Can I Send My Child To School?

Students should not go to school or any school activities or sports if having symptoms of COVID-19. If they start having symptoms of COVID-19 while at school, they will need to be sent home. They may return based on the guidance for their diagnosis.

As long as there are cases of COVID-19 in the community, there will be no way to prevent all risks of COVID-19 spread in schools. The goal is to keep children in optimal learning environments, while reducing COVID-19 risks.

STOP
If your child has been placed into isolation or quarantine for COVID-19, they may not attend school.

DOES YOUR CHILD HAVE SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19?*
(If new, different, or worse than any longstanding conditions)
- Temperature 100.4 or signs of fever (chills/sweating)
- Sore throat
- New uncontrolled cough that causes difficulty breathing
- Diarrhea, vomiting, or abdominal pain
- New onset of severe headache
- New loss of taste or smell

If "YES" to any symptoms present, student should stay out of school until they meet criteria for return based on their symptoms.

If "NO", student can go to school. Always monitor your child for symptoms before the start of the school day.

If you are asked to get a medical evaluation for your child, you may call your health care provider, or to follow up with a local clinic or urgent care center. While testing is not required, students may need to be excluded from in-person instruction for a longer period of time.

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DISCLAIMER: This information was developed based on the latest information, but is subject to change at any time.
If my child stays home or is sent home due to symptoms...

**HOW LONG MUST THEY STAY OUT OF SCHOOL?**

If your child has symptoms of COVID-19, and tests positive for COVID-19:

Keep out of school until it has been at least 10 days from the first day they had symptoms, they have had 24 hours with no fever (without fever reducing medications) and other symptoms have improved. There is no need to get a “negative test” or a doctor’s note to clear the child to return to school if they meet these criteria set by the health department.

If your child has symptoms of COVID-19, has risk for exposure to COVID-19, and no testing has been done (or results are pending):

Keep out of school until it has been at least 10 days from the first day they had symptoms, they have had 24 hours with no fever (without fever reducing medications) and other symptoms have improved.

If your child has symptoms of COVID-19, has risk for exposure to COVID-19, and tests negative for COVID-19:

Your student may return based on the guidance for their symptoms (see “Managing Communicable Diseases in Schools”):

- **Fever:** at least 24 hours have passed with no fever, without the use of fever-reducing medications
- **Sore throat:** improvement in symptom (if strep throat: do not return until at least 2 doses of antibiotic have been taken);
- **Cough/Shortness of breath:** improvement in symptom
- **Diarrhea, vomiting, abdominal pain:** no diarrhea or vomiting for 24 hours
- **Severe headache:** improvement in symptom

If your child has symptoms of COVID-19, has no risk for exposure to COVID-19, and no testing is done:

Your student may return based on the guidance for their symptoms (see “Managing Communicable Diseases in Schools”) - see above for guidance on when they may return to school.

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