

# COVID-19: Underlying Health Conditions in Children

## *Boscobel Area Schools*

Updated 1/19/22

If your student has any underlying health conditions, please contact your child's healthcare provider or specialist for guidance to help determine if your child can safely return to in-person learning. It is important for you and your child's healthcare provider to consider the district's COVID-19 protocols and mitigation measures when making this decision. The school is working to reduce the transmission risk for COVID-19, but any plan for in-person learning comes with some inherent risk of contracting the disease.

The district will offer only in-person learning, but students with significant underlying health issues will be considered through 504 or special education avenues.

People of any age with certain underlying medical conditions are at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19. If you are unsure whether your child is at higher risk, talk to your child's healthcare provider or visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/people-with-medical-conditions.html>.

You can reach the school nurse by email (at [nurse@boscobel.k12.wi.us](mailto:nurse@boscobel.k12.wi.us)) or by phone (at 375-4165, #2) for questions or concerns.

### **Children with Certain Underlying Conditions**

Children with certain conditions may be at increased risk for severe illness. Children who are medically complex, who have serious genetic, neurologic, metabolic disorders, or have congenital (since birth) heart disease might be at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19. Similar to adults, children with obesity, diabetes, asthma and chronic lung disease, or immunosuppression might be at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19.

### **Actions to Take:**

- Give medicines as prescribed for your child's underlying conditions.
- Call your child's healthcare provider if you have concerns, or to discuss your child's specific conditions or risk for severe illness from COVID-19.
- Well-child visits and vaccines are still important during the COVID-19 pandemic. Stay in contact with your child's healthcare provider and make sure your child is up to date with vaccines to prevent other diseases. Learn more about how to protect your children during the COVID-19 pandemic at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/children.html>
- If you don't have a healthcare provider, contact your nearest community health care center or your local public health department.

### **Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children**

Multisystem inflammatory syndrome in children (MIS-C) is a condition where different body parts can become inflamed, including the heart, lungs, kidneys, brain, skin, eyes, or gastrointestinal organs. We do not yet know what causes MIS-C. However, we know that many children with MIS-C had the virus that causes COVID-19, or had been around someone with COVID-19. MIS-C can be serious, but most children who were diagnosed with this condition have gotten better with medical care. For more information, go to: <https://www.cdc.gov/mis/mis-c.html>.