COVID-19 Response Guidance for Schools

Version 3.0 | Revised 1.21.2022 | Developed in consultation with Humboldt County Public Health

Note: This document replaces and supersedes the document titled "COVID-19 Positive Test in School."

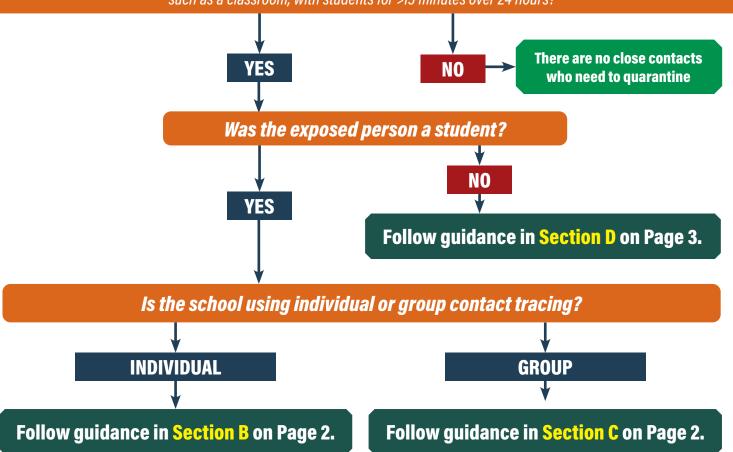
Section A: A person tests positive for COVID-19

Regardless of vaccination status or symptoms, the person must:

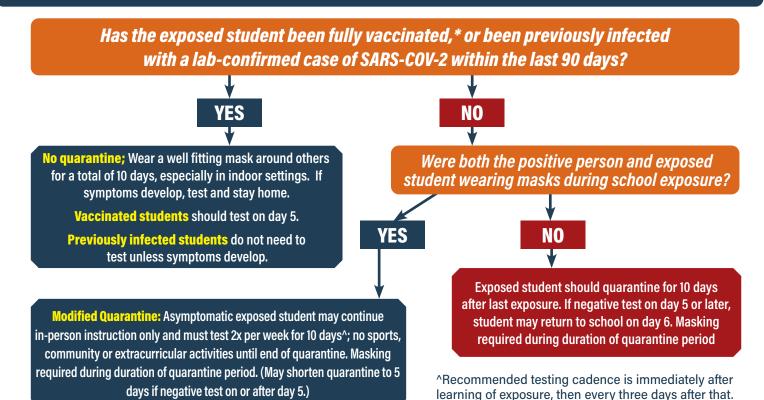
- ► Stay home for at least 5 days.
- ▶ Isolation can end after day 5 and person may return to school/work on day 6 if:
 - Symptoms are not present or are resolving; and
 - ▶ a test* collected on day 5 or later is negative.
- ▶ If unable to test, choosing not to test, or testing positive on day 5, and no symptoms, isolation can end after day 10.
- ▶ If fever is present, isolation should be continued until fever resolves for at least 24 hours without use of fever-reducing medications.
- ▶ If symptoms, other than fever, are not resolving continue to isolate until symptoms are resolving or until after day 10.
- ▶ Wear a well-fitting mask around others for a total of 10 days, especially in indoor settings
 - *Antigen test preferred. Home tests are not acceptable for return to work/school.

Did the positive person expose anyone else at school?

Was the person within 6 feet of anyone else for >15 minutes over a 24-hour period within 48 hours before symptom onset or positive test? In a **group tracing environment**, did the person share an indoor space, such as a classroom, with students for >15 minutes over 24 hours?



Section B: School is using individual tracing



Section C: School is using group tracing

- ▶ All students who were in the same shared indoor space (e.g., a classroom) for >15 minutes over 24 hours with a confirmed case are considered part of the exposed group, regardless of vaccination status or recent previous infection.
- ► Exposed students, regardless of vaccination status or recent previous infection, should test at least once on day 3-5 after exposure.
- ▶ Exposed students who participate in testing may continue to take part in all school activities, including sports and other extracurricular activities, as long as they test negative and do not develop symptoms.
- Exposed students who remain in school and extra-curricular activities should otherwise follow home quarantine instructions and wear a well fitted mask in all public places.
- Students who show symptoms of COVID-19 should stay home until CDPH criteria is met:
 - ▶ At least 24 hours have passed since fever subsides (without fever-reducing medication);
 - ▶ Other symptoms have improved/subsided; and
 - ▶ Student has a negative COVID-19 test or healthcare provider has confirmed an alternative diagnosis.
- ▶ Students who do not participate in testing should quarantine at home for 10 days after last exposure. Masking is required during duration of quarantine period.
- Any student who tests positive should isolate at home and follow the guidelines of Section A on Page 1.
- **Exception:** If an unvaccinated student and the positive person were not both wearing masks during exposure, the unvaccinated exposed student should quarantine for 10 days, the same as in Section B. If negative test on day 5 or later, student may return to school on day 6. Masking is required for the duration of quarantine period.

Section D: Exposed person was NOT a student

A person who is boosted, vaccinated but not booster-eligible, or was positive in the past 90 days*:

- Does not need to quarantine
- ► Test on day 5.
- ▶ Wear a well-fitting mask around others for 10 days, especially in indoor settings.
- ▶ If testing positive, follow isolation recommendations.
- ▶ If symptoms develop, test and stay home.

A person who is booster-eligible but has not received a booster yet*:

- ▶ In a workplace setting, asymptomatic employees in this category may come to work as long as:
 - ▶ A negative diagnostic test is obtained within 3-5 days after last exposure to a case
 - ▶ Employee wears a well-fitting mask around others for a total of 10 days
 - ► Employee continues to have no symptoms.
- ► In all other settings, the person should quarantine as described below. Quarantine can end on day 5 with a negative test on or after day 5.

All others:

- ▶ Stay home for at least 5 days after last contact with a person who has COVID-19.
- ► Test on day 5.
- Quarantine can end after day 5 if symptoms are not present and a diagnostic specimen collected on day 5 or later tests negative.
- ▶ If unable to test or choosing not to test, **and** no symptoms, quarantine can end after day 10.
- ▶ Wear a well-fitting mask around others for a total of 10 days, especially in indoor settings.
- ▶ If testing positive, follow isolation recommendations.
- ▶ If symptoms develop, test and stay home.

Section E: A person (staff or student) was exposed outside of supervised school setting

Vaccinated* student: Does not need to quarantine; test on day 5. Wear a well-fitting mask around others for 10 days, especially in indoor settings. If testing positive, follow isolation recommendations. If symptoms develop, test and stay home.

Non-vaccinated student: Exposed student should quarantine for 10 days after last exposure. If negative test on day 5 or later, student may return to school on day 6.

Staff: Follow Section D guidelines above.

***Vaccination Definitions**

Fully vaccinated for **students** means it has been **at least 2 weeks** since their second dose. Students **do not need to be boosted** to be considered vaccinated, even if they are eligible.

An **employee** is fully vaccinated if it has been **at least 2 weeks** since their second dose of a Pfizer or Moderna vaccine, or since their first dose of a J&J vaccine.

An **employee** is booster-eligible if it has been more than **5 months** since second Pfizer or Moderna vaccine, or more than **2 months** since initial J&J vaccine.

Antigen Tests preferred for ending isolation/quarantine. Home tests are not acceptable for shortened quarantine, shortened isolation, modified quarantine, or return to work/school.