



# **Aledo ISD Health and Safety Protocols 2022-2023**

Aledo ISD is committed to growing greatness and providing exceptional experiences to all students in a healthy and safe environment. The following protocols are designed to respond to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in our schools and within the requirements issued by the entities that govern school district operations. District officials review data about COVID-19 in our community and state, requirements from state agencies, and guidance from federal, state and local health authorities on a daily basis. We are also in constant review of the impact of COVID-19 on the school district and consider all input from our students, staff and parents.

As always, Aledo ISD works in partnership with parents, staff and our broader community in support of our students, even in the current challenging environment. As the landscape of the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on the operation of our schools changes, the protocols in this document may change as well.

## Seek advice from your personal medical provider

Maintaining close contact with, and seeking regular guidance from, your primary care doctor - whether a pediatrician or family physician - is an important element in maintaining a healthy and safe environment in schools. AISD urges you to seek out and adhere to recommendations from your family's personal physician about health issues, including those related to COVID-19.

## Bearcat Care

Aledo ISD is proud to partner with the Parker County Hospital District (PCHD) to provide Bearcat Care at each of our campuses. The Bearcat Care Service allows for a telemedicine visit with a licensed nurse practitioner or family physician through the nurse's clinic on the school campus. Through collaboration between AISD nursing staff and PCHD medical staff, a thorough exam can be completed, tests like flu, strep and COVID-19 can be administered, and medications can be prescribed to be picked up at a pharmacy of choice. The telemedicine visit with the PCHD physician or nurse practitioner will not initiate until parents have completed the enrollment process and without explicit consent from parents. The Bearcat Care service is available to enrolled students as well as district employees. Both rapid and PCR COVID-19 tests are available. [To learn more about and to register \(students or staff\) for this service, click here.](#)

## Vaccinations

COVID-19 vaccines are available for individuals ages 5 and older. If you are interested in finding a vaccination location, please visit <https://dshs.texas.gov/covidvaccine/> or <https://www.vaccines.gov/>.

Please note that, [per CDC recommendation](#), students who are fully vaccinated and not showing symptoms of COVID-19 do not require any action following close contact with a COVID-positive individual but should monitor symptoms and should take a COVID-19 test 3-5 days following exposure to be sure they are not positive. Anyone - vaccinated or not - with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 should not come to school.

## Lab-Confirmed Positive for COVID-19

If a student or staff member has tested positive for COVID-19, [the parent or staff member should notify the district by using this form](#), also located on the district website.

As provided by the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS), school districts

must exclude students from attending school in person who have or are suspected of having COVID-19. As noted in the rule, exclusion shall continue until the conditions for re-entry are met:

- For children with symptoms, at least 5 days have passed since symptom onset, and fever free, and other symptoms have improved.
- Children who test positive for COVID-19 but do not have any symptoms must stay home until at least 5 days after the day they were tested.

Parents must ensure they do not send a child to school on campus if the child has COVID-19 symptoms or is test confirmed with COVID-19, until the conditions for re-entry are met. If students do test positive, parents shall report positive test results to Aledo ISD at the [2022-2023 COVID Reporting Form here](#).

Student absences for positive COVID tests will be deemed excused absences. Student absences for quarantine due to potential exposure to a COVID-positive individual, or for any reason related to COVID that is not a positive test, will be deemed unexcused.

We encourage you to monitor for symptoms of COVID-19 and to contact your physician as soon as any symptoms may develop. If symptoms develop or if your child tests positive for COVID-19, please update school officials with this information as the return date for quarantine will change. [Such symptomatic conditions or positive test results should be reported at the link available here](#).

## Notifications

As required by the state, Aledo ISD will notify the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) and the Parker County Local Health Authority of any individual who was in an AISD facility and has reported to the district that they have tested positive for COVID-19.

The AISD will maintain a COVID-19 positive chart for all campuses with each classroom (by class period for secondary campuses) as well as each extracurricular activity and grade level. In the chart, you will see the last date an individual who has reported to the Aledo ISD as being COVID-19 positive was in class in that classroom/extracurricular activity. If there is no date listed, that means there has not been a COVID-19 positive person in that classroom in the last 10 calendar days. The summary page of your student's schedule in the Ascender Parent Portal lists classroom numbers for your student.

The AISD will provide the following notices to parents via email:

- Notice of required isolation and return date to any parent who reports that their child has tested positive for COVID-19.

## **Excused Absences**

Any absence due to COVID-19 close contact or positive test is an excused absence. We ask that you [fill out this form where you will indicate that your child will be absent and why](#) to help ensure that your child's absence is counted as excused. Please also email your child's teacher(s) to let them know the length of time your child will miss school. Please note: Our attendance system defaults to mark all absences as unexcused. Our staff manually changes absences to excused based on our COVID-19 reporting, doctors notes, etc., and this process can take 1-2 days.