Outbreak Response Protocols: Pre K-12

Guidance for COVID-19 outbreak response in Pre K-12 schools

Version 7 (Updated October 12, 2021)
Table of Contents

Summary of Changes
COVID-19 Fundamentals
Infectious Period and Isolation Timelines
Close Contacts and Quarantine
Isolation and Quarantine for Household Members
COVID-19 Vaccination
Previously Infected with COVID-19
Mask Mandate
Testing for COVID-19
Confirming a Positive Antigen Test Result
Bus Guidance
School Events Guidance
Sports Guidance
Protocols for Schools
Travel Guidance
Resources for Schools
Appendix
Glossary
Summary of Changes

Current Version is 7.0
October 12, 2021
Summary of Changes to the Playbook

Version 6.0 (August 13, 2021)

• Revised definition of a probable case (Slide: 7)
• Revised testing protocol for all close contacts (Slides: 2, 50, 52, 53, 62)
• Revised close contact exceptions (Slides: 25, 26, 50, 72, 73)
• Revised travel quarantine guidance (Slides: 30, 39, 40, 50)
• Revised bus quarantine guidance (Slide: 70)
• Revised Isolation within a Household (Slide: 42)
• Revised Sports Quarantine Protocols (Slide: 80)
• Revised Testing for COVID-19 (Slides: 94, 95, 96, 97)
• Revised Confirming a Positive Asymptomatic Antigen Test Results (Slides: 99, 100)

Version 6.1 (August 27, 2021)

• Removed the probable case definition (Slides: 6, 7, 8, 112)
• Added the new universal mask requirement for K-12 schools (Slides: 20, 47, 48, 50)
• Reworded the definition of close contact (Slides: 18, 112)
Summary of Changes to Playbook

Version 6.2 (September 7, 2021)
- Added “Who to Send Home or Exclude from School” clarification (Slide: 9)
- Revised testing requirements for all close contacts to who have not tested positive in the past 90 days (Slides: 22, 54, 65)
- Revised symptomatic individuals with positive antigen test results.

Version 7.0 (October 12, 2021)
- New option for responding to someone with COVID-19 symptoms (Slides: 9, 10)
- Household members don’t need to quarantine while test results are pending for a symptomatic household member (Slide: 92)
- Expansion of the Pre K-12 Close Contact Quarantine Exception to apply to structured outdoors classroom settings (Slide: 23)
- At-home self tests (Slide: 61)
- Planning for Pre K-12 School Events (Slide: 76)
COVID-19 Fundamentals
How To Use This Playbook

• This playbook is designed to serve as a resource for school leaders, school nurses, COVID-19 Coordinators, and families to outline the most current State requirements and best practice recommendations to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

• Clarification on public health terminology:
  • **Requirements**: policies or behaviors that **must** be followed; Requirements may be a federal law, a State Regulation, or a Governor’s Executive Order.
  • **Recommendations**: policies or behaviors that **should** be followed; Recommendations are based on best practice, science, data, experience, and resources.
  • **School Policy**: Schools may have policies that are more strict or different than what is required or recommended.
Symptoms of COVID-19

- Fever or chills;
- Cough (new);
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing;
- Fatigue;
- Muscle or body aches;
- Headache;
- Sore throat;
- New loss of taste or smell;
- Congestion or runny nose (new);
- Nausea or vomiting; or
- Diarrhea.

[Link to CDC symptoms page](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html)
# Include COVID-19 Symptom Management into Existing Illness Policies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Option A</strong></th>
<th><strong>Option B</strong></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anyone with new onset of one symptom of COVID-19 must isolate, go home, and get tested.</td>
<td>Same clinical criteria from 2020-2021 school year: Individuals with one major or two minor symptoms of COVID-19 must isolate, go home, and get tested.</td>
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*If choosing Option B, anyone with one minor COVID-19 symptom may remain in school. Schools may continue to send home anyone with one symptom such as fever, vomiting, or diarrhea according to regular school policy.*

- **Note:** COVID-19 policies should be included in existing school illness policies. For example, if someone has a fever or is vomiting, they should be sent home if it is in existing illness policies, even if it’s not included in the COVID-19 policy.

- **Note:** Schools maintain the ability to choose the best COVID-19 symptom policy based on community and school-wide transmission rates and other relevant factors.
Use Case Clinical Criteria When Assessing Symptoms

Any **ONE** major symptom: PROBABLE

- Cough (new)
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- New loss of taste or smell

Any **TWO** minor symptoms: PROBABLE

- Fever or Chills
- Muscle or body aches
- Headaches
- Sore throat
- Fatigue
- Congestion or runny nose (new)
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea
Testing and Returning to School After Symptoms of COVID-19

Scenarios for when a symptomatic individual is tested, based on school policy:

• If a rapid antigen test result is positive, then the symptomatic person must follow isolation guidelines before returning to school.

• If a rapid antigen test result is negative, then the symptomatic person should still be sent home and must get tested with a lab-processed PCR test.
  
  • If the PCR test result is positive, then the person must follow isolation guidelines before returning to school.

  • If the PCR test result is negative, then the person is allowed to return to school when
    • They have been fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medicine; and
    • Symptoms have improved.

• Some symptoms may be caused by seasonal allergies or other chronic illness and may continue for longer periods of time. In this case, a student should be permitted to return to school if their PCR test result is negative and they have been fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medicine.
COVID-19 and Allergies

When there is new onset of ANY symptom, it could be COVID-19.

• Stay home.
• Get tested.
• Spare your contacts from quarantine.

![Symptoms Venn Diagram]

- Fever and chills
- Muscle and body aches
- New loss of taste or smell
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Headache
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose

- Itchy or watery eyes
- Sneezing
COVID-19 and Allergies, Asthma, or Chronic Health Conditions

If you have new onset of ANY COVID-19 symptom, stay home and get tested.

- If the test result is negative and symptoms are consistent with allergies, asthma, or other chronic health conditions, then the individual may return to school/sports after being fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medicine.

  - If symptoms are a result of allergies, they may last as long as the allergen (i.e. pollen) is present. This may be for weeks or longer. The child may attend school/sports as long as there is no fever, no new COVID-19 symptoms, and no sudden change of symptoms.

- If there is any new additional COVID-19 symptom or sudden change or worsening of runny nose, nasal congestion, or other symptom:
  
  - Send home.
  
  - Get medical advice.
  
  - Get tested, as required, to return to school/sports.
What do I do if someone with a COVID-19 symptom refuses to get tested?

• Testing after being identified as a close contact is required by Executive Order (E.O.) 21-100.

• If someone with symptoms refuses to get tested, the individual should be managed the same as a positive case of COVID-19:
  • The individual should isolate for 10 days.
  • The household contacts should quarantine.
  • School contacts should get a lab-processed PCR test regardless of their vaccination status.
Infectious Period and Isolation Timelines
What Is the Infectious Period for COVID-19?

• Symptomatic Cases
  • Two calendar days prior to symptom onset until 10 days after symptom onset

• Asymptomatic Cases
  • Two calendar days prior to testing (the date the swabbing was conducted) until 10 days after the date of testing
Isolation

- **Isolation is for the ill or infected**
  - Separate individuals who are infected with COVID-19 from other people.
  - Stay home and isolate from household members as much as possible.

- The duration of isolation depends on whether the individual is
  - Symptomatic or asymptomatic; or
  - Immunocompromised.
Isolation for Symptomatic Individuals

Symptomatic

- 10 days since symptoms first appeared (20 days if severely immunocompromised); and
- Fever free for at least 24 hours without use of fever-reducing medicine; and
- Other COVID-19 symptoms are improving.
  - Loss of taste and smell may persist for weeks or months after recovery and need not delay the end of isolation.

January 10
Symptom onset (Day 0)

January 11
Tested

January 13
Positive test result

January 20
Last day of isolation (Day 10)*

January 21
Return to normal activities

*Assuming that symptomatic criteria are met.

cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/isolation.html
Isolation for **Asymptomatic Individuals**

**Asymptomatic**

- 10 days from the date of individual was tested (20 days if severely immunocompromised).
- If symptoms develop during isolation, follow guidance for isolation for symptomatic individuals on Slide 18.

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**February 3**
Asymptomatic test (Day 0)

**February 5**
Positive test results

**February 13**
Last day of isolation (Day 10)

**February 14**
Return to normal activities

Close Contacts and Quarantine
Definition of Close Contact

Close contact is

• An individual who has been within six feet of an infected person (with or without a face mask) for 15 minutes or more in a 24-hour period in either an indoor or outdoor setting regardless of vaccination status:
  • i.e., three five-minute interactions during the day; or

• An individual who has had unprotected direct contact with secretions or excretions of a person with confirmed COVID-19 in either an indoor or outdoor setting:
  • i.e., an infected person coughed directly in someone’s face

Definition of Close Contacts in Sports

Close contacts in sports may be different and can depend on:

- **Physical closeness of players**
  - When playing most team sports, six feet of distance cannot be maintained; and
  - Athletes often have face-to-face contact with other players.

- **Level of intensity of activity**
  - Activities that are high intensity or require a high level of exertion (such as full competition) present a higher level of risk for getting and spreading COVID-19.

**Proximity + Intensity = Increased Risk of Respiratory Droplets Transmission**  
(Close Contact without meeting the 15-minute mark)
Pre K-12 Student Close Contact Exception

- A Pre K-12 student exposed to another Pre K-12 student infected with COVID-19 doesn’t need to quarantine if all of the following are true:
  - Both the infected person and exposed close contact are Pre K-12 students;
  - The exposure occurred in an indoor Pre K-12 classroom or structured outdoor pre K-12 setting where mask use can be observed;
  - Both the exposed close contact student and the infected student wore face masks at all times during the close contact exposure; and
  - At least three feet of physical distance was maintained at all times during the exposure.
- This exception does not apply to teachers, staff, or other adults.
- Students meeting this close contact exception should NOT be included on the close contact spreadsheet that is submitted to RIDOH.
Quarantine

- **Quarantine** is for *unvaccinated* individuals who were identified as a close contact to a case (infected person).
  - Quarantine keeps someone who may have been exposed to the virus away from others.
  - These individuals must stay home and monitor for symptoms.
  - Last date of exposure is considered Day 0 for quarantine.

- Exemptions to quarantine are:
  - People with documented COVID-19 infection in the last 90 days;
  - Fully vaccinated individuals; or
  - Those who meet the Pre K-12 Close Contact Quarantine Exception criteria.
Quarantine Options

RIDOH recommends the least disruptive quarantine option:

• Seven days from the last day they were in contact with the infected individual if they get a negative PCR test result on day 5 or after. Continue to watch for symptoms through day 14.

Other quarantine options:

• 10 days from the last day they were in contact with the infected individual. Continue to watch for symptoms through day 14.

• 14 days from the last day they were in contact with the infected individual. Safest option but more disruptive.

• RIDOH does not decide which option(s) each school/LEA chooses to implement.

• RIDOH does encourage schools to inform their community which option they have chosen to implement.

cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/quarantine.html
Calculating Quarantine Options

- **14 Day Quarantine Option**
  - March 12: Last day of exposure (Day 0)
  - March 26: Last day of quarantine (Day 14)
  - March 27: Resume normal activities (Day 15)

- **10 Day Quarantine Option**
  - March 12: Last day of exposure (Day 0)
  - March 22: Last day of quarantine (Day 10)
  - March 23: Resume normal activities (Day 11)

- **7 Day with Negative Test Quarantine Option**
  - March 12: Last day of exposure (Day 0)
  - March 17-19: Negative test result (Day 5 or after)
  - March 19: Last day of quarantine (Day 7)
  - March 20: Resume normal activities (Day 8)
School Quarantine Policies

• How can schools communicate to families why they chose to enforce the quarantine option they selected?
  • RIDOH playbook includes recommendations and guidance.
  • Shorter quarantine policies for close contacts and travelers come with increased risk of transmission of COVID-19 but are less disruptive to in-person learning.
  • Schools have discretion to implement more stringent policies.
  • Schools can determine the risk-benefit assessment that is best for their school community.
Calculating Quarantine Duration Options

• Need help determining end of quarantine dates?

• RIDOH has created a COVID-19 Close Contact Quarantine Calculator

  • Click this link, then scroll down and click on Key resources drop down to download the calculator.
Test ALL Close Contacts Who Have Not Tested Positive in the Past 90 Days

Per EO 21-100, both unvaccinated and vaccinated individuals must get tested if they’re identified as a close contact. This is a State law. LEAs aren’t required to monitor testing of these individuals.

- **Unvaccinated Close Contacts:** People who aren’t fully vaccinated must get tested immediately after being identified as a close contact. If test results are negative, they must get tested either right away if symptoms develop during quarantine or five to seven days after the last exposure.

- **Vaccinated Close Contacts:** People who are fully vaccinated must get tested three to five days after exposure. They must continue to wear masks in public indoor settings and crowded outdoor settings for 14 days or until they receive a negative test result.
  - Fully vaccinated individuals may also be tested as soon as they are identified as a close contact and then again three to five days after the close contact exposure. This will help find asymptomatic infection and quickly isolate to prevent further spread.

- If an individual wants to shorten their quarantine period to seven days with a negative test result from day 5 or after, the school must validate proof of that negative test result before the student is permitted to return to school.
Close Contacts in School FAQs

• If we are notified of a positive case during the school day, do we need to send the close contacts home immediately?
  • It is always preferable to quarantine close contacts as soon as possible. However, if it is not feasible to send the student home immediately, a close contact can remain in school, follow the normal dismissal process, and begin their quarantine when they get home.

• What do we do if a close contact comes to school because they have not yet been quarantined by RIDOH?
  • Schools can send the student home.
  • Schools can inform staff/students that they have been identified as a close contact and should stay home in accordance with RIDOH guidance.
Testing of Close Contacts FAQs

• Is testing during quarantine required?
  • Testing during quarantine is required by Executive Order. The testing requirements are different depending on vaccination status.
    • Unvaccinated close contacts should get tested as soon as they're notified that they're a close contact and again five to seven days after the exposure.
    • Fully vaccinated close contacts get tested three to five days after the exposure.

• What if the school requires testing before close contacts can return to school, and an individual is refusing testing?
  • In a non-outbreak setting, the individual should quarantine for 10 days.
  • In an outbreak setting, the individual should quarantine for 14 days.
Testing of Close Contacts FAQs

• Why is RIDOH recommending testing for some students who were never on quarantine?

  • RIDOH may recommend testing for the entire classroom or group due to the possibility of asymptomatic transmission in certain situations, such as
    • An outbreak involving many cases and many close contacts within a large group of students/staff (e.g., classroom, grade, wing of a school, or sports team) or when there is increasing community or statewide spread of COVID-19.
Quarantine FAQs

For individuals who are not fully vaccinated and don’t meet the K-12 student close contact exception:

• If I get tested during quarantine and get a **negative test result**, when does my quarantine end?
  
  • If you get tested on day 5 or after with a PCR test, your last day of quarantine will be Day 7. You can resume normal activities on day 8 and continue to monitor for symptoms through day 14.
  
    • If you get tested earlier than day 5 you **cannot** end quarantine after day 7.

• If I am not on quarantine and I want to go for asymptomatic testing, do I need to quarantine while I wait for results?

  • No. If you are asymptomatic and get tested, you do NOT need to quarantine while you wait for results.
Quarantine FAQs

• If I get tested during quarantine and I’m positive, how long do I need to stay home?
  • If an individual on quarantine tests positive for COVID-19, the person must isolate for 10 days from symptom onset or 10 days from the date of the specimen collection if the person is asymptomatic.

• When do close contacts of a symptomatic person need to stay home?
  • Only unvaccinated household contacts of a symptomatic person should stay home while they wait for tests results because of the increased exposure they have at home.

• Do contacts of contacts need to quarantine?
  • No. Only close contacts of the person who was infectious need to quarantine.
School-Specific Quarantine FAQs

• Can I require my staff to quarantine for more than 7 days even if they get a negative result from a test taken at least five days after the close contact?
  • Yes, employers may require employees to quarantine for longer than the shortest quarantine option.

• Can I offer a shorter quarantine period for my staff but require students to wait for 10 days before returning to school?
  • Yes, you can have different policies for students and staff.
Isolation and Quarantine for Household Members
Isolation Within the Household

- A person in isolation is considered **separated from others while in isolation** within the household if:
  - The isolated person stays in the house but stays in their own bedroom at all times and uses a separate bathroom and does not share any common areas with others in the household.
    - If a separate bathroom is not available, special care should be taken to disinfect the shared bathroom in between each use. If the bathroom is disinfected between each use, the infected person is considered to be isolating within the household.
  - The isolated person stays in the house but on a completely separate floor or living area at all times (e.g., separate apartment within the house).
  - Either the isolated person or the other household members temporarily move out of the household while the case is in isolation.

Quarantine for Unvaccinated Household Members Who CAN Separate from a Person in Isolation within the Household

- Household members would start their quarantine from the date of last exposure to the infected household member (called Day 0).

- Day 0 is the last day that household members and the infected household member shared living space;
  - Spent time together in the same rooms;
  - Were closer than six feet for more than 15 minutes or more during a 24-hour period.

- Household members have three options for quarantine starting on Day 0:
  - **Option 1:** Seven days with a negative test result on day 5 or after (released on day 8);
  - **Option 2:** 10 days (released on day 11); or
  - **Option 3:** 14 days (released on day 15).
Quarantine for **Unvaccinated** Household Members Who **CANNOT** Separate from a Person in Isolation Within the Household

- Household members need to quarantine while the infected individual is in isolation (until 10 days after symptom onset or swab date if asymptomatic) and then start their own quarantine.
  - Last day of isolation for the case is Day 0 for the household members.
  - Household members have three options starting on Day 0:
    - **Option 1:** Seven days with a negative test result on day 5 or after (total of 17 days in quarantine—released on day 18);
    - **Option 2:** 10 days (total of 20 days in quarantine—released on day 21); or
    - **Option 3:** 14 days (total of 24 days in quarantine—released on day 25).
  - All close contacts must get tested regardless of vaccination status.
Quarantine End Dates for Household Members who Cannot Separate

Last Date of Quarantine for Each Option Based on the Sample Calendar

- **14-day Quarantine**
  - Last day is Thursday, the 23rd.

- **10-day Quarantine**
  - Last day is Saturday, the 19th.

- **7-day Quarantine**
  - Test on Tuesday, the 14th, or later.
  - If the test result is negative, then the last day is Thursday, the 16th.

Please note if your quarantine starts at noon on day 1, then it would end at noon on the last day.
Quarantine of Household Contacts with Ongoing Exposure

- If a household member has completed 10 days of isolation but still has symptoms, can I start my quarantine or do I need to wait until symptoms are completely gone?
  - As long as the case has been fever free without using fever-reducing medicine for 24 hours and there has been an improvement in symptoms, the household members can begin their quarantine.
  - If symptoms have not yet improved, household members need to wait to begin their quarantine.
COVID-19 Vaccine Quick Tips

• The COVID-19 vaccine is safe, highly effective against serious illness, and may prevent you from being infected with COVID-19.

• A person cannot get COVID-19 from COVID-19 vaccines.

• Because there still may be a chance you can become infected and spread the virus to others once you've gotten any COVID-19 vaccine, RIDOH recommends that everyone wear a mask indoors in Pre K-12 settings regardless of vaccination status.
  • Public K-12 schools are required to have a universal indoor masking policy in place for the start of the 2021-22 academic year.

• Please visit RIDOH’s website for other Frequently Asked Questions about the Vaccine COVID-19 Vaccine FAQs | RI COVID-19 Information Portal
COVID-19 Vaccine Boosters

Who meets the criteria for a booster vaccine?

- Anyone age 65 or older;
- Anyone living in a long term care facility or nursing home;
- Anyone age 50 to 64 with an underlying medical condition SHOULD receive a booster with Pfizer 60 days after last dose; and
- Anyone age 18 to 49 with underlying illness or those who work in high-risk situations MAY receive a Pfizer booster 60 days after last dose.
COVID-19 Immunity

• **When does a person have immunity after vaccination?**
  - After vaccination for COVID-19, it takes 14 days after the final recommended dose to have vaccine immunity.
  - We won’t know how long immunity lasts after vaccination until we have more data on how well COVID-19 vaccines work in real-world conditions.

• **How long does a person have immunity after infection with COVID-19?**
  - Current evidence suggests that getting the virus again (reinfection) is uncommon in the 90 days after the first infection with the virus that causes COVID-19.
  - The protection someone gains from having an infection (called “natural immunity”) varies depending on the disease, and it varies from person to person. Because this virus is new, we don’t know if natural immunity might last longer than 90 days in certain individuals.

cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/faq.html
Frequently Asked Vaccine Questions

I’m scheduled to get vaccinated but I’m on isolation. Can I leave isolation to go to my vaccination appointment?

- No. You cannot get your vaccination (dose one or dose two) while in isolation, even if you are asymptomatic. You must reschedule your appointment for a time after you have completed isolation.

I got vaccinated for COVID-19 and now I have symptoms. What do I do?

- People are likely to experience symptoms after receiving a COVID-19 vaccine. This means the immune system is working. This is healthy, normal, and expected.
  - You may experience a sore arm, headache, fever, or body aches, but they should go away in a few days.
  - The vaccine will not cause other COVID-19-related symptoms such as congestion, loss of taste or smell, etc.
- If you have any symptoms of COVID-19 following vaccination, stay home, call a healthcare provider, and get tested.
FAQs Continued

• Can I get vaccinated while in quarantine?
  • You cannot get your shot (dose 1 or dose 2) while in quarantine. You must reschedule your appointment for a time after you are done with quarantine.

• If I am fully vaccinated (14 days after the last dose of vaccine), do I need to participate in asymptomatic testing?
  • Those who are fully vaccinated are exempt from asymptomatic screening testing unless required by RIDOH regulation or employer or school policy.
  • Executive Order 21-100 states fully vaccinated individuals who are deemed close contacts are required to test on day 3-5 after last exposure.
# Exemptions for Fully Vaccinated Individuals

| **Quarantine for close contacts** | After COVID-19 vaccination:  
Presumed immunity 14 days after last vaccine dose |
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exempt.</td>
<td>Test on Day 3 to 5 after exposure.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Monitor for symptoms for 14 days after exposure.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wear a mask in public indoor settings until test results are received.</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Quarantine recommendations for travel, domestic, or international</strong></th>
<th>Exempt from the recommendations.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Test on Day 3 to 5 after travel.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Monitor for symptoms for 14 days after return from travel.</td>
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</tbody>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Asymptomatic screening</strong></th>
<th>Not required, but may take part if desired</th>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Eligible populations</strong></th>
<th>All fully vaccinated individuals except hospitalized patients and long-term care residents</th>
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Previously Infected with COVID-19
Quarantine Exemption for Persons Previously Infected with COVID-19

- If a person has tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 90 days, they **do not need to:**
  - Quarantine if identified as a close contact to a case (even if the close contact is a household member);
  - Quarantine after travel; or
  - Participate in asymptomatic screening testing for sports or school. They are exempt from such testing.

- **90-day calculation:**
  - If symptomatic, then start the 90-day count from the day of symptom onset (Day 0).
  - If asymptomatic, then start the 90-day count from the day of specimen collection (Day 0).
# Quarantine Exemption if Positive for COVID-19 within 90 Days

## After COVID-19 infection: Presumed immunity for 90 days after infection

| Quarantine for close contacts | Exempt.  
| Monitor for symptoms for 14 days after exposure. |
| Quarantine recommendations for travel (domestic or international) | Exempt.  
| Monitor for symptoms for 14 days after exposure/travel. |
| Asymptomatic screening | Not recommended within 90 days of infection |
| Eligible populations | All individuals |
Previously Ill with COVID-19-like Symptoms but Not Tested

- **Scenario**: An individual was previously ill with COVID-19-like symptoms but was not tested. Household members were positive. When getting tested for sports, the individual tested positive but stated it was from past infection.
  - Does this individual need to isolate now since there is no record of a positive test result or a probable report to the school nurse?
  - Assessed on a case-by-case basis in consultation with RIDOH.
- **Avoid this situation by getting tested when you have symptoms of COVID-19.**
Symptomatic Within 90 Days of Testing Positive for COVID-19

- For persons who develop **new symptoms consistent with COVID-19** within 90 days after COVID-19 infection, get a medical evaluation by a professional healthcare provider who can:
  - Evaluate for other possible diagnoses; and
  - Evaluate for possible exposure to COVID-19 in the past 14 days (e.g., travel, large gatherings, or events, household or other close contacts with suspected or confirmed COVID-19, occupational risk/healthcare workers, public safety, and recent workplace cases).

- If no other plausible diagnosis by a healthcare provider, the recommendations may include treating it as a new COVID-19 infection, isolating the symptomatic person, and quarantining close contacts.
Mask Mandate
Statewide Masking Law for Public K-12 Schools

• As of August 19, 2021, via Executive Order 21-97 and State Regulation all public K-12 schools are required to have a universal indoor mask requirement in place at the start of the 2021-2022 academic year.
  • Schools without a requirement in place must follow the RIDOH Policy to establish one.

• The State is requiring that schools ensure all teachers, staff, students, and visitors to K-12 schools wear a mask indoors, even fully vaccinated people.

• Masks should be worn in all K-12 facilities at all times, regardless of whether school is in session, including for
  • School committee meetings; and
  • Professional days when students are not present.
Testing for COVID-19
# Tips for a Successful School-based Testing Program

## MAXIMIZE PARTICIPATION

- Educate families and staff about the importance of testing
  - Distribute information materials of test, internal communications, playbooks, etc.
- Be proactive with community messaging
  - Share information about your testing plan and why it is important with your students and families on a regular basis.
  - Consider incentives to encourage people to opt in for testing.

## PREPARE

- Educate multiple staff members on process
  - What if a team member is out/unavailable for a testing event?
- Walk through process with all involved staff prior to testing day.
  - Check PPE, testing materials. Does everyone understand protocols?
- Time Management Plan
  - Rehearse some contingencies- late arrivals, technical challenges, PPE changes
  - Tools to mark, time antigen tests

## TESTING DAY

- Ensure staff and students adhere to health and safety protocols (especially in a centralized testing space)
- Improvise as problems arise
  - Did we miss the window of time to read an accurate result?
- Designate a staff member responsible for results monitoring in real time, and reporting to RIDOH
  - Antigen tests- report to RIDOH
  - Track test numbers and results

10/12/2021  |  57  | RHODE ISLAND
K-12 COVID-19 Test Scheduling Service

Schedule online at portal.ri.gov or call 844-857-1814.

• Hours as of August 5
  • Weekdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
  • Weekends, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Who can be scheduled for a test through this service?

• Anyone associated with K-12 (students, staff, coaches, etc.) who is
  • Symptomatic; or
  • A close contact of a person who tested positive for COVID-19; or
  • A classmate of a person who tested positive for COVID-19.

All Tests Through State Community Testing Sites Are FREE

Find a Test site near you here:

[Google Sheets Link]
How Can I Access Test Results?

- If you were recently tested for COVID-19 in the State of Rhode Island, you can access a record of your test result at portal.ri.gov/results.

- What you must have to access your test results
  - Name (as provided to the appointment line or portal)
  - Date of birth; and
  - Date of testing appointment.

- **Note:** You need to include a valid cell phone number or email address when you schedule the appointment in order to access results in the portal.

- The COVID-19 Test Result Portal User Guide is available if you need assistance.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scenario</th>
<th>Type of Negative Test Result Needed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individual who has symptoms of COVID-19 and would like to return to school after illness</td>
<td>PCR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unvaccinated close contact shortening quarantine</td>
<td>PCR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unvaccinated traveler shortening quarantine</td>
<td>PCR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Administering At-Home Self Tests

- Self tests are performed by a person at home or anywhere.
  - All instructions for performing the test must be followed.
- Self tests may be used by anyone who is **symptomatic**, regardless of their vaccination status.
  - If a symptomatic person does an at-home test, RIDOH accepts results of a positive at home test and there is no need for a lab-processed PCR/NAAT.
  - If an individual tests positive, they should isolate, inform any close contacts, and notify their healthcare provider or RIDOH.
- At-home self tests are not considered final for **asymptomatic** individuals and, if positive, need a confirmatory lab-processed PCR test.
  - Self-tests may be used by unvaccinated people without COVID-19 symptoms, particularly if they were potentially exposed to someone with COVID-19.
- At-home self tests cannot be used to shorten quarantine.
Confirming a Positive Antigen Test Result
COVID-19 Confirmatory Testing Protocol

1. **You have symptoms and get a positive result on your rapid test.**
   - Get a follow-up PCR test.
   - Stay home and away from others while you wait for your PCR test result. Learn more at [covid.ri.gov/whattodo](http://covid.ri.gov/whattodo).

2. **You have COVID-19.**
   - Isolate at home.
   - Detailed guidance about what to do is available at [covid.ri.gov/whattodo](http://covid.ri.gov/whattodo).

3. **PCR test is positive.**
   - You have COVID-19.
   - Isolate at home.
   - Detailed guidance about what to do is available at [covid.ri.gov/whattodo](http://covid.ri.gov/whattodo).

4. **PCR test is negative.**
   - You do not have COVID-19.
   - Continue to take steps to protect your household. Learn more at [covid.ri.gov/prevention](http://covid.ri.gov/prevention).

5. **You do not have symptoms and get a negative result on your rapid test.**

Asymptomatic Antigen Positive Test

• Asymptomatic individual with a positive antigen test
  • What does the individual do?
    • Isolate and get a PCR test as soon as possible.
  • What do the household members do?
    • Avoid contact with the positive household member as much as possible while waiting for PCR test results; and
    • Continue normal activities outside the home.
  • What does the school do?
    • Exclude positive individual from school while waiting for test results.
    • May gather list of close contacts before PCR test results are in, but DO NOT quarantine school contacts.
Asymptomatic Antigen Positive Test Followed by a Negative PCR

• **Asymptomatic** individual with a positive antigen test, followed by negative PCR
  
  • What does the **individual** do now?
    • End isolation and resume normal activities.
  
  • What do the **household members** do now?
    • Resume interactions with the household member who had the positive antigen test.
  
  • What does the **school** do?
    • If the school gathered a list of close contacts in advance of test results, throw the list away.
Asymptomatic Antigen Positive Test Followed by a Positive PCR

- Asymptomatic individual with a positive antigen test, followed by positive PCR
  - What does the individual do now?
    - Completes 10 days of isolation.
  - What do the household members do now?
    - Complete quarantine according to the guidance for household members.
  - What does the school do?
    - Excludes the positive individual from school until they are released from isolation.
    - Excludes household members from school until end of quarantine.
    - Identifies close contacts in the school setting and excludes from school for the duration of quarantine.
Symptomatic Antigen with Positive Result

- **Symptomatic individual** with a positive antigen test result
  - What does the individual do?
    - Completes 10 day isolation.
  - What do the **household** members do?
    - Complete quarantine according to the guidance for household members.
  - What does the **school** do?
    - Excludes the student from school until the end of isolation.
    - Excludes household members from school until the end of quarantine.
    - Identifies close contacts in the school setting and excludes from school for the duration of quarantine.
Symptomatic Antigen Positive Test Followed by a Negative PCR

- **Symptomatic individual** with positive antigen test, followed by negative PCR
  - What does the student do now?
    - Finish isolation period of 10 days since initial positive test.
  - What do the household members do now?
    - Complete quarantine for household members and get tested.
  - What does the **school** do?
    - Excludes the student from school until the end of isolation.
    - Excludes siblings from school until the end of quarantine.
    - Notifies close contacts about exposure and exclude from school until the end of quarantine.
Symptomatic Antigen Positive Test Followed by a Positive PCR

- **Asymptomatic or symptomatic** student with positive antigen test, followed by a positive PCR
  - What does the **student** do now?
    - Complete 10 days of isolation.
  - What do the **household members** do now?
    - Complete quarantine for household members and get tested.
  - What does the **school** do?
    - Exclude the student from school until the end of isolation.
    - Exclude siblings from school until the end of quarantine.
    - Notify close contacts about exposure and exclude from school until the end of quarantine.
Asymptomatic or Symptomatic Antigen Positive Test Without a Follow-up PCR

Process is the same as positive PCR

- **Asymptomatic or symptomatic** individual with positive antigen test, with no follow-up PCR
  - What does the **student** do now?
    - Complete 10 days of isolation.
  - What do the **household members** do now?
    - Complete quarantine according to the guidance for household members.
  - What does the **school** do?
    - Excludes the student from school until the end of isolation.
    - Excludes household members from school until the end of quarantine.
    - Notifies close contacts about exposure and excludes from school until the end of quarantine.
Reporting Antigen Test Results for Academic Year 2021-2022

• Report the results of all Point of Care (POC) or antigen tests (enter positive, negative, and invalid results for all) using the RIDOH Point of Care Results Reporting Portal at portal.ri.gov/reportcovidresult.

• Report all testing and consent-related information on a weekly basis to RIDOH POCs: ridoh.covid19K12testing@health.ri.gov and back2school@ride.ri.gov

When entering results in the portal for an individual with a positive antigen test result, select Antigen Positive—Pending PCR for test type.
Bus Guidance
Bus Quarantine Guidance—Student Tests Positive

- What happens if a student on bus tests positive for COVID-19?
  - Close contacts are those who sat in the same row or within two rows of the infected person. Quarantine is for those who sat:
    - Two rows in front;
    - Two rows behind; and
    - The same five rows on opposite side of the aisle.
  - If it is a small bus, then call RIDOH for consult.
  - If the ride is shorter than 15 minutes, evaluate on a case-by-case basis:
    - May have close contact getting on/off the bus.
    - May be a long ride that day because of traffic or an accident.
Bus Quarantine Guidance—Driver Tests Positive

• What happens if a bus driver tests positive for COVID-19?
  • Close contacts are those who sat within two rows of the driver. Quarantine is for those who sat two rows behind on both sides of the aisle.
  • Make sure that bus seating charts are up to date and easily accessible for RIDOH CI/CT purposes.
  • All passengers on the bus would need to quarantine if a seating chart is not available.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bus Driver +</th>
<th>Bus Monitor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>X</td>
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<td>X</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
School Events
Guidance
Planning Pre K-12 School Events

Schools must follow all current State requirements for events that are held indoors in Pre K-12 settings.

• All attendees should be pre-screened for COVID-19 symptoms, at the door, before entry to the event.

• Schools are encouraged to use touchless registration and pre-screening through digital ticket sales and pre-screening programs.

• Schools should plan for conveniently placed sanitation stations (e.g., at entry/exit points, high-touch areas, and/or each table).

• Testing prior to the event is strongly recommended. Schools may choose to accept a PCR test result, a rapid antigen test result, or both types equally. Proof of vaccination is acceptable instead of testing.

• Take it outside: As long as weather permits, schools should plan for events to take place outdoors as much as possible.
Guidance for Sports
Sports Come With an Inherent Risk of Exposure to COVID-19

- Parents, students, and coaches should understand the risk
- High contact sports, like wrestling, hockey, soccer, and football confer a higher risk for transmission.
- Indoor sports confer a higher risk of transmission than outdoor sports.
  - Be prepared to quarantine
    - Distance learning for students
    - Parents may miss work if minor is on quarantine
    - Missing other games and events
Best Practices in Sports

• Maintain consistent isolation/quarantine practices throughout the season.
  • RIDOH will NOT make exceptions for players to be exempt from isolation/quarantine during championship games.

• Ensure all involved individuals (e.g., athletes, parents, coaches, etc.) understand procedures for isolation and quarantine.

• Maintain consistent and efficient procedures; do not implement exceptions.

• Encourage vaccination as the best measure to combat COVID-19.

• Utilize a test to play strategy for higher risk sports such as wrestling, hockey, soccer and football.
Guidance for Keeping Teams Safe

• Follow all the school-specific masking protocols.

• Social distance whenever possible (i.e. spread out on the bench; practice in pods).

• Ask players to screen for symptoms before participating in practice/game.

• They should not participate if
  • They have any symptoms of COVID-19 (even if it’s only one symptom);
  • They are only mildly ill, and they feel well enough to play; or
  • They think their symptoms are due to allergies.

• There should be no penalty for missing practice/games if they are not feeling well.

• Recommend routine asymptomatic testing unless a player has tested positive in the past 90 days.
What to Expect as an Athletic Director

• RIDOH will interview the person or parent or guardian of the person who has COVID-19 and obtain the name and contact information for the athletic director.

• RIDOH will call the athletic director, state that an individual on the team is positive for COVID-19 and request that the athletic director:
  • Send a list of exposed contacts with player vaccination status to RIDOH quickly;
  • Notify the close contacts that they need to stay home while awaiting a call from RIDOH; and
  • Provide RIDOH with the name and phone number of the opposing team’s athletic director if the COVID-19 positive individual played in a game while infectious.
Low-Contact Sports: Quarantine Protocols for Game Situations

• **Low-contact sports** (i.e. baseball, softball, tennis)

• Team with the case quarantines, except individuals who:
  
  • Did not attend practice/game when exposure occurred;
  
  • Had COVID-19 within the last 90 days; or
  
  • Has been fully vaccinated.

• Opposing team does NOT quarantine, except in certain circumstances:
  
  • Example: If the infectious athlete played catcher or first base, any opponent who had extended time at bat or at first base will be considered a close contact and must quarantine.
High-Contact Sports: Quarantine Protocols for Game Situations

• **High-contact sports** (i.e. soccer, lacrosse, basketball)

• **Team with the case AND opposing team quarantine**, except individuals who:
  
  • Did not attend game when exposure occurred;
  
  • Are on the opposing team and did not enter the game of play when exposure occurred;
  
  • Had COVID-19 within the last 90 days; or
  
  • Have been fully vaccinated.
Symptom Screening in Sports

• All players, staff, coaches, officials, volunteers, and spectators should be screened for symptoms related to COVID-19 before beginning each activity or before entry into an indoor sports facility.

  • For students, this screening should be done in addition to any screening that was conducted at the beginning of the school day.

  • Any person showing signs of illness and any person who has been exposed to a person with COVID-19 must be excluded from participating/attending.
Testing in Sports

• Test prior to playing.

  • If schools require athletes to get tested prior to the beginning of the season, individuals who have had COVID-19 within the last 90 days and those who are fully vaccinated should be exempt but are permitted to take part in testing if desired.

    • Documentation of vaccination or a positive COVID-19 test result within the last 90 days should be required instead.

  • RIDOH does not recommend testing within 90 days of having COVID-19 because the test result may remain positive for weeks/months after the initial positive test result, even though they are no longer contagious.

    • If an individual who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 within the past 90 days becomes symptomatic, refer to a healthcare provider for evaluation.
Person Waiting For Test Results in Sports

When a person is symptomatic and waiting for test results for COVID-19 or is a close contact waiting for test results:

- Coaches, staff, athletes, officials, and spectators should **not** attend games, practices, or any related sports activities while waiting for COVID-19 test results if they are symptomatic or if they are a close contact being tested during quarantine.

- Sports organizations and teams are strongly encouraged by RIDOH to establish strict disciplinary policies to penalize persons who violate this provision.

- This provision does not apply to coaches, staff, athletes, officials, and spectators who undergo regular asymptomatic screening testing at their workplace (e.g., employees of congregate care facilities).
Masking in Sports

- **Masking**– Everyone is required to wear masks (no gaiters/bandanas) which completely cover the nose and mouth **when indoors**:
  - Athletes
  - Coaches
  - Officials
  - Spectators
  - Essential/Non-essential staff
- Masks must be worn by everyone **in all spaces** including, but not limited to:
  - Athletic facilities
  - Training rooms
  - Locker rooms
Physical Distancing in Sports

• At least three feet of physical distancing should be maintained between all players, coaches, and participants during practices and active play, when possible.

• When players, coaches, and participants are not engaged in active play (e.g., on the bench or on the sideline), a physical distance of three feet should be maintained.

• A minimum of six feet of physical distancing should be maintained between teams and any other individuals or groups within a facility.
Quarantine Policy for Sports

• All organizations, leagues, and participants are strongly encouraged to fully cooperate and follow the guidance provided by RIDOH regarding contact tracing and the need to quarantine.

• Organizations and leagues are strongly encouraged to adopt rules regarding the need for all participants to follow RIDOH quarantine requirements.
Sports—Missing Practice/Games/Tryouts Because Symptomatic

- Athletes must **not** attend practices, games, or tryouts if they have *any* symptoms of COVID-19, even if the symptom(s) is mild and they feel well enough to play.
  - Athletes will **not** be penalized for missing tryouts, practices, or games due to COVID-19 symptoms.
  - Tryouts must be extended for symptomatic athletes in accordance with athletic department rules.
Protocols for Schools
# Protocol for a Symptomatic Individual Who Requires Being Sent Home

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Situation</th>
<th>Isolation and quarantine protocol</th>
<th>Recommended testing protocol</th>
<th>Requirement to return</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Staff or student has symptom(s) of COVID-19 which requires being sent home according to school policy</td>
<td>Symptomatic individual is isolated, sent home, and gets tested. Household contacts and school close contacts do NOT need to quarantine while waiting for test results.</td>
<td>Advise symptomatic individual to seek medical advice and get a lab-processed PCR test. <strong>RIDOH may recommend testing for others in certain situations.</strong></td>
<td>Attestation that confirms one of the following (parent/guardian attests if a minor) • <strong>Tested negative (PCR)</strong> and • Has been fever free for 24 hours without use of fever-reducing medicine and symptoms improved (back to usual health). • <strong>Tested positive (PCR or antigen)</strong> and • Has met RIDOH guidelines for ending isolation. • <strong>Not tested</strong> • Has met the RIDOH guidelines for ending isolation. • <em>Testing is still recommended for those who think their symptom is due to an underlying illness.</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Protocol for a Confirmed Case

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Situation</th>
<th>Isolation and quarantine protocol</th>
<th>Recommended testing protocol</th>
<th>Requirement to return</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Staff or student tests positive</td>
<td>Person testing positive is isolated per CDC/RIDOH guidelines</td>
<td>Close contacts in quarantine should self-monitor for symptoms and seek medical advice as needed.</td>
<td>Individuals must meet the CDC/RIDOH guidelines for ending isolation:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Close contacts are quarantined per CDC/RIDOH guidelines</td>
<td>• Fully vaccinated close contacts do not need to quarantine but must get tested three to five days after the exposure and wear a mask in public indoor settings for 14 days or until they get a negative test result.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Unvaccinated close contacts must get tested immediately following the exposure and again five to seven days after the exposure.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Individuals who have tested positive in the past 90 days do not need to quarantine and should not get tested.</td>
<td><strong>Symptomatic</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medicine; <strong>and</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Symptoms have improved; <strong>and</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• 10 days since symptoms first appeared (20 days if severely immunocompromised).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Asymptomatic:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• 10 days since date of specimen collection (20 days if severely immunocompromised).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Protocol - Close Contact of a Case

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Situation</th>
<th>Isolation and quarantine protocol</th>
<th>Recommended testing protocol</th>
<th>Requirement to return</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Staff or student is a close contact of a confirmed case</td>
<td>A close contact is quarantined per CDC/RIDOH guidelines. If the close contact is not fully vaccinated and remains in the same household as the case, the contact must quarantine during the case’s isolation period (10 days) and then quarantine per CDC/RIDOH guidelines.</td>
<td>Close contacts in quarantine should self-monitor for symptoms for 14 days from last exposure and seek medical advice as needed. All close contacts are required to get tested once they’re identified as a close contact, regardless of vaccination status. - Unvaccinated individuals must get tested immediately following the exposure and again five to seven days after being identified as a close contact. - Fully vaccinated individuals must get tested three to five days after they’re identified as a close contact.</td>
<td>A close contact must meet the CDC/RIDOH guidelines for ending quarantine before returning to school: - Remain asymptomatic - Complete one of the quarantine options: - 14 days - 10 days - Seven days with a negative PCR test result from day 5 or later. - If choosing a seven- or 10-day quarantine option, continue to monitor for symptoms for 14 days from the last exposure.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Protocol Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Meets Symptomatic Criteria</th>
<th>Person Tests Positive with PCR or Antigen Test</th>
<th>Person Tests Negative with a PCR Test</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Isolation and Quarantine Guidance</strong></td>
<td>Isolate. Get medical advice. Test. If not tested/tests neg • Fever free for 24 hours; and • Symptoms improved (back to usual health).</td>
<td>Isolate for 10 days from symptom onset or 10 days from test if asymptomatic; and • Fever free 24 hours; and • Symptoms improved</td>
<td>• Fever free 24 hours; and • Symptoms improved (back to usual health).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Return to school</strong></td>
<td>Parent/guardian attestation</td>
<td>Parent/guardian attestation</td>
<td>Parent/guardian attestation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Close Contacts</strong></td>
<td>No action</td>
<td>Follow RIDOH guidance for isolation.</td>
<td>No action</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Travel Guidance
Travel Quarantine

• **Travel Quarantine:** While there is no law requiring quarantine after travel, RIDOH strongly recommends that schools following CDC guidance on travel quarantine as the best public health practice (details on the next slide).

  • For more information on these recommendations please visit Travel Information for Residents and Visitors | RI COVID-19 Information Portal.

• The State strongly recommends quarantine after traveling, and schools may choose to have a policy requiring quarantine after travel as the best public health practice for their students and staff.
# How to Assess Risk Associated with Travel

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Risk Level</th>
<th>Examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Where is the person traveling to?</td>
<td>Higher Risk</td>
<td>A state with higher than 5% positivity rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lower Risk</td>
<td>A state with lower than 5% positivity rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Track Testing Trends - Johns Hopkins Coronavirus Resource Center (jhu.edu)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What activities will the person be participating in?</td>
<td>Higher Risk</td>
<td>Attending a concert, wedding, or funeral</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lower Risk</td>
<td>Going hiking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What's their vaccination status?</td>
<td>Higher Risk</td>
<td>Unvaccinated or partially vaccinated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lower Risk</td>
<td>Fully vaccinated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What's the planned mode of transportation while traveling?</td>
<td>Higher Risk</td>
<td>Public transportation: Planes, trains, buses, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lower Risk</td>
<td>Private transportation: Personal car</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Resources for Schools
Template Letters and Close Contact Template

- Positive Case letter
  - English
  - Portuguese
  - Spanish

- Positive Case-Past Quarantine Letter
  - English
  - Portuguese
  - Spanish

- Excel School Close Contact Template
Appendix
CDC Rationale for Shortened Quarantine Options

• 10-Day Quarantine without testing
  • The post-quarantine transmission risk is approximately 1% (upper limit of 10%).
  • A negative test result at day 10 reduces the risk to approximately 0.3%.

• 7-Day Quarantine with negative test result on day 5
  • The post-quarantine transmission risk is approximately 5%, (upper limit of about 12%).

[Graph displaying post-quarantine transmission risk over days]
Overview: Antigen Tests Versus PCR Tests

**Antigen Tests**: Detect COVID-19 antigens which appear in the early part of the disease when people are most infectious. *(Levels of antigens shown in green to the left.)*

**PCR Tests**: Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests detect the presence of the COVID-19 virus itself (and not the antigen response). PCR tests should be sent to a laboratory for analysis. *(Levels of viral RNA shown in yellow and green to the left.)*

**Key difference**: PCR tests can detect infections earlier and later than antigen tests. Antigen tests are good at identifying positive cases when they are most infectious and likely to spread the virus.

Reference Abbott #Knowthecurves
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Close contact</td>
<td>Being within six feet of an infected person (with or without a face mask) for a total of 15 minutes, in a 24-hour period or having unprotected direct contact with secretions or excretions of a person with confirmed COVID-19 during the infectious period in either an indoor or outdoor setting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community transmission</td>
<td>Occurs when individuals acquire COVID-19 through contact with someone in their local community, rather than through travel to an affected location.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confirmed case</td>
<td>A person who has tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 infection (the virus that causes COVID-19).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact tracing</td>
<td>Process of identifying individuals who have had close contact (see definition above) with someone infected with COVID-19.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consistent/Stable Group</td>
<td>A consistent group of students and staff who interacts with each other but not with members of other groups on a regular basis. Groups should be as small as possible, with maximum numbers outlined in the different reopening scenarios. When in a stable group, each group must physically distance themselves from each other and from other consistent groups.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Glossary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COVID-19</td>
<td>Abbreviation for the disease caused by the novel coronavirus SARS CoV-2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incubation period</td>
<td>The time between exposure to an infection and the appearance of first symptoms. The virus that causes COVID-19 has an incubation period of two to 14 days.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infectious period (asymptomatic cases)</td>
<td>Two days prior to testing (the date of the swabbing was conducted) until CDC criteria to discontinue isolation are met.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infectious period (symptomatic cases)</td>
<td>Two days before symptom onset until CDC criteria to discontinue isolation are met.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isolation</td>
<td>Process of separating individuals who are infected with COVID-19 from others. Isolation lasts a minimum of:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• 10 days from symptom onset if symptomatic.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• 10 days from the date of specimen collection (test) is asymptomatic.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• 20 days for individuals with severely immunocompromising conditions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term</td>
<td>Definition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protocol</td>
<td>Recommended actions to follow if a probable or confirmed case of COVID-19 occurs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quarantine</td>
<td>Process of separating and restricting the movement of individuals who were in close contact with someone who tested positive or had symptoms of COVID-19. Persons in quarantine should self-monitor for 14 days for symptoms and seek medical advice as needed. RIDOH recommends all close contacts of people with COVID-19 get tested on day 5 of quarantine or later.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RIDE</td>
<td>Rhode Island Department of Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RIDOH</td>
<td>Rhode Island Department of Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Screening</td>
<td>Assessing individuals for symptoms of COVID-19 verbally or via self/parent attestation. Temperature checks may be performed by the school if desired.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Symptomatic individual</td>
<td>A person who is experiencing one or more of the symptoms of COVID-19 as defined in CDC guidelines.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Testing</td>
<td>Three types of tests are available to detect COVID-19: viral tests, antigen tests, and antibody tests.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Viral tests and antigen tests indicate if you have a current infection For viral tests there are two types: molecular tests, often referred to as PCR tests, and antigen tests</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Antibody tests indicate a previous infection.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>