

# COVID-19 Exposure Control Plan for Schools



Public Health & Social Services

**If a student or staff person has signs or symptoms of COVID-19, send them home and refer to the *Student Symptom Decision Tree*.**

Close contact to person diagnosed with COVID-19	Positive COVID-19 test <sup>3</sup> , no symptoms	Positive COVID-19 test <sup>3</sup> , with symptoms
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Send home<sup>1</sup></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quarantine 10 days from last close contact.<sup>2</sup></li> <li>• Daily symptom monitoring                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ If no symptoms develop, may return at end of 10 days after last close contact.<sup>2</sup></li> <li>○ If symptoms develop, recommend medical evaluation or test.                                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ If negative test, return to school 10 days from last date of close contact<sup>2</sup> AND fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing meds AND symptoms improved.</li> <li>▪ If positive test follow <u>Positive COVID-19 test, with symptoms</u> column.</li> <li>▪ If no provider visit or test, return to school 10 days after symptoms began AND fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing meds AND symptoms improved.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• Document per school-specific protocol.</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Send home (including siblings and household contacts)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Isolate until 10 days after date of positive test AND fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing meds AND symptoms improved.</li> <li>• Siblings and household contacts to follow <u>Close contact to person diagnosed with COVID-19</u> column with their quarantine starting <u>after</u> the diagnosed person is no longer contagious.<sup>2</sup></li> <li>• Ask parent about date test was conducted; confirm no symptoms were observed.</li> <li>• Work with teachers/lunchroom staff/bus drivers/etc. to determine if there were any confirmed close contacts per definition on page 2.</li> <li>• Notify parents of students who had close contact.</li> <li>• Notify LCPHSS and share information about case and close contacts.</li> <li>• Document per school-specific protocol.</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Send home (including siblings and household contacts)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Isolate until 10 days after symptoms began AND fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing meds AND symptoms improved.</li> <li>• Siblings and household contacts to follow <u>Close contact to person diagnosed with COVID-19</u> column with their quarantine starting <u>after</u> the diagnosed person is no longer contagious.<sup>2</sup></li> <li>• Ask parent about symptom onset date in order to determine the contagious period as defined on page 2. Confirm date test was conducted.</li> <li>• Work with teachers/lunchroom staff/bus drivers/etc. to determine if there were any confirmed close contacts per definition on page 2.</li> <li>• Notify parents of students who had close contact.</li> <li>• Notify LCPHSS and share information about case and close contacts.</li> <li>• Document per school-specific protocol.</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> If a person is fully vaccinated against COVID-19 (two doses of Moderna or Pfizer or one dose of Johnson & Johnson and at least two weeks have passed since the last dose) and has no symptoms, they do not need to quarantine after an exposure. If a person has tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 90 days (cannot be a home-administered antigen test) and completed their isolation period they do not need to quarantine unless symptoms are present. The person should monitor for symptoms for 14 days after last close contact. A test is recommended 3-5 days after the last close contact.

<sup>2</sup> If a person is living with someone diagnosed with COVID-19, they are considered to have ongoing close contact until the diagnosed person is no longer contagious. Therefore, an exposed person may be excluded from school for up to 20 days (up to 10 days while diagnosed person is still contagious plus the 10-day quarantine).

<sup>3</sup> Confirm with parent that the student received a positive test result for COVID-19 before proceeding.

## Possible Triggers for Classroom and School Closure

### Classroom Closure Trigger:

- Two or more COVID-19 cases among students or staff within a 14-day period, who are epidemiologically linked, do not share a household and did not have significant contact outside of school grounds

### School Closure Triggers:

- Schools with fewer than 10 classrooms: If 2 or more classrooms are closed
- Larger schools: If more than 10% of classrooms are closed
- If there is a rapid increase in cases
- If there are 2 or more generations of transmission
- If there is not enough staff for school to function

## Definitions:

- Contagious period: A person diagnosed with COVID-19 is considered contagious from 2 days before their symptoms started until 10 days after their symptoms began. If a person does not have symptoms, they are considered contagious from 2 days before they were tested until 10 days after they were tested.
- Close contact: Closer than 6 feet for more than 15 minutes in one day (cumulative) during case's contagious period. *In a K-12 indoor classroom, this definition excludes students (not teachers, staff, or other adults) who were at least three feet away from an infected student when (a) both students were wearing face coverings/masks and (b) other prevention strategies were in place.*
- Fever: 100.4°F
- Fever reducing meds: Medications such as acetaminophen (Tylenol), ibuprofen (Advil) or other medications that reduce fever
- Isolation: Stay home and away from others (including household contacts) for a specific time period to avoid spreading illness to others. This is done when someone has COVID-19 symptoms or a positive test for COVID-19.
- LCPHSS: Lewis County Public Health & Social Services
- Quarantine: Stay home and away from others for the recommended period of time in case you are infected and contagious, this is done when someone has been exposed to COVID-19. Quarantine can turn into isolation if the person develops symptoms of COVID-19 or tests positive for COVID-19.
- Symptoms of COVID-19: Congestion/runny nose, nausea/vomiting/diarrhea, sore throat, headache, fatigue/muscle or body aches, fever/chills, cough, difficulty breathing/shortness of breath, new loss of taste/smell.

## References:

1. <https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/coronavirus/420-287-COVID-19SymptomEvalMgmtFlowChart.pdf>
2. <https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/coronavirus/820-105-K12Schools2021-2022.pdf>
3. <https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/COVID19/ResourcesandRecommendations>
4. <https://www.k12.wa.us/about-osp/press-releases/novel-coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-resources>
5. <https://www.thurstoncountywa.gov/phss/Pages/covid-19-resources-schoolschildcare.aspx>
6. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/index.html>