



COVID-19

HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

WHAT TO DO IF A PERSON AT SCHOOL HAS COVID-19

BEFORE A CASE OF COVID-19 OCCURS:

- Provide point of contact information to HDOH. Please provide a telephone number that will be checked at least daily, including on weekends and holidays. This helps ensure timely notification of schools in the event that HDOH becomes aware of a potential exposure at the school.
- Remind all families, faculty, and staff that they should stay home when sick, to protect others and prevent the spread of illness in the school
- Implement preventive measures at school:
 - Maintain distance of ideally at least 6 feet from others
 - For preschools, children should learn about physical distancing. Nap mats and cribs should be spaced ideally at least 6 feet apart.
 - Wear a cloth face covering, especially when distancing measures are hard to maintain
 - For preschools, the emphasis should be placed on maintaining 'ohana bubbles and learning about proper mask wearing.
 - Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
 - If soap and water are not available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
 - Avoid touching eyes, nose, mouth, and cloth face covering
 - Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or inside of elbow, throw tissue away, and wash hands.
 - Limit use of shared objects
 - Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces
 - Avoid unnecessary visitors on school campus
- Have a plan for students/staff who become ill at school
 - Isolate
 - Send home as soon as possible
 - Clean and disinfect affected area

WHEN A CASE OF COVID-19 OCCURS:

- When a school learns of a COVID-19 case:
 - If case is currently at school, isolate and send person home immediately
 - Close off areas used by case for at least 24 hours (see further details below)
 - Call Hawaii Department of Health (HDOH) [see telephone numbers below] within 24 hours
 - Provide notification to school administrators, supervisors, etc. per school protocol
 - Provide HDOH with the following information:
 - School Name and location
 - Case's Name, date of birth, and contact information
 - Name, title (e.g., school principal), and contact information of caller (including how person may be reached after hours, weekends, and holidays)

- HDOH investigator will interview the case and will determine if the case was at school while infectious. Following the case interview, investigator will contact school principal/administrator.
- School should identify and notify contacts, and perform mitigation measures:
 - **Ensure case's identity remains confidential**
 - Close off areas utilized by the case for at least 24 hours (e.g., office, classroom, bathroom, faculty lounge, common areas, etc.) to minimize the potential for exposure to respiratory droplets
 - After 24 hours, clean and disinfect areas used by the person with COVID-19 per Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance:
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/disinfecting-building-facility.html>
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/clean-disinfect-hygiene.html>
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/clean-disinfect/index.html>
 - Focus especially on frequently touched surfaces
 - Compile a list of case's close contacts (see "Contact Notification Guidance for Schools" - Appendix)
- All information provided to HDOH by the school will be kept confidential
- Persons not identified as close contacts do not need to be in quarantine and may attend school

COMMUNICATION

- When a case is identified, the school will need to provide appropriate information for families, faculty, and staff.
- The bullet points below provide guidance for this communication. Each case is different and may require additional information, depending on the details of the case.
 - Close contacts who develop symptoms of COVID-19 should call their health care provider and inform them of exposure to an infected person
 - School will follow HDOH's recommendations, including proper cleaning and disinfection of impacted areas
 - Any person who develops symptoms who was not identified as a close contact should stay home and call their health care provider
 - School-wide closure may not be necessary
 - School will work with HDOH to make determination
 - If school remains open, persons not identified as close contacts may return to school

Consider the following in consultation with HDOH to determine whether additional mitigation strategies or school closure are needed to protect the school community.

- Number of cases, close together in time or spread out over several weeks
- Are new cases traceable to the school community or are they likely from a different exposure (e.g., household exposure, travel)
- Where are the cases occurring; do they have any common themes (e.g., confined to one building within a school or to a specific group within the school)
- Number of close contacts each case has
- Is there significant COVID-19 transmission in the surrounding community that will likely impact families and staff

For further Guidance, please visit the [CDC COVID-19 Schools and Childcare Programs](https://www.cdc.gov/schools/childcare/) website.

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR REPORTING TO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

<u>Island</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Telephone Number</u>
Oahu	M-F 7:45 am-4:30 pm	HDOH Disease Reporting Line	(808) 586-4586 (808) 587-6845 (ask for school liaison)
Maui Molokai Lanai	M-F 7:45 am-4:30 pm	Maui District Health Office	(808) 984-8213
Kauai			
Hawaii (Hilo)			
Hawaii (Kona)	M-F 7:45 am-4:30 pm	Big Island DHO (Kona)	(808) 933-0912 (808) 974-6006 (808) 322-4877 (808) 974-6006
<u>After Hours/Weekends/Holidays</u>			
Oahu			(808) 600-3625
Neighbor Islands			(808) 360-2575