

# Parent/Guardian and Staff Guidance for Return to School after COVID-19 Like Symptoms

Westfield Public Schools 2020-2021 School Year

1. If a student or staff member has COVID-19-like symptoms, they may return to school after:

- They have **tested negative** for COVID-19 **with documentation**
  - Have improvement in symptoms
- AND**
- Fever\* free (less than 100.0) for at least 24 hours prior to their return to school **without** the use of fever reducing medication.

2. If a student or staff member presents COVID-19-like symptoms and chooses not to be tested, they may return to school:

- **10 days** from the start of symptoms
  - Have improvement in symptoms
- AND**
- Fever\* free (less than 100.0) for at least 24 hours prior to their return to school **without** the use of fever reducing medication.

3. If a provider makes an alternative diagnosis for the COVID-19-like symptoms (ie: influenza, strep, etc.), the student or staff member may return to school:

- Based on the recommendations for that alternative diagnosis by their provider **with written documentation.**

*\*Definition of COVID-19 related fever • Over the summer, the threshold for a COVID-19 related fever by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has been updated from greater than 100.4°F to greater than 100.0°F. As a result, going forward, a fever as a COVID-19 symptom will be defined as 100.0°F or higher.*

**\*\*See reverse for a list of possible Covid-19 symptoms.**

## Possible COVID-19 Symptoms

- Fever (100.0 F or higher), chills, or shaking chills
- Persistent cough (not due to other known causes, such as chronic cough)
- Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Headache, *when in combination with other symptoms*
- Muscle aches or body aches
- Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea
- Fatigue, *when in combination with other symptoms*
- Nasal congestion or runny nose (not due to other known causes such as allergies) *when in combination with other symptoms*