

Protocols for responding to COVID-19 Scenarios

FOLLOWING "DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY
EDUCATION/DPH MEMORANDUM" UPDATE DECEMBER 30, 2021 &

"FLOWCHARTS FOR COVID-19 PROTOCOLS" UPDATE JANUARY 5,
2022

COVID-19 Symptoms to Monitor

- **Fever (100.0° Fahrenheit or higher), chills, or shaking chills**
- **Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath**
- **New loss of taste or smell**
- **Muscle aches or body aches**

- Cough (not due to other known cause, such as chronic cough)
- Sore throat, when in combination with other symptoms
- Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea when in combination with other symptoms
- Headache when in combination with other symptoms
- Fatigue, when in combination with other symptoms
- Nasal congestion or runny nose (not due to other known causes, such as allergies) when in combination with other symptoms

The Health Department will use their best clinical judgement for each case for all sick student reports.

Requests from HCCS

The best way to keep you and your student safe from serious illness related to COVID-19 is to get vaccinated!!!!

Pfizer vaccine is available for students 5 years and older.

If your student has received two doses of the vaccine- please send a copy to the school.

Testing programs offered at the school

BinaxNOW Rapid Antigen testing is available at HCCS.

It is used for:

- Classroom close contacts – **cannot** use this testing for at home exposures.
- symptomatic testing (if your student reports to Nurse Office with MILD symptoms).

How to register: link is provided on Classdojo

PCR COVID-19 POOL testing is available at HCCS

- weekly pool testing
- Students will be swabbed twice
- Results come back in 48-72 hours *with an increased number of nationwide testing, results may be delayed
- How to register: fill out link that is provided on Classdojo and EMAIL nurse at apelchar@hccs-sabis.net

Individual Tests Positive for COVID-19

Stay home in isolation for **5 days**

Day one starts after the TESTING DATE (not when you received the result- unless it was a rapid test).

Requirements:

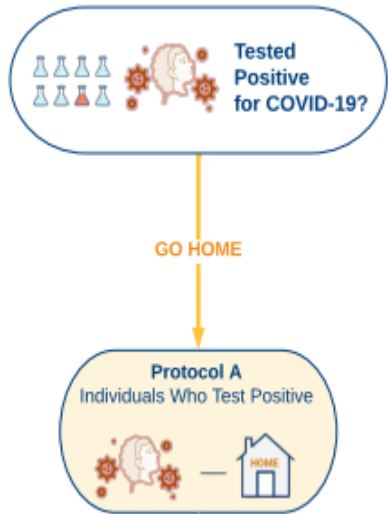
- ✓ **symptoms have greatly improved**
- AND
- ✓ **fever-free without medicine for 24 hours**

THEN, return to school on day 6

If symptoms have not improved and/or there is still a fever on day 6, remain in isolation. Only return to school based on time and symptoms resolution.

Please notify the school- so we can adjust attendance

A negative test result is not required to return. "It is not recommended that individuals take another COVID test prior to return."



Individual Tests Positive for COVID-19 Continued

Upon return, student **MUST** keep their mask on at all times (except breakfast, snack, lunch)

Although the viral load is low after 5 days, they are still shedding the virus for the next 5 days after returning.

Please speak with your child about wearing their mask properly and keeping physical distance away from others.

Close contacts: Who is exempt from quarantine protocols?

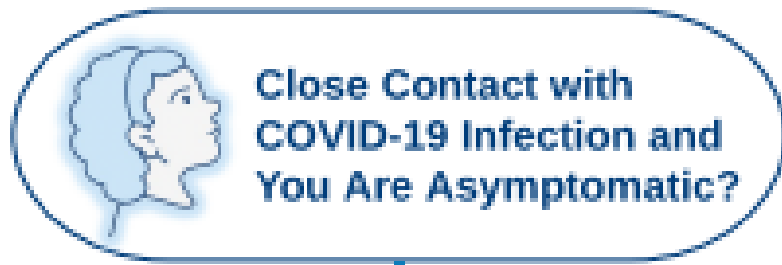
If exposed to COVID-19, close contacts who:

1. Fully vaccinated individuals (2 weeks after last dose) who are NOT EXPERIENCING SYMPTOMS
2. Have tested POSITIVE in the last 90 days who are NOT EXPERIENCING SYMPTOMS

If at ANY TIME the person who was exposed to COVID-19 starts experiencing symptoms- *regardless of vaccination status or diagnosis date*, you need to report to the school, and it is best practice to get tested.

IN SCHOOL

Asymptomatic Close Contacts: Exempt



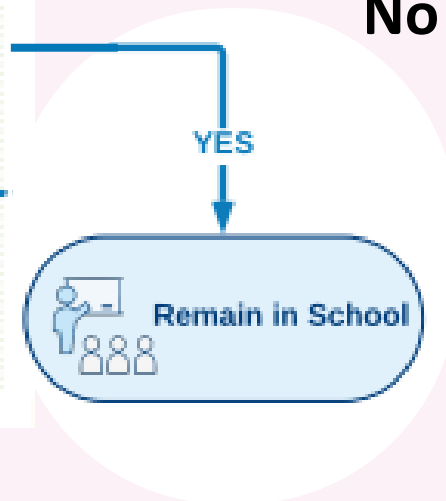
Exempt from Testing and Quarantine:

- *Asymptomatic, fully vaccinated*
- *Classroom close contacts provided both individuals were masked and at least 3 feet apart*
- *Bus close contacts provided individuals were masked and bus windows were open*
- *Had COVID within the past 90 days*

If **YES** to any of these four scenarios, then you stay in school.

No testing required.

No quarantine required.

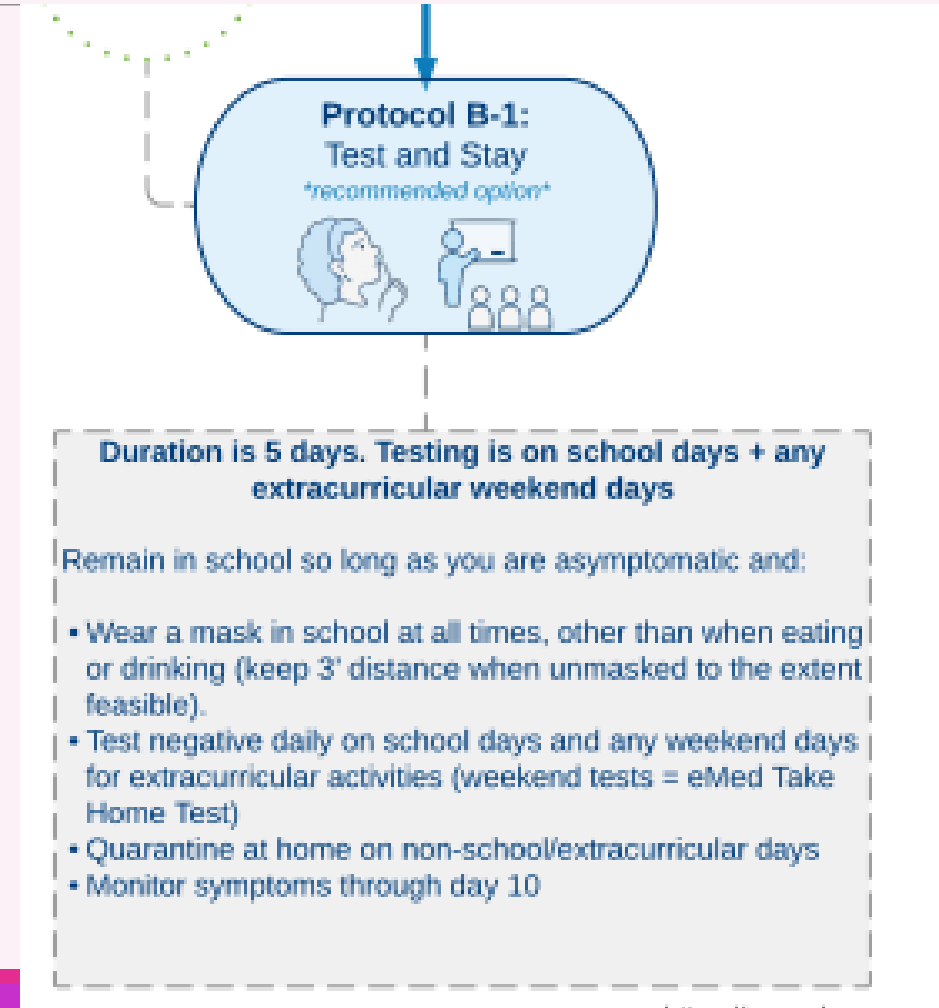


Asymptomatic Close Contacts: Non-Exempt In-school close contact

If your student was identified as a “classroom contact” they are eligible for **TEST & STAY** program

Will be notified of specific students-
Students will be tested for 5 school days (not including weekends)

Students who are fully vaccinated are exempt from Test and Stay
-but can test if requested.



Close Contact Continued:

IF the student who has been identified as a close contact develops symptoms during the 5day Test and Stay duration OR the 10-day initial exposure, they will be sent home.

It is best practice to test your student using a PCR or antigen test.

They can return if:

- Are negative- send results to nurse
- Have great symptom improvement
- Have been without fever for 24 hours without using fever reducing medication.

IF YOU CANNOT GET TESTED:

- 5 day isolation at home and return on day 6 IF:
 - Have great symptom improvement
 - Have been without fever for 24 hours without using fever reducing medication

What if you come in contact outside of school? (if POS they do not live in household)

If your student are NOT experiencing symptoms and UNVACCINATED, follow:



Stay home in isolation for 5 days

(day 1 starts after the last date of exposure from POSITIVE individual)

IF, on Day 6

✓ **remain without symptoms**

THEN, return to school on day 6

- Continue to monitor symptoms through day 10
- Adhere to strict mask use for an additional 5 days

For all those exposed, best practice includes an antigen or PCR test for COVID-19 at day 5 after exposure.

What if a family member who lives with the student tested positive?

IF YOU CANNOT SEPARATE IN A DIFFERENT HOUSEHOLD (does not matter if they are living on separate floors, or if they are staying in their rooms).

IF YOUR STUDENT IS UNVACCINATED AND EXPERINCING NO SYMPTOMS, REGARDLESS OF TEST RESULTS:

The student's 5-day quarantine will start when the positive individual finishes their own quarantine.

Return to school:

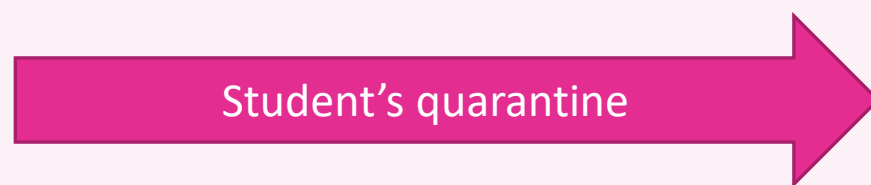
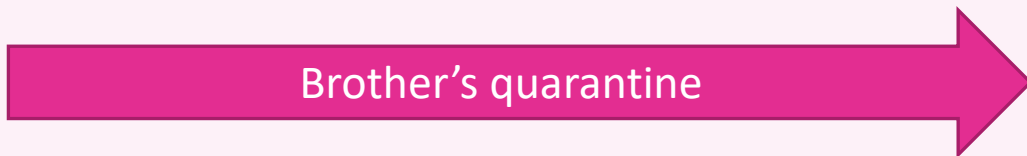
- 5 days after last date exposure, on day 6
- Remain WITHOUT symptoms through the whole duration
- Strict mask wearing for an additional 5 days
- Before sending to school, monitor symptoms through day 10 and isolate if symptoms develop. Notify school.

For all exposed, it is best practice to receive a PCR or antigen test 5 days after exposure.

Example: ONLY IF ASYMPTOMATIC

Nurse was reported that the student's brother is positive and tested for COVID19 on 1/1/22.

1/1	1/2	1/3	1/4	1/5	1/6	1/7	1/8	1/9	1/10	1/11	1/13
Brother tested positive	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	*Day 6 end of brother quarantine	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6 RETURN TO SCHOOL
Day 0						Day 1 of student's quarantine					



YOU MUST SYMPTOM MONITOR BEFORE SENDING TO SCHOOL FOR 5 ADDITIONAL DAYS

Important to note:

REGARDLESS of vaccination status or previous COVID-19 positive diagnosis date, **if the student reports any symptoms during the 5-day quarantine or 5-days after the quarantine, notify the Health Department and do not send the student to school.**

If your student was exposed to somebody with COVID-19 and is fully vaccinated (two weeks since last dose) and experiencing no symptoms- still report exposure to school- inform of vaccination status.

IF there more than one person in the household that tested POSITIVE at different times- the dates go by when the LAST POSITIVE person in the house tests for COVID-19.

Report any exposures in the household or outside the household

What if my student starts to experience symptoms?

This goes for every student in the building- regardless of situation:

If they start to experience symptoms:

- Keep the student home
- Report to Nurse

If you can get tested (PCR/antigen testing) ***this is best practice):

Return to school IF

- Test is negative- send results to Nurse
- Have great improvement of symptoms
- Have been without fever for 24-hours without using fever reducing medication

If student cannot get tested:

- Isolate for 5 days and return on day 6
IF:
 - Have great improvement of symptoms
 - Have been without fever for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication.

Why do I need to monitor my student for symptoms for 5 days after the return to school?

COVID-19 symptoms can develop 10 days after the last date of exposure.

If they remain asymptomatic during the 5 day quarantine- and return to school, the viral load may build in their bodies over the next 5 days (10 days overall). They can start to develop symptoms and test positive.