

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*.

Exposure to person diagnosed with COVID-19	Positive COVID-19 test ³ , no symptoms	Positive COVID-19 test ³ , with symptoms
<p style="text-align: center;">Send home</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarantine 14 days from last date of exposure^{1,2} • Daily S/S active monitoring <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ If no symptoms develop, may return at end of 14 days after last exposure¹ ○ If symptoms develop, recommend medical evaluation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ If negative test, return to school 14 days from last date of exposure¹ AND fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing meds AND S/S improved ▪ If positive test follow <u>Positive COVID-19 test, with symptoms</u> column. ▪ If no provider visit or test, return to school 14 days from last date of exposure¹ AND fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing meds AND S/S improved • Document per school-specific protocol 	<p style="text-align: center;">Send home (including siblings and household contacts)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isolate until 10 days after date of positive test AND fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing meds AND S/S improved • Siblings and household contacts to follow <u>Exposure to person diagnosed with COVID-19</u> column with their quarantine starting <u>after</u> the diagnosed person is no longer contagious^{1,2}. • Ask parent about symptom onset date in order to determine the contagious period as defined on page 2. If student does not have symptoms, ask about date test was conducted. • Work with teachers/lunchroom staff/bus drivers/etc. to determine if there were any confirmed exposures per definition on page 2 • Notify parents of students who had confirmed exposures • Notify public health and share information about confirmed exposures • Document per school-specific protocol 	<p style="text-align: center;">Send home (including siblings and household contacts)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isolate until 10 days after S/S began AND fever free without fever reducing meds AND S/S improved • Siblings and household contacts to follow <u>Exposure to person diagnosed with COVID-19</u> column with their quarantine starting <u>after</u> the diagnosed person is no longer contagious^{1,2}. • Ask parent about symptom onset date in order to determine the contagious period as defined on page 2. If student does not have symptoms, ask about date test was conducted. • Work with teachers/lunchroom staff/bus drivers/etc. to determine if there were any confirmed exposures per definition on page 2 • Notify parents of students who had confirmed exposures • Notify public health and share information about confirmed exposures • Document per school-specific protocol

¹ If a person is living with someone diagnosed with COVID-19, they are considered to have ongoing exposure until the diagnosed person is no longer contagious. Therefore, an exposed person may be excluded from school for up to 24 days (up to 10 days while diagnosed person is still contagious plus the 14-day quarantine).

² If a person is fully vaccinated against COVID-19, (had two doses of the Moderna or Pfizer or one dose of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine and at least two weeks have passed since the last dose) and has no symptoms, they do not need to quarantine after an exposure for 3 months. They should watch for symptoms for 14 days after last exposure.

³ Confirm with parent that the student received a positive laboratory test result for COVID-19 before proceeding.

Classroom and School Closure Triggers

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.
- Exposure: closer than 6 feet for more than 15 minutes in one day (cumulative) during case's contagious period
- Fever: 100.4°F
- Fever reducing meds: medications such as Tylenol, 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 S/S or a positive test for COVID-19.
- PH: 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 S/S of COVID-19 or tests positive for COVID-19.
- Signs and symptoms (S/S) of COVID-19:
 - Low Risk: congestion/runny nose, nausea/vomiting/diarrhea, sore throat, headache, fatigue/muscle or body aches
 - High Risk: 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/FallGuidanceK-12.pdf>
2. <https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/COVID19/ResourcesandRecommendations>
3. <https://www.k12.wa.us/about-ospi/press-releases/novel-coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-resources>
4. <https://www.thurstoncountywa.gov/phss/Pages/covid-19-resources-schoolschildcare.aspx>
5. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/index.html>
6. [Isolation and Quarantine for COVID-19 :: Washington State Department of Health](#)