services (Speech, OT, PT, Social Work and Resource) virtually. Special education staff will update or create the Remote Learning Implementation Model used last year to dictate how services will be adapted during virtual learning due to quarantine. Please note these Learning Implementation Models are living documents and can be adjusted through communication between service providers and families, it is not part of an IEP. It does not need a PPT meeting in order to be adjusted.