## ISOLATION

### Table 1. Isolation Protocol for K-12 School Settings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COVID-19 Positive Test or COVID-19 Symptoms</th>
<th>Actions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Students and staff who test positive for COVID-19 or who have COVID-19 symptoms **should isolate for 5 days**, regardless of vaccination status.\(^1\) | Students and staff can return to school: **On Day 6,** if positive test and **NO** symptoms.  
- **Must wear a well-fitted mask** around others indoors from **day 6 to day 10** after completing home isolation.  
**On Day 6,** if positive test and **SYMPTOMS:**  
- 24 hours with no fever (and no fever-reducing medications)  
- Symptoms are improving.  
- **Must wear a well-fitted mask** around others indoors from **day 6 to day 10** of illness after completing home isolation.  
If you have a fever or are not yet improving, remain in isolation until above are true.\(^2\) |
| Students and staff who are sick with symptoms of COVID-19* but do not yet have test results, regardless of vaccination status. | Students and staff can return to school: **After a negative test if**  
- 24 hours with no fever (and no fever-reducing medications)  
- Symptoms are improving.  
If you have a fever or are sick and your negative test was from a home test, continue to isolate and test again after 24 to 48 hours. |

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2 If you have moderate-to-severe COVID-19 illness or a weakened immune system, CDC recommends isolating through day 10 and consulting your healthcare provider.  
**Note:** Schools should not require a healthcare provider’s note or a negative COVID-19 test to return to school if the person has completed 5 days of isolation and meets the conditions listed.
### Additional Considerations for Participation in High-risk Extracurricular Activities:

Participation in extracurricular activities that are high risk for COVID-19 spread and do not allow for mask usage (e.g., close-contact sports, choir).

Participants can return to high-risk extracurricular activities on **Day 11**.

*Students and staff who have chronic symptoms due to a medical etiology (e.g., allergies, asthma) and no known exposure to COVID-19 do not need to isolate unless they develop new or worsening symptoms or test positive for COVID-19.*

### EXPOSURE TO A PERSON WITH COVID-19

#### Table 2. Exposure Protocol for K-12 School Settings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COVID-19 Exposure</th>
<th>Actions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students and staff who have been exposed to a person with COVID-19, regardless of vaccination status.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Day 1 is the first full day after your symptoms developed or your test specimen was collected. | Students and staff can return to school:  
**Immediately if NO symptoms.**  
- Must wear a well-fitted mask indoors for 10 full days.  
**Watch** for symptoms.  
- If symptom start, isolate immediately.  
- Test and stay home until you know the result.  
- If positive, follow isolation protocol.  
**Test on Day 6** even if no symptoms.  
- If positive, follow isolation protocol.  
- If negative, continue to wear a mask indoors through day 10.  
**COVID-19** can develop up to 10 days after exposure. |

| Students and staff who tested positive for COVID-19 within 30 days or less[^3] | Students and staff can return to school:  
**Immediately if NO symptoms.**  
Testing is **not** recommended if you have **no** symptoms. |

[^3]: CDC’s COVID-19 Testing: What You Need to Know, updated August 11, 2022