

COVID-19 SCHOOL EXCLUSION GUIDANCE

Decision Tree for Schools

Send home or deny entry if **ANY** of the following symptoms are present:

Fever (100.4°F or higher) **OR** loss of taste and/or smell **OR** two or more of the following symptoms: fatigue, headache, muscle/body aches, chills, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, congestion/runny nose, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain. This is in addition to [general infectious disease exclusion guidance](#). Parents of children who are ill should contact their child's health care provider. **When there is more community transmission, the likelihood that individuals with symptoms actually have COVID-19 is higher. Therefore, symptom screenings may be more helpful when COVID-19 transmission in the community is high. Parents/caregivers should be encouraged to monitor their children for signs of infectious illness every day.**

Child is ill, but has seen a health care provider:

Tested for COVID-19 *c

Stay home awaiting test results. If **positive**, stay home at least 10 calendar days from onset of symptoms (or collection date of test if no symptoms) **and** for 24 hours with no fever (without the use of medication) **and** improvement of symptoms – **whichever is longer**. If **negative**, stay home until fever-free for 24 hours (without the use of medication) and feeling better.

Clinically diagnosed (not tested) with COVID-19 *c

Stay home at least 10 calendar days from onset of symptoms **and** for 24 hours with no fever **and** improvement of symptoms – **whichever is longer**.

Child has a diagnosis from a health care provider of an illness besides COVID-19 (e.g., norovirus, strep throat) d

Follow provider directions/ recommended treatment & return guidance. Follow the [Child Care and School Infectious Disease Guidance](#).

Students and staff who tested positive for COVID-19 in the past three months do not need to quarantine if identified as a close contact within 3 months of a positive test.

If both the case and their close contacts were wearing a mask at all times during exposure, then the close contacts would not need to quarantine.

c (Teal Box) = COVID-19
d (Green box) = Other symptoms

Child is ill, but has not seen a health care provider:

Symptoms listed above c

Stay home at least 10 calendar days from onset **and** for 24 hours with no fever **and** improvement of symptoms – **whichever is longer**.

Other symptoms not consistent with COVID-19 d

Follow the [Child Care and School Infectious Disease Guidance](#).

Child was identified by public health as a close contact to someone with covid-19:

Regardless if symptoms present or not x

May quarantine for the full 14-day quarantine period **OR** if you remain symptom-free, you may reduce your quarantine period from 14 days to 10 days. If you receive a negative result from a COVID test, you can reduce your quarantine to seven days. Your test can be collected no earlier than 48 hours prior to your quarantine release date, so the earliest you can be tested is day six from your last exposure date.

x (Blue Box) = Close Contact.

* Siblings & household contacts to a confirmed COVID-19 case will need to monitor themselves and quarantine during the case's infectious period (this is typically 10 days) AND for their designated quarantine periods. Quarantine will end 14, 10, or 7 days after the case's infectious period ends.

-It is recommended that you quarantine for 14 days from your last exposure to someone who tested positive for COVID-19.

-You may be released from quarantine AFTER DAY 10 if you remain symptom free.

-You may be released from quarantine AFTER DAY 7 if you remain symptom free and test negative for COVID 19 (the test cannot be administered more than 48 hours prior to release).