COVID-19 RESPONSE SCENARIOS IN A SCHOOL SETTING

2021-22 School Year
For School Nurses and Educational Leaders

As of August 1, 2021
in collaboration with Placer County Public Health
This document provides details and templates to support schools in implementing the recommended guidance issued by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) for K-12 Schools in California. Consult with Placer County Public Health if needed.

## Symptoms of Illness

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scenario</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Communication</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| A student or staff member exhibits symptoms of COVID-19 which cannot be explained by an underlying chronic condition documented by a healthcare provider (e.g., allergies or asthma). | Send student or staff home.  
Consult with School Nurse.  
Recommend testing through a health care provider or other testing site. Testing is recommended for symptomatic individuals regardless of vaccination status.  
If COVID-19 test is positive, see Scenario 3. If COVID-19 test is negative, see Scenario 4.  
If a symptomatic student or staff does not receive confirmatory testing, but is a close contact of a confirmed case, treat as a probable case using Scenario 3.  
If no test is performed, isolation continues for minimum of 10 days from symptom onset AND 24 hours fever-free without fever-reducing medication AND improvement in symptoms. | Letter to student families and/or staff who were sent home with instructions for next steps.**  
Template for Scenario 1 |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCENARIO</th>
<th>ACTION</th>
<th>COMMUNICATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A student or staff member has been in close contact (more than 15 minutes over a 24-hour period with 0-6 feet indoors) with someone who tests positive for COVID-19.</td>
<td>• Student or staff report information to school administration.   • Consult with School Nurse.</td>
<td>Letter to student families and/or staff. May require additional follow up communication depending on verification of vaccination status and/or surveillance test results.**</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>See attached diagram.</strong></td>
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<td>“CDPH (Technical Assistance) has clarified that outdoor exposures can follow the same protocol as they would for indoor exposures.”</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>IF VACCINATED:</td>
<td>Templates for Scenario 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• No quarantine needed if asymptomatic.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Monitor symptoms for 14 days after exposure. (Refer to CDPH Fully Vaccinated People Guidance for more information.)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• If symptoms develop, send home to isolate and get tested.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>IF UNVACCINATED (OR UNKNOWN/UNCONFIRMED):</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Both positive case and close contact wearing mask:</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Eligible for modified 10-day quarantine to attend school but quarantine from extracurricular activities if they meet all of the following criteria:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Remain asymptomatic (If symptoms develop, send home to isolate and get tested.)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Continue to mask, as required.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Undergo testing at least 2x per week during 10-day quarantine.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Continue to quarantine from ALL extracurriculars (including athletics, band, etc.) and activities in community.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>If criteria for modified quarantine not met or vaccination status cannot be verified, standard quarantine guidance below applies.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Positive case or close contact not wearing a mask:</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Send all parties home.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• If they remain asymptomatic, quarantine may end after day 10 from last date of exposure without testing, OR after day 7 if a diagnostic specimen is collected after day 5 from the date of last exposure and</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
A student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19.

*This scenario is also recommended for probable cases (close contacts who become symptomatic but do not receive confirmatory testing).

- Consult with School Nurse.
- Report information to school administration.
- **Ensure case is ENTERED IN SPOT.**
- Isolate case and exclude from school for minimum 10 days from symptom onset or if asymptomatic, 10 days from test date.
- Identify potential close contacts (more than 15 minutes over a 24-hour period with 0-6 feet indoors) based on the last date case was present at school while infectious, and follow Scenario 2.
- If a facility has had a sick person with COVID-19 within the last 24 hours, clean AND disinfect the spaces occupied by that person during that time.

Phone call and letter to students, families and staff.**

[Templates for Scenario 3]
A student or staff member tests negative for COVID-19.

<table>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td><strong>NEGATIVE COVID-19 TEST</strong></td>
<td>• Consult with School Nurse. Negative test after symptoms, but with no close contact or exposure regardless of vaccination status: Student or staff may return to in-person instruction when 24 hours have passed since resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications; AND other symptoms have improved.</td>
<td>Negative test after close contact or exposure if unvaccinated/unverified vaccination status and one or more parties not wearing mask: Quarantine may end if asymptomatic after day 7 (compared to day 10) if a diagnostic specimen was collected after day 5 from the date of last exposure and tests negative. If symptomatic, quarantine should not be shortened. No action needed. See templates for Scenario 2 and 3 as needed.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Important References:

- Placer County School Admin ONLY
  - CDPH Technical Assistance for questions about state guidance: https://caschoolsopening.powerappsportals.us/incident-report/
  - Placer County email for general guidance, clusters and outbreaks, and/or other school related questions: caseinvestigation@placer.ca.gov

- CA Safe Schools For All Hub
- Placer County COVID-19 Schools website
- CDPH COVID-19 Public Health Guidance for K-12 Schools in California, 2021-22 School Year (Issued July 12, 2021)
- Guidance for Face Coverings (Issued June 15, 2021)
- Face Coverings Q&A (Issued June 15, 2021)
- Quarantine and Isolation Guidance

**For letters to student families and/or staff, maintain confidentiality as required under FERPA and state law related to privacy of educational records.

Quarantine vs Isolation:

*Quarantine* is for people who have been exposed to COVID-19, and who could become infected and spread the disease to others. See quarantine guidance and additional CDPH guidance.

Isolation is used for people who are currently infected and able to spread the disease and who need to stay away from others in order to avoid infecting them. See isolation guidance.

Please note, any reference to “days” throughout this document is intended as calendar days.
Close Contact to Positive COVID-19 Case

Vaccinated close contact

- No quarantine needed if asymptomatic. Monitor symptoms for 14 days after exposure. (Refer to CDPH Fully Vaccinated People Guidance for more information.)
- If any symptoms develop during this 14-day period, isolate, get tested, and contact healthcare provider with any questions regarding care.

Unvaccinated close contact

- Case and close contact both wearing a mask
  - Asymptomatic close contact
    - Eligible for modified 10 day quarantine to attend school but quarantine from extracurricular activities if:
      1. Remain asymptomatic
      2. Continue to mask, as required
      3. Undergo at least twice weekly testing during 10 day quarantine
      4. Continue to quarantine from all extracurriculars and activities in community.
    - If still asymptomatic, quarantine may end:
      1. After day 10 from last date of exposure without testing
      2. After day 7 if a diagnostic specimen is collected after Day 5 from the date of last exposure and tests negative.

  - Symptomatic close contact (if symptoms develop w/in 14 days of exposure)
    - Isolate, get tested, and contact healthcare provider with any questions regarding care.

- Case and/or close contact NOT wearing a mask
  - Asymptomatic close contact
    - Quarantine from all activities, including in-person learning and community activities.
  - Symptomatic close contact (if symptoms develop w/in 14 days of exposure)
    - Isolate, get tested, and contact healthcare provider with any questions regarding care.

FOR ALL CLOSE CONTACTS:
- If quarantine discontinues before 14 days following last known exposure, asymptomatic close contacts must:
  i. Continue daily self-monitoring for symptoms through Day 14 from last known exposure; AND
  ii. Follow all recommended non-pharmaceutical interventions (e.g., wearing a mask when around others, hand washing, avoiding crowds) through Day 14 from last known exposure.

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2021-22 School Year, Version 1.0