


Student Symptom Decision Tree

Symptoms

 Fever ($\geq 100.4^\circ$)

 Sore throat


 Cough

 Congestion/runny nose

 Headache

 Difficulty breathing

 Nausea/vomiting/diarrhea

 Fatigue/muscle or body aches

 Loss of taste/smell

Management of Suspected or Confirmed COVID-19 Cases



Students who have COVID-19 symptoms



Isolate for 10 days

1. Isolation may end **IF**:
 - Symptoms resolve within 24 hours without the use of fever reducing agents **OR**
 - A COVID-19 test taken as early as the day of symptom onset is negative **OR**
 - An alternative diagnosis is obtained from a health care provider (provider's note must be on file)
2. If unable/unwilling to test must continue isolation through day 10 from the start of symptoms
3. Isolation is not required for more than 10 days from the start of symptoms
4. Recommended to wear a well-fitting mask at all times around other people through day 10



Students who test positive for COVID-19



Isolate for at least 5 days from the date of positive test

1. Positive student may end isolation **IF**:
 - They are experiencing no COVID-19 symptoms **AND**
 - A COVID-19 test taken on day 5 or later is negative
2. If unable/unwilling to test on day 5 or later **OR** again test positive, continue isolation through day 10 from the date of first positive test
3. Recommended to wear a well-fitting mask at all times around other people through day 10

Exposure In School Setting (includes on campus, on the bus, during sports/extracurricular activities)

Schools should notify students who were exposed to someone having COVID-19 during their period of infectiousness.

- Notifications should be provided to ALL students considered exposed regardless of vaccine status or prior history of COVID-19 infection.

Notification should occur to 'groups' of exposed students (e.g. classmates, teammates, cohorts, etc.) and may include:

- Date(s) of exposure
- Student may remain in school and participate in all activities unless they develop symptoms or test positive for COVID-19
- It is recommended that your student wear a mask, especially for the next 10 days
- It is recommended that your student be tested within 3-5 days after the last date that the individual with COVID-19 was in school
- If your student develops symptoms of COVID-19 or tests positive for COVID-19, please ensure they isolate at home immediately

Exposure Outside the School Setting

- **Student may remain in school and participate in all activities unless they develop symptoms or test positive for COVID-19**
- **It is recommended that your student be tested within 3-5 days after the last date of exposure to the infected individual**
- **It is recommended that your student wear a mask around others for the next 10 days**

Definitions:

- **Exposure:** Student spent more than a cumulative total of 15 minutes (within a 24-hour time period) in a shared indoor airspace (e.g., classroom) with someone with COVID-19 during their period of infectiousness.
- **Primary Series of COVID-19 Vaccines :** The initial dose(s) of a COVID-19 vaccine. For Pfizer and Moderna mRNA vaccines, the primary series is two vaccine doses. For the Johnson & Johnson (J&J) COVID-19 vaccine, the primary series is a single vaccine dose.
- **COVID-19 Test:** Antigen tests, nucleic acid amplification tests (PCR or NAA), or LAMP are acceptable, but **antigen testing is preferred to end isolation**. Home/over-the-counter tests are acceptable. Exposed students who had COVID-19 within the last 90 days do not need to be tested after exposure but should monitor for symptoms. If symptoms develop, they should isolate and get tested with an antigen test even if they've had COVID-19 previously.
- **Resources for COVID Testing:**
 - <https://occovid19.ochealthinfo.com/covid-19-testing>
 - <https://health.choc.org/guide/covid-19/#test>



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 (04.07.2022).

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