

COVID-19

Return to School Considerations for COVID-19 Symptoms

UPDATED: Oct. 25, 2020



DEFINITIONS:

COVID-19-like illness (CLI):

1. Cough OR shortness of breath OR loss of sense of taste/smell OR
2. Any two of the following:
 - a. Exposure to a contact with COVID-19
 - b. Fever or chills
 - c. Muscle/body aches
 - d. Headache
 - e. Sore throat
 - f. Congestion/runny nose
 - g. Nausea/vomiting/diarrhea
 - h. Fatigue

Exposure:

Contact within 6 feet for ≥ 15 minutes within the 48 hours prior to the onset of symptoms in a person with COVID-19 OR a positive COVID-19 test in an asymptomatic person. The ≥ 15 minute duration is a cumulative total over a 24 hour period. This definition is based on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention but may vary based on recommendations by local health departments. If there are questions on whether a person was exposed, please contact your local health department.

Quarantine:

Keeps someone who might have been exposed to the virus away from others

COVID-19 Quarantine:

- Quarantine for 14 days from last contact to a person with confirmed or probable COVID-19. The quarantine could be >14 days depending if the person with COVID-19 was unable to isolate from the exposed person (e.g. caregiver and child) or if additional exposure with COVID-19 positive persons occurred (e.g., multiple household members). If a person tests negative for the virus that causes COVID-19 during quarantine, they must still remain in quarantine for 14 days. Further information can be found at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/quarantine.html>
- If a student or staff is tested for the virus that causes COVID-19 during quarantine and is negative, they must still continue to quarantine for 14 days.
- People who had COVID-19 illness and fully recovered do NOT need to be quarantined if they are subsequently exposed within the next 3 months and do not have symptoms.

Isolation:

Isolation separates people who are infected with the virus away from people who are not infected

COVID-19 Symptomatic Isolation:

Isolation for:

1. At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared **AND**
2. At least 24 hours fever free without the use of fever-reducing medications and improvement in symptoms

For children who are immune compromised or require care in the intensive care unit, they may require a longer duration of isolation, up to 20 days. The child's medical provider or an infectious diseases expert can assist with this determination.

COVID-19 Asymptomatic Isolation:

Isolation for at least 10 days from a positive test

COVID-19

Considerations for Asymptomatic Children

UPDATED: Oct. 25, 2020

Symptoms	Exposure	PCR Testing	Test Results	Quarantine/Isolation	Return to School
No	No	Not recommended	Not performed or Negative	None	N/A
			Positive	COVID-19 asymptomatic isolation If child develops symptoms, refer to considerations for symptomatic children with CLI	After COVID-19 asymptomatic isolation is complete A negative test is not needed to return to school
No	Yes	Recommend testing 5-7 days after exposure	Not performed or Negative	COVID-19 quarantine If child develops symptoms, refer to considerations for symptomatic children with CLI	After COVID-19 quarantine is complete If child has a negative test prior to completion of 14-day quarantine, the child must continue to remain quarantined for the full 14-day duration
			Positive	COVID-19 asymptomatic isolation If child develops symptoms, refer to considerations for symptomatic children with CLI	After COVID-19 asymptomatic isolation is complete A negative test is not needed to return to school

COVID-19

Considerations for Symptomatic Children Without CLI

UPDATED: Oct. 25, 2020

Symptoms	Exposure	PCR Testing	Test Results	Quarantine/Isolation	Return to School	
Symptoms that do NOT meet CLI criteria	No	Provider discretion	Not performed	No COVID-19 specific recommendations If the medical provider has a strong suspicion for COVID-19, follow positive test recommendations for isolation and return to school	Fever free without fever reducing medications for ≥24 hours. If the provider believes that an alternate diagnosis is the cause of signs and symptoms, return precautions should be specific to diagnosis	
			Negative	No COVID-19 specific recommendations		
			Positive	COVID-19 symptomatic isolation		After COVID-19 symptomatic isolation complete A negative test is not needed to return to school
	Yes	Strongly Recommended		Not performed	COVID-19 symptomatic isolation or COVID-19 quarantine , whichever is longer	After COVID-19 symptomatic isolation or COVID-19 quarantine is complete
				Negative	COVID-19 quarantine If child develops symptoms that do meet CLI criteria, refer to considerations for symptomatic children with CLI	After COVID-19 quarantine is complete
				Positive	COVID-19 symptomatic isolation	After COVID-19 symptomatic isolation complete A negative test is not needed to return to school

COVID-19

Considerations for Symptomatic Children With CLI

UPDATED: Oct. 25, 2020

Symptoms	Exposure	PCR Testing	Test Results	Quarantine/Isolation	Return to School
CLI	No	Strongly recommended	Not performed or Positive	COVID-19 symptomatic isolation	After COVID-19 symptomatic isolation complete. A negative test is not needed to return to school
			Negative	No COVID-19 specific recommendations If the medical provider has a strong suspicion for COVID-19, follow positive test recommendations for isolation and return to school	Fever free without fever reducing medications for ≥ 24 hours. If an alternate diagnosis is made, return precautions should be specific to diagnosis
CLI	Yes	Strongly recommended	Not performed or Positive	COVID-19 symptomatic isolation	After COVID-19 symptomatic isolation complete. A negative test is not needed to return to school
			Negative	COVID-19 quarantine	After COVID-19 quarantine is complete and fever free without fever reducing medications for ≥ 24 hours.