

COVID-19 EXCLUSION GUIDANCE

Decision Tree for Symptomatic Individuals in Pre-K, K-12 Schools and Day Care Programs



Send home or deny entry (and provide remote instruction) if ANY of the following symptoms are present: Fever (100.4°F or higher), headache, shortness of breath, cough, sore throat, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain.

In addition, some individuals (especially adults) may present with the following symptoms: congestion or runny nose, new loss of sense of taste or smell, nausea, fatigue, muscle or body aches.

Medical Evaluation and Testing are Strongly Recommended for ALL Persons with COVID-Like Symptoms.

| Status | COVID-19 diagnostic test Positive (confirmed case) OR COVID-19 diagnosis without diagnostic testing (probable case) | Symptomatic individual with a negative COVID-19 diagnostic test ² <i>(Negative COVID-19 diagnostic test must be from a specimen collected 48 hours prior to or after symptom onset.)</i> | Symptomatic individual with an alternative diagnosis without negative COVID-19 diagnostic test ² | Symptomatic individual without diagnostic testing or clinical evaluation | Asymptomatic individual who is a close contact to a confirmed OR probable COVID-19 case |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Evaluated by Healthcare Provider? | YES | YES / NO | YES | NO | NA |
| Return to School Guidance | <u>Stay home</u> at least ten ¹ calendar days from onset of symptoms AND for 24 hours with no fever (without fever-reducing medication) AND improvement of respiratory symptoms. | <u>Stay home</u> until symptoms have improved/resolved per return-to-school criteria for diagnosed condition. Follow provider directions, recommended treatment & return to school guidance as per school policies and IDPH Communicable Diseases in Schools . | <u>Stay home</u> until symptoms have improved/resolved per return-to-school criteria for diagnosed condition. Follow provider directions, recommended treatment & return to school guidance as per school policies and IDPH Communicable Diseases in Schools . | <u>Stay home</u> at least 10 ¹ calendar days from onset of symptoms AND for 24 hours with no fever (without fever-reducing medication) AND improvement of respiratory symptoms. | Stay home for 14 calendar days after last exposure to the COVID-19 case. If COVID-19 illness develops, use the ten-day isolation period ¹ guidance for a COVID-19 case from the onset date. Testing is recommended. |
| Quarantine for Close Contacts? | YES | NO | NO | YES | NA |
| Documentation Required to Return to School | 'Release from Isolation' letter issued by Local Health Department and provided to parent/guardian or individual | Healthcare Provider's note with alternative diagnosis and negative COVID-19 test result | Healthcare Provider's note with alternative diagnosis | 'Release from Isolation' letter issued by Local Health Department and provided to parent/guardian or individual | 'Release from Quarantine' letter issued by Local Health Department and provided to parent/guardian or individual |

¹ Severely immunocompromised or severely ill: may need to isolate for 20 days as per guidance from individual's infectious disease physician.

² If individual has been identified by public health for quarantine or knows they are a close contact to a case, the 14-calendar-day quarantine must be completed.