



# COVID-19 RESPONSE SCENARIOS

## HEALTH PROTOCOLS

*For Students and Families*



**Updated September 10, 2020**  
in collaboration with Placer County Public Health



# COVID-19 RESPONSE SCENARIOS

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) issued [guidance](#) on what measures should be taken when a student, teacher or staff member has symptoms of illness, has had close contact with someone who tests positive for COVID-19 or who is diagnosed with COVID-19.

01	SCENARIO	PROTOCOL
	<p>A student or staff member either exhibits COVID-19 <a href="#">symptoms</a>, e.g.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fever (100.4°F/38°C or higher) or chills</li> <li>• Cough</li> <li>• Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing</li> <li>• Fatigue</li> <li>• Muscle or body aches</li> <li>• Headache</li> <li>• New loss of taste or smell</li> <li>• Sore throat</li> <li>• Congestion or runny nose</li> <li>• Nausea or vomiting</li> <li>• Diarrhea</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students and staff members will be asked to conduct a health self-assessment before interacting with others and before attending school. If symptoms are present, please stay home from school and other activities.</li> <li>• Students who display symptoms of illness during the day should go to a designated triage room until they can be picked up by a parent or guardian.</li> <li>• Staff members who display symptoms of illness during the day will be sent home.</li> <li>• State guidelines recommend testing for the individual experiencing symptoms. Staff members will be directed to a Placer County School Testing Site. Students can contact their physician or access the free OptumServe testing site.</li> <li>• If the individual tests negative, they may return to school 10 days after symptoms first appeared, are 24 hours fever-free without fever-reducing medication, and symptoms have improved.</li> <li>• If the individual no longer has symptoms, they may return to school 10 days after symptoms first appeared, and are 24 hours fever-free without fever-reducing medication.</li> <li>• School/classroom/cohort may remain open in consultation with public health officials.</li> </ul>
02	SCENARIO	PROTOCOL
	<p>Outside of school, a student or staff member has been in <a href="#">close contact</a> with someone who tests positive for COVID-19.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students and staff should not come to campus if they knowingly had close contact with someone who tests positive for COVID-19. Centers for Disease Control defines close contact as anyone who has been within six feet of an infected individual for at least 15 minutes, two days before illness onset with a confirmed COVID-19 case.</li> <li>• If the individual comes to campus, staff will be asked to go home and students will be kept in isolation, in a designated triage room until they can be picked up by a parent or guardian.</li> <li>• The individual will be asked to quarantine for 14 days from last exposure. School work will be provided to students to complete during this time.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State guidelines recommend testing for the individual who had close contact. Staff members will be directed to a Placer County School Testing Site. Students can contact their physician or access the free OptumServe testing site.</li> <li>If the individual tests negative, it does not shorten the 14-day quarantine.</li> <li>School/classroom/cohort may remain open in consultation with public health officials.</li> <li>Families in the cohort will receive notification regarding any additional safety precautions.</li> </ul>
03	SCENARIO	PROTOCOL
	A student or staff member <u>tests positive</u> for COVID-19.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Individuals cannot come onto campus for 10 days from symptom onset or test date, are at least 24 hours with no fever without fever-reducing medication, and symptoms have improved.</li> <li>If an individual tests positive, but has had no symptoms, they may return to campus after 10 days of the test.</li> <li>Site administrators will identify school site contacts, quarantine and exclude exposed contacts (likely the entire cohort) for 14 days after the last date the case was present at school while infectious. School work will be provided to students during this time.</li> <li>State guidelines recommend testing of contacts, especially those who are asymptomatic. However, testing will not shorten the 14 day quarantine.</li> <li>Disinfection and deep cleaning of classroom and primary spaces where the case spent significant time will be conducted.</li> <li>School may remain open in consultation with public health officials.</li> <li>Families and staff will receive notification regarding any additional safety precautions.</li> </ul>
04	SCENARIO	PROTOCOL
	A student or staff member tests negative for COVID-19 after symptoms or after exposure to a positive COVID-19 case.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If the individual was exposed and tests negative for COVID-19, the full 14-day quarantine will be required before return to school.</li> <li>If the individual was symptomatic (but not exposed) and tests negative for COVID-19 with no other confirmed cases in the school, the student or staff may return to in-person instruction three days after symptoms resolve. If there are other cases in the school, the individual must isolate at home and may return to school 10 days after symptoms first appeared, are 24 hours fever-free without fever-reducing medication, and symptoms have improved.</li> <li>Schools may remain open in consultation with public health officials</li> <li>Families and staff will receive notification regarding any additional safety precautions.</li> </ul>

## Quarantine vs Isolation:

**Quarantine** is for people who have been exposed to COVID-19, and who could become infected and spread the disease to others. Quarantine is for 14 days from last known exposure. [See quarantine guidance](#).



**Isolation** is used for people who are currently infected and able to spread the disease and who need to stay away from others in order to avoid infecting them. [See isolation guidance](#). Isolation should continue until:



- At least 1 day (24 hours) has passed since recovery defined as resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications; AND improvement in symptoms; AND
- At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared.

OR, if asymptomatic,

- At least 10 days have passed following specimen collection.

## Exposure/Close Contact:

A close contact is someone who has been within six feet of the positive person while they were infectious for 15 minutes or more, even if one or both people were wearing face coverings. This also includes living in the same household as a sick person with COVID-19, caring for a sick person with COVID-19 or being in direct contact with secretions from a sick person with COVID-19 (e.g. being coughed on, kissing, sharing utensils, etc. COVID-19 positive persons are considered infectious from 48 hours before their symptoms began (or 48 hours before they were tested for COVID if they never had symptoms).

## Guidance on School Closure:

The CDPH guidance outlines multiple scenarios for continued safety measures should school staff or students be symptomatic, be exposed or test positive for COVID-19.

- An individual school site would close for distance learning if at least five percent of the student body and staff are diagnosed with COVID-19 within a 14-day period.
- A superintendent should close the entire school district if a quarter of its schools have been closed due to positive COVID-19 cases within two weeks.

## Important References:

- [COVID-19 Reopening In-Person Learning Framework for K-12 Schools](#)
- [COVID-19 INDUSTRY GUIDANCE: Schools and School-Based Programs](#)

## Questions:

Contact your school principal or school district for site-specific questions. For general questions about COVID-19 and precautions currently recommended by Placer County Public Health, residents may call the county's coronavirus information line at 530.886.5310.