

# Goodrich Independent School District

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## District Nurse's Office

Eugenia Whittenburg, RN, District Nurse  
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Dear Parents,

Based upon the fluent nature of the current COVID infection rate and updated guidance as of **August 10, 2022 from TEA**, students will follow the newly revised guidelines. Our school continues to closely monitor the spread of the coronavirus and other reportable illnesses. Our main priority is to keep our students, faculty, and staff healthy and safe. We want to assure you that we are taking the necessary precautions so that our students are protected. Per GA-38 school systems cannot require students or staff to wear masks. Although masks are not required, they are allowed and recommended. We will continue to monitor all the information provided by the Texas Education Agency, CDC, and federal, state, and local health officials and respond accordingly as it pertains to preventing the spread of COVID-19 and other reportable illnesses. The CDC has recommended new Covid guidelines for a 5-day return to school from the date the symptoms started or the student tests positive for the virus if no symptoms. The day symptoms start or the student tests positive, whichever comes first, is day zero. Other illness return to school criteria varies, see the school nurse for questions or concerns. Please report all illness directly to the school nurse or you can use the online form located under the nurses station department tab.

Mild illness is common in pediatric coronavirus cases. Most present with symptoms of upper respiratory infection. Significant symptoms, which may affect ability to learn and risk spreading of coronavirus to others, might be:

- Fever of 100.0 F per CDC
- New uncontrolled cough that causes shortness of breath or difficulty breathing (for students with chronic allergies/asthmatic cough, a change in baseline of underlying illness)
- New onset of severe headache, especially with fever
- Nausea/vomiting, diarrhea, or abdominal pain
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell
- New onset of fatigue
- Congestion/runny nose
- New onset of muscle or body aches

**Any students—who themselves are lab-confirmed to have COVID-19 must stay home for the first 5 days. Call the school nurse for the approved return date. Any student with symptoms of an illness and/or fever should stay home and contact the school nurse. The school nurse will screen students to determine if the below conditions for campus re-entry have been met. See the school nurse for clearance to return to school.**

**Any student who experiences the symptoms of COVID-19 (listed above) or other illness while on school campus will be evaluated by the nurse and handled accordingly with parent involvement.**

**Per TEA Guidelines:**

1. If your student is actively sick with COVID-19, is suspected of being actively sick with COVID-19, or has received a positive test result for COVID-19 even without symptoms, keep your child home and notify the school nurse. (Nurse's office 936-365-1100 ext 142)

**Conditions for re-entry to school are:**

2. At least 24 hours have passed since fever (resolution of fever **without** the use of fever-reducing medications);
3. The student has improvement in symptoms (e.g. cough, shortness of breath). *\*Loss of taste and smell may persist for weeks or months after recovery and need not delay the return to school.*
4. At least 5 days have passed since symptoms first appeared. Contact the school nurse before sending your student back to school.

**Students who have symptoms of a spreadable illness or fever and who are not evaluated by a medical professional or tested for COVID-19, should stay home and contact the school nurse. Notes from medical professionals outside the school or positive lab confirmed tests are encouraged when missing multiple days of school for illnesses when accounting for student attendance.**

**You can report an illness to the school nurse by calling the nurse or filling out the form online in the Nurse's Station located under the departments tab on the Goodrich ISD website.**

If you have any questions or concerns regarding whether or not your student should stay home, please contact me at **(936) 365-1100 ext. 142.**

Thank you in advance,

***Nurse Gina***

Eugenia Whittenburg RN  
District Nurse  
Goodrich ISD