COVID-19 K-12 Decision Trees

Updated on September 17, 2021





Symptom and Isolation Tree

When a school becomes aware of a positive case on campus, the district/school liaison must contact public health at 888-950-9905 to report the case. For questions on exposures, symptoms, or other related questions, call the Epidemiology School Line at 619-692-8636 and leave a message.



Close Contact and Quarantine Tree





when required for guarantine.

This document reflects guidance from the California Department of Public Health and county public health orders.

Day 5

Return on

Day 8 with a

negative test

on or after

Dav 5

NO

YES

YES

Addendum on Quarantine



- Quarantine keeps someone who might have been exposed to the virus away from others.
- Isolation keeps someone who is infected with the virus away from others, even in their home.

Who needs to quarantine?

- People who have been in **close contact** with someone who has COVID-19 excluding people who have had COVID-19 within the past three months or **who are fully vaccinated**.
- People who have tested positive for COVID-19 within the past three months and recovered do not have to quarantine or get tested again as long as they do not develop new symptoms.
 - People who develop symptoms again within three months of their first bout of COVID-19 should follow their doctor's advice on testing.
- People who have been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19 are not required to quarantine if they have been <u>fully vaccinated</u> against the disease and show no symptoms.

What counts as close contact?

- Being within 6 feet of someone who has COVID-19 for a total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period
- Providing care at home to someone who is sick with COVID-19
- Having direct physical contact with the person (hugged or kissed them)
- Sharing eating or drinking utensils
- Being sneezed on, coughed on, or somehow getting respiratory droplets on you from someone with COVID-19

Additional requirements for quarantine for return to school or work before completing 14 days of quarantine:

- The number of days required for quarantine is counted from the day after the person's last close contact with a person who is contagious with COVID-19.
- People are contagious from 2 days before symptoms begin or positive test result, whichever is earlier, until 10 days after.
- If symptoms occur, the individual should immediately self-isolate and contact their health care provider or San Diego County Public Health Services and seek testing.

ADULTS (non-students)

Return on Day 15: No additional requirements.

Return on Day 11: May return if the individual is able to abide by the additional requirements described below.

Return on Day 8: Provide evidence that a diagnostic specimen collected on or after Day 5 (from the date of last exposure) is negative.

Additional Requirements: In addition, for return before Day 14, the employee must agree to self monitor for symptoms, maintain 6 feet of physical distancing at all times, and wear a face covering over their nose and mouth as required. If these requirements cannot or will not be met, 14-day quarantine is required. Staff members who would be near others who have severe immunosuppressive disorder (e.g., bone marrow or solid organ transplant, chemotherapy) must quarantine for 14 days.

***NOTE:** In consultation with the CDPH and Cal/OSHA, the County of San Diego has authorized the 7-day quarantine option (return on day 8) for use by school employees.

STUDENTS

Return on Day 11: Testing on or after Day 5 is recommended but not required. This option may be used with students exposed in any setting.

Return on Day 8: Provide evidence that a diagnostic specimen collected on or after Day 5 (from the date of last exposure) is negative. This option may be used with students exposed in any setting.

Modified Quarantine (remain in school): Remain in school with twice weekly testing. Student must quarantine from all before-school, after-school and weekend activities, and may resume these activities on Day 8 with evidence of a negative test sample collected on or after Day 5. This option may only be used for school setting exposures when the COVID-19 positive person and student close contact were both wearing masks during all contacts with each other within 6 feet, indoors, and outside.

Additional Requirements for the three options listed above: The student must continue daily self-monitoring for symptoms, AND follow all recommended non-pharmaceutical interventions (e.g., wearing a mask indoors, hand washing, avoiding crowds) through Day 14 from last known exposure. Mask use outdoors is also encouraged. If these requirements cannot or will not be met, 14-day quarantine is required.



Addendum on Test Types



Appropriate Test Types:

Molecular Tests

- Lab-based PCR
- Rapid molecular tests (PCR-like)

Antigen Tests

- If symptomatic, a negative antigen test requires molecular test (PCR, LAMP, NAAT) confirmation and individuals should isolate until test results are available.
- If asymptomatic, a positive test requires a confirmation with a molecular test (PCR, LAMP, NAAT) and individuals should isolate until confirmatory test results are available.
- At-home tests cannot be used to satisfy the testing required for quarantine, or for state-mandated testing of employees who have not provided evidence of full vaccination. Tests must be administered by a clinic, lab, or properly trained school employees working under agreement with an ordering physician.

Onsite Rapid Tests

• When a point of care test (school administered antigen test or rapid molecular test like the Cue) is used for a **person in quarantine who develops symptoms**, the results must be confirmed with a laboratory-based PCR test.

Populations Tested:

- Staff or students with symptoms, regardless of vaccination status
- Unvaccinated students who are close contacts to remain in school for a modified quarantine as described in **CDPH K-12 Guidance**.









