

# Student Symptom Decision Tree

## Low-risk: general symptoms

## High-risk: red flag symptoms



Fever ( $\geq 100.4^{\circ}\text{F}$ )



Sore throat



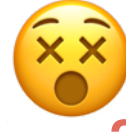
**Cough**



Congestion/runny nose



Headache



**Difficulty breathing**



Nausea/vomiting/diarrhea



Fatigue/muscle or body aches



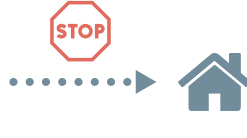
**Loss of taste/smell**

### Exposure to a COVID-19 positive person?

within 6 ft of a COVID + or clinically compatible person for >15 min in a 24 hr period, regardless of masking, and occurring in any location (indoor or outdoor)

## NO

► **1 low risk symptom**

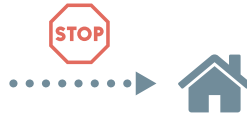


Send home



Return to school 24 hrs after symptom resolution (without fever reducing medication).

►  **$\geq 2$  low risk symptoms OR 1 high risk symptom**



Send home



Consider an evaluation by health care provider

1

Health care provider confirms alternative diagnosis for symptoms. A health care provider's note must be on file. Certified SARS-CoV-2 PCR or Antigen lab-confirmed not needed



Return to school after 24 hrs without fever and symptoms improving

2

**Negative** certified SARS-CoV-2 PCR or Antigen lab-confirmed test



Return to school after 24 hrs without fever and symptoms improving

3

**Positive** certified SARS-CoV-2 PCR or Antigen lab-confirmed test  
**OR**  
No provider visit or test



**Return to school after 10 days since symptom onset and 24 hrs with no fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and other symptoms of COVID improving. Quarantine close contacts of confirmed cases. Contact HCA if questions.**

## YES

(within 6 feet for >15 min in a 24 hr period, regardless of masking)

► **Fully vaccinated or Documented COVID within 90-days**

1

Symptoms\*  
•  $\geq 2$  low-risk or  
1 high-risk symptom



**Isolation for 10 days regardless of testing**  
**Upon return to school, mask indoors and outdoors for 14 days from last exposure**

• For 1 low risk symptom may return to school after 24 hrs & symptoms resolve

2

No Symptoms



• No quarantine  
• Continue to monitor for symptoms through day 14  
• Test\*\* recommended on day 5-7 after date of last exposure  
• No required testing if previously infected within the past 3 months (Lab documented)

► **Not fully vaccinated**

1

Face covering (well-fitting and used correctly) on BOTH infected and exposed person

1

No symptoms



Modified quarantine:

- If no test\*\*, home from school for 10 days
- May attend school in person
- Always wear a mask indoors. Wear a mask outdoors when around others through day 14 from last exposure.
- Tests\*\* 2 x per week for the first 10 days at least 3 days apart
- The exposed student may participate in all required instructional components of the school day, except when masks cannot be worn. No participation in extracurricular activities at school, including sports, is allowed within the community setting.
- May return to extracurricular activities at school on day 8 after the last exposure if test\*\* is negative on/after Day 5.
- May return to extracurricular activities on/after day 11 from last exposure if no test\*\* is taken.

2

Symptoms\* develop  
•  $\geq 2$  low-risk or  
1 high-risk symptom  
  
• for 1 low risk symptom may return to school after 24 hrs & symptom resolution & complete modified quarantine already under way

\*\*All tests must be certified SARS-CoV-2 PCR or Antigen Laboratory Confirmed tests.

2

No face covering on EITHER infected or exposed person

1

Symptoms\*  
•  $\geq 2$  low-risk or  
1 high-risk symptom  
  
• for 1 low risk symptom may return to school after 24 hrs & symptom resolution & complete shortened quarantine already under way



**Isolation for 10 days regardless of test\*\* results**  
**Get a test\*\***  
**Get care**

2

No symptoms



**Shortened quarantine:**

- **May return to school after day 7 (day 8) following a negative test\*\* obtained on or after day 5 from last exposure**
- **Always wear a mask indoors. Wear a mask outdoors when around others through day 14 from last exposure.**
- **If no test\*\* is taken, home from school for 10 days.**
- **The exposed student may participate in all required instructional components of the school day, except when masks cannot be worn. No participation in extracurricular activities at school, including sports, is allowed within the community setting.**
- **May return to extracurricular activities at school on day 8 after the last exposure if test\*\* is negative on/after Day 5.**
- **May return to extracurricular activities on/after day 11 from last exposure if no test\*\* is taken.**

\*\*All tests must be certified SARS-CoV-2 PCR or Antigen Laboratory Confirmed tests.



This care pathway was designed to assist school personnel and is not intended to replace the clinician's judgment or establish a protocol for all patients with a particular condition. Diagnosis and treatment should be under the close supervision of a qualified health care provider, including school nurses. This guidance is based on current evidence and best data at the time of publication. Updates are provided to reflect changes in knowledge about the impact of the disease on children and adolescents (12.04.2021).

For more detailed guidance, see the California Department of Public Health: <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/>