

Who is a close contact?

Close contact determination for schools meeting all of the criteria outlined below.

In special circumstances, the below tool *may* be used to determine who needs to be quarantined in the event of an student/staff member with COVID-19 or symptoms of COVID-19 in school.

In addition, consider the following:

- The most effective mechanism to limit the potential for disease transmission and reduce disruption to in-person learning is creating small cohorts and following the “standard contact identification” path (generally, quarantine of an entire exposed classroom). Use of the “Targeted Contact Identification” approach represents a less-tested strategy and may be associated with greater risk.
- Targeted contact identification is likely to be most impactful and feasible in middle and high school settings
- Contacts should be identified based on the full contagious period, including 2 days before the sick student/staff member’s symptoms started or positive test date, whichever is earlier
- All time-based criteria are cumulative
- Schools are strongly encouraged to complete a “contact tracing drill” before adopting a targeted contact identification strategy

TARGETED CONTACT IDENTIFICATION CRITERIA

- DISEASE PREVALENCE**
 - Is your county in “Protect our Neighbors” or “Safer at Home” 1 or 2?
 - Is there only one student/staff member in the class who has COVID-19 or is currently symptomatic?
- ADMINISTRATIVE CAPACITY**
 - Is there a plan in place to track and respond to illness-related absences in the school?
 - Does every class attended by the affected student/staff member have a seating chart?
 - Do students remain in their seats enough to make seating charts applicable?
 - Is there a plan in place to perform contact tracing in conjunction with local public health in the school?
- MINIMIZING TRANSMISSION RISK**
 - Is screening completed for each student and staff member each day?
 - Did the affected student/staff member wear a mask at all times (except during mealtimes)?
 - Were steps taken to minimize transmission risk during meals (e.g. lunch outside, staggered mealtime, spacing)?
 - Did the affected student/staff member refrain from activities such as singing, playing wind/brass instruments, or vigorous exertion known to increase the risk of disease transmission above normal masked speech?

TARGETED CONTACT IDENTIFICATION

Follow quarantine guidance for students who meet ANY of the following criteria:

- Were within 6 feet of the individual for 15 minutes or greater, when both parties are masked OR
- Were within 12 feet* of the individual for 15 minutes or greater, when either parties is unmasked and indoors (e.g. mealtimes)

YES
to all

NO
to any

STANDARD CONTACT IDENTIFICATION

Follow quarantine guidance for all students who meet ANY of the following criteria:

- Were in the classroom with the individual for 40 minutes or greater
- Were within 6 feet of the individual for 15 minutes or greater, when both parties are masked OR
- Were within 12 feet* of the individual for 15 minutes or greater, when either parties is unmasked and indoors (e.g. mealtimes)

To request assistance
or provide feedback:
<https://tinyurl.com/COP12Feedback>



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