

Flowchart for Covid Exposure, Diagnosis, and Symptoms

August 27, 2021

DIAGNOSIS

Person tested positive with antigen test but does not have symptoms and no known close contact to someone with COVID:



If person has a repeat PCR test within 24-48 hours of the positive antigen test and the PCR is negative they can return to school

OR

If person does not have a repeat PCR or has one within 24-48 hours and it is also positive, the person can return 10 days after the first positive test as long as they did not develop symptoms.

Person tested positive with PCR test and does not have symptoms:



Person can return to school 10 days after their first positive test.

SYMPTOMS

Person has symptoms AND has tested positive with an antigen or PCR test



Person can return to school when:

- It has been 10 days since first day of symptoms AND
- It has been at least 24 hours since person has had a fever, without the use of fever-reducing medications AND
- Other symptoms of COVID are improving.

Person has symptoms but has NOT been tested nor has visited a health care provider. They are presumed positive for COVID.



Person can return to school when:

- It has been 10 days since first day of symptoms AND
- It has been at least 24 hours since person has had a fever, without the use of fever-reducing medications AND
- Other symptoms of COVID are improving.

❖ Person has symptoms of COVID or been seen by a health care provider and received an alternate diagnosis.



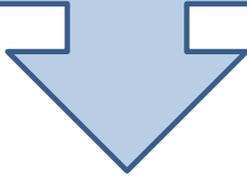
Person can return to school when:

- ❖ It has been 24 hours since the person has had a fever, without the use of fever-reducing medications AND
- ❖ They have felt well for at least 24 hours.

❖ *In a person with symptoms, a negative test is defined as either (1) a negative PCR/molecular test or (2) a negative antigen test if the person has a low likelihood of COVID-19 infection. For example: the person has no known or suspected exposure to a person with COVID within the last 14 days or is fully vaccinated or has had COVID-19 infection in the last 3 months.*

EXPOSURE

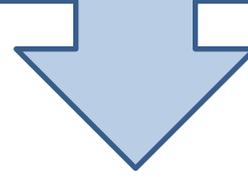
Person who is not fully vaccinated and has been in close contact with someone with a confirmed case of COVID-19.



Person can return to school after completing a 10-day quarantine if they are not presenting symptoms after daily at-home monitoring.

Note: Fully vaccinated persons and persons who have tested positive in the last 3 months and do not have any symptoms after a close contact do not need to quarantine.

K-12 student who is not fully vaccinated but has been in close contact with someone with a confirmed case of COVID-19, in which both individuals were wearing a mask the entire time.



NCDHHS does not recommend quarantine of students following exposures in school settings if masks were being worn appropriately and consistently by both the person with COVID-19 and the potential exposed person. This exception does not apply to teachers, staff, or other adults in the indoor classroom setting.

Note: This applies to exposures in classrooms, other in-school settings, and school transportation but does not apply to exposure during extracurricular or athletic activities.