### School Guidance When a Student, Teacher, or Staff Member is Symptomatic, a Close Contact, or Diagnosed with COVID-19

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scenario</th>
<th>Immediate Action</th>
<th>Follow Up</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>COVID-19 Symptoms</strong></td>
<td>Send home and advise contact with primary care provider for recommendations regarding need for testing. If not available through their primary care provider, testing is available through CCHS. If negative COVID-19 test result or COVID-19 ruled out by primary care provider (something else other than COVID-19 infection is reason for symptoms), can return 24 hours after fever resolves and symptoms start improving. If not tested and does not see primary care provider to identify cause of symptoms, can return to school 10 days after symptom onset. If symptomatic and a known contact to a positive case, refer to the “Contact to COVID19 – Symptomatic” instructions below.</td>
<td>School/classroom remains open. Notification of cohort in this scenario is at the discretion of each institution and not required by CDPH or CCHS. No notification of CCHS is required.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Negative COVID-19 Test Result</strong></td>
<td>If no symptoms and not a contact to a COVID-19 positive individual, may return to school. If symptoms present, may return to school after 24 hours of symptom improvement and no fever (without the use of fever-reducing medication).</td>
<td>Remain open. Notification of cohort in this scenario is at the discretion of each institution and not required by CDPH or CCHS. No notification of CCHS required.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Positive COVID-19 Test Result</strong></td>
<td>Must isolate at home regardless of vaccination status. The timelines for returning are: • <em>With symptoms:</em> May return after 10 days have passed since start of symptoms, as long as symptoms are</td>
<td>CCHS Notification: 1. Notify CCHS using the Schools Intake Form 2. CCHS Schools or Locations Case Investigator will follow up</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Testing recommended no sooner than 5-7 days after exposure to a COVID-19 positive individual.*
improving and there is no fever for 24 hours (without fever-reducing medication).

- **Without symptoms**: May return after 10 days have passed since the date of positive COVID-19 test. If symptoms develop during isolation period, may return 10 days after test if symptoms are improving and no fever for 24 hours (without fever-reducing medication).

No repeat testing required to return to school.

**Next Steps:**
1. Identify close contacts and proceed with case notification.
   a. CCHS has a sample script for case interviews and sample template notification letters for students and staff who have been exposed.
2. **Quarantine and exclude exposed contacts** as described in the two rows below. The last date the case was present at school while infectious is Day 0.
3. Recommend testing* of contacts, but testing negative will not shorten home quarantine period.

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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Close Contact** to COVID-19 and No Symptoms</th>
<th>Close Contact** to COVID-19 and Symptomatic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Close contact is a person within 6 feet of a case for more than 15 minutes, regardless of face coverings</strong></td>
<td>If contact is not fully-vaccinated (or vaccination status unknown) and not a recent case, must <strong>quarantine at home</strong> for 10 days and symptom monitor Day 11-14 after the last known close contact with the positive case, whether tested or untested. Testing is highly recommended, but a negative test does not release one from quarantine. Symptoms can develop even after testing negative within 14 days after exposure, so strict adherence to quarantine is required. Testing is recommended no sooner than 5-7 days after exposure to a COVID-19 positive individual.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If contact is fully-vaccinated† or had recent COVID-19 infection‡ may not need to quarantine or get tested if no symptoms.§ If symptoms develop, isolate at home and contact provider about recent close contact, the development of new symptoms, and COVID vaccination/illness history.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>If contact is not fully-vaccinated (or vaccination status unknown) and not a recent case, must <strong>quarantine at home</strong> for 10 days and symptom monitor Day 11-14 after the last known close contact with the positive case, whether tested or untested. Testing is highly recommended, but a negative test does not release one from quarantine. Symptoms can develop even after testing negative within 14 days after exposure, so strict adherence to quarantine is required. Testing is recommended no sooner than 5-7 days after exposure to a COVID-19 positive individual. No notification of CCHS is required.</td>
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Revised April 2, 2021
**Close contact is a person within 6 feet of a case for more than 15 minutes, regardless of face coverings**

positive case. Testing is highly recommended and if completed and returns positive, refer to actions and follow up for “Positive COVID-19.” If test is negative, must complete 10-day home quarantine and symptom monitor Day 11-14.

If close contact is fully-vaccinated\(^\dagger\) or had COVID-19 recently\(^\ddagger\) but now has symptoms, quarantine at home for 14 days and contact provider about recent close contact, the development of new symptoms, and COVID vaccination/illness history.

- CDPH School Guidance Document
- CDPH Coronavirus Page
- Contra Costa Coronavirus Schools Guidance Page
- CCHS Quarantine and Isolation Instructions
- Template Letter for School Community Notification of a Case
- Template Letters to Notify of Exposure:
  - Staff
  - Student

CCHS Contacts:
- CCHS School Intake Form
- CCHS Schools Team Email: covid.schools@cchealth.org
- CCHS General Covid Information Hotline: (844) 729-8410
- CCHS COVID Schools Liaison Hotline: (925) 608-5315

\(^\dagger\)Fully-vaccinated: At least two weeks have passed since completion of a 1-dose or 2-dose COVID vaccine series. [https://813dcad3-2b07-4f3f-a25e-23c48c566922.filesusr.com/ugd/84606e_dff21b160a0c44398c289fd50090c442.pdf](https://813dcad3-2b07-4f3f-a25e-23c48c566922.filesusr.com/ugd/84606e_dff21b160a0c44398c289fd50090c442.pdf)

\(^\ddagger\)For a person who was previously diagnosed with symptomatic, lab-confirmed COVID-19, quarantine not recommended if this exposure was within 90 days of COVID-19 symptom onset. For a person who was previously diagnosed with asymptomatic, lab-confirmed COVID-19, quarantine not recommended if this exposure was within 90 days of positive-test result.

\(^*\)Employers should follow current CalOSHA requirements for employees who are close contacts, which may require exclusion from the workplace for 10 days, regardless of vaccination or past infection status.

* Testing recommended no sooner than 5-7 days after exposure to a COVID-19 positive individual.

** Close contact is anyone within 6 feet of a case for more than 15 minutes in a 24-hour period, regardless of face coverings.

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