

BEXAR County Health Authority

Health Directive

Dated August 10, 2021

Recognizing that open and safe schools are vital to community health, and that COVID-19 continues to present an ongoing public health threat due to the widely circulating and highly contagious Delta variant, the Local Health Authority for Bexar County and the City of San Antonio issues this Directive pursuant to the Texas Health & Safety Code §81.082, imposing requirements on all public and private schools (“Schools”) offering instruction to students in any grades from pre-kindergarten through grade 12, effective immediately:

Universal indoor masking. Schools shall follow the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations for universal indoor masking and require all students (age 2 and older), staff, teachers, and visitors to K-12 schools, regardless of vaccination status, to wear a face mask indoors.

CDC Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in K-12 Schools:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/k-12-guidance.html>

Close contacts. Schools shall notify the student’s parents or guardians when the school learns that a student was in [close contact](#), as defined by the CDC, with a COVID-19 positive individual on campus or during a school-related event.

Unvaccinated individuals who are determined to be in close contact with a COVID-19 positive person shall quarantine for 14 days after their last contact with a person who has COVID-19, as recommended by the CDC. Students, staff, teachers, and visitors shall remain off campus and not attend any school-sponsored events during their quarantine period.

CDC Guidance for When to Quarantine:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/quarantine.html>

Fully vaccinated individuals should get tested 3-5 days after their exposure even if they don’t have symptoms and wear a mask in indoor public spaces for 14 days. Fully vaccinated individuals need not quarantine.

I believe this directive includes appropriate control measures based on current knowledge, including the risk for rapid spread of COVID-19 variants in congregate settings such as schools, the current unavailability of a COVID-19 vaccine for persons under the age of 12, and potential effects on adults, particularly the unvaccinated and immunocompromised, in households with school-age children.

This directive is issued under my authority as the Local Health Authority for Bexar County and the City of San Antonio on this the ___10th___ day of August 2021.



C. Junda Woo, MD, MPH
Bexar County Health Authority