

# Illness Decision Tree for Schools

Anyone who has been identified as a close contact needs to quarantine regardless of symptoms or other illnesses. Anyone who is fully vaccinated does **NOT** need to quarantine.

*New guidance allows for some exceptions related to length of quarantine period. Learn more, [here](#).*

**Q1: Are you experiencing COVID-19 symptoms? They include:**  
*(One or more of these symptoms that is a new onset or is an increase in severity)*

- » **Fever\*** (100.4°F or 38°C) without having taken any fever-reducing medications, such as acetaminophen or ibuprofen.
- » **Loss of smell or taste\***
- » **New or unusual headache\***
- » Nausea, **vomiting\***, **diarrhea\***, or loss of appetite
- » **Cough\***
- » **Sore throat\***
- » Fatigue
- » Congestion or runny nose
- » Chills
- » Shortness of breath
- » Muscle aches

\*The presence of any of these symptoms generally suggest a student, teacher, or staff member has an infectious illness and should not attend school, regardless of whether the illness is COVID-19.  
 Individuals should not be at the school in-person if they identify new development of any of these symptoms. If the individual is yet to be vaccinated (unvaccinated) they should not be at the school in-person if household members identify new development of these symptoms.

**YES, I HAVE SYMPTOMS**

**NO SYMPTOMS**

**Q2: HAVE YOU -**

**2.1:** Had close contact with a confirmed or suspected COVID-19 case?

**2.2:** Travelled to or live in an area that is designated as Orange or Red (Substantial or High Community Transmission)?

**2.3:** Recently had a COVID test that is pending?

**YES, to 1 or more**

Quarantine yourself and contact your healthcare provider (HCP).  
 More details found, [here](#).

Have you been in contact with someone who has been diagnosed with or tested positive for COVID-19? (within 6 feet for 15 minutes or more)

**YES**

**NO**

**NO**

If **YES** to **2.1**:  
 Isolate for 10 days from the onset of symptoms and get tested.

If **YES** to **2.3**:  
 Isolate until you receive your test results.  
 If positive, isolate for 10 days from symptom onset.  
 If negative and not exposed, return per school policy.

A 7-14 day quarantine is recommended unless you are fully vaccinated. No quarantine is required if you are fully vaccinated.  
 If you are fully vaccinated, test 3-5 days after exposure. After the exposure, wear a mask in public for 14 days or until the negative test result. If positive, isolate for 10 days.  
 Details regarding quarantine options found, [here](#).

Practice physical distancing and good hygiene.

If **YES** to only **2.2** & you received an alternative diagnosis or negative test:  
 Follow HCP & school guidance on when to return.  
 If **NOT** tested:  
 Isolate for 10 days from onset of symptoms and follow school return policy.

Stay at home until you are fever free without medication for 24 hours and symptoms improve or resolve per school illness policy.

Additional school resources found, [here](#).