

# PROTOCOL FOR COVID-19 EXPOSURE MANAGEMENT

## 2021-22

### Exposure Management for 1 COVID-19 Infected Persons at School

Required: After identifying one confirmed or suspected COVID-19 infected person (student, employee, or visitor), the School Compliance Lead instructs the infected person to follow [PPHD home isolation instructions for COVID-19](#). NOTE: A person is considered to be diagnosed with or likely to have COVID-19, based on one of more of the following criteria: a) They received a positive diagnostic (viral) test for COVID-19 and/or b) A healthcare provider clinically suspects that they have COVID19.

Required: School provide a copy of the [Health Officer Order for Case Isolation](#) to the infected person and informs them that PPHD may contact them directly to collect additional information and issue the Health Officer Order for Case Isolation.

Required: The Compliance Lead works to identify all individuals in the School who have had an exposure to the confirmed positive infected person during their infectious period (close contacts).

- An infected person is considered to be infectious from 2 days before symptoms first appeared until the time the infected person is no longer required to be isolated (i.e., no fever for at least 24 hours, without the use of medicine that reduces fevers AND other symptoms have improved AND at least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared). A person with a positive COVID-19 test but no symptoms is considered to be infectious from 2 days before the test was taken until 10 days after the test.
- Close Contact: A person is considered to have been exposed to an infected person during the infectious period if at least one of the following criteria are met if they are one of the following:
  - An individual who was within 6 feet of the infected person for a cumulative 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period, even if a face mask was worn;
  - An individual who had unprotected contact with the infected person's body fluids and/or secretions of a person with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 (e.g., being coughed or sneezed on, sharing utensils or saliva, or providing care without using appropriate protective equipment).
  - Exposures will be reviewed by PPHD to assess which persons need to quarantine including the possibility of quarantining all individuals in the same cohort or classroom as an infected person if exposures cannot be ruled out for the entire group. NOTE: Exposures associated with extracurricular activities including youth sports programs will be reviewed by Public Health to confirm which persons need to quarantine, including the possibility of quarantining all individuals on the

same team with an infected person (or individuals on an opposing team who were playing against a team with an infected person), if exposures cannot be ruled out.

- Required: School Compliance Lead must notify PPHD of (1) employees, students, and visitors with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 who were on campus at any point within the 14 days prior to the illness onset date and (2) persons on campus who were exposed to the infected person during the infectious period. The illness onset date is the first date of COVID-19 symptoms, or for an asymptomatic infected person, the swab date of the positive COVID-19 test.
  - The School Compliance Lead submits this information to PPHD using the [COVID-19 Infected person and Contact Line List for the Educational Sector](#) within 1 day of notification of a infected person. If needed, additional time may be requested. Secure (encrypted) online email via [nursing@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:nursing@cityofpasadena.net) is the preferred method for notifying PPHD of COVID-19 exposures.
- Required: All persons identified to have had an exposure to a COVID-19 positive infected person at school are notified by the School Compliance Lead of the exposure through a letter or other communication strategies. A School Exposure Notification letter template is available at: [COVID19 Template Notification Letters for Education Settings](#). The notification of exposure should include the following messages:
  - Students, employees, and visitors with an exposure to the infected person should test for COVID-19, whether or not they have symptoms, and inform the school of test results. This will determine the extent of disease spread at the school and serve as a basis for further control measures. Testing resources include: Employee Health Services or Occupational Health Services, Student Health Center, Personal Healthcare Providers, Community Testing Sites: <https://www.cityofpasadena.net/public-health/covid-19-testing-info/>.
  - Exposed students, employees, and visitors must self-quarantine (stay in their home or another residence, separate from others) and monitor for symptoms for 10 days from their last contact with the infected person while infectious (as defined above). If they remain asymptomatic, quarantine can end after Day 10 from the last date of exposure without testing but they must continue to monitor their health and adhere to COVID-19 prevention precautions through Day 14.
  - Quarantine may end after Day 7 for students who remain asymptomatic, if a diagnostic specimen is collected after Day 5 from the date of last exposure and is negative. These students are allowed to return to school for in-person instruction after day 7 provided they (1) are asymptomatic, (2) continue to appropriately mask, as required, and (3) continue to quarantine for all extracurricular activities at school, including sports, and activities within the

community setting but they must continue to monitor their health and adhere to COVID-19 prevention precautions through Day 14.

- NOTE: Asymptomatic persons who are fully vaccinated AND who are a close contact to a confirmed infected person are recommended to test for COVID-19 three to five days after their exposure but are not required to quarantine. However, they should monitor for symptoms of COVID-19 for 14 days following an exposure. Persons who have recovered from laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 within the last 90 days AND who are a close contact to a confirmed infected person are not required to quarantine or test for COVID-19 if they remain asymptomatic or do not develop new symptoms.
- PPHD may contact students and employees directly to collect additional information and issue the Health Officer Order for Quarantine.
- Recommended: School Compliance Lead will determine whether additional notification is needed to inform the wider school community about the school exposure and precautions being taken to prevent spread of COVID-19. A general notification letter template is available at: [COVID-19 Template Notification Letters for Education Settings](#)

#### **Exposure Management for 2 COVID-19 Infected Persons at School within a 14-day Period**

- Required: After identifying 2 confirmed infected persons (students and/or employees) within a 14-day period, the school follows the required steps for 1 infected person.
- Recommended: School Compliance Lead determines whether the 2 infected persons are epidemiologically linked, meaning that the two affected individuals were both present at some point in the same setting during the same time period while either or both were infectious.

\*An infected person is considered to be infectious from 2 days before symptoms first appeared until they are no longer required to be isolated (i.e., no fever for at least 24 hours without the use of medicine that reduces fever AND other symptoms have improved AND at least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared). A person with a positive COVID-19 test but no symptoms is considered to be infectious from 2 days before their test was taken until 10 days after their test.

- Determination of epidemiological links between infected persons may require further investigation to assess exposure history and identify all possible locations and persons that may have been exposed to the infected person while infectious. A tool is available to assist in the assessment of epidemiological links at: [COVID-19 Exposure Investigation Worksheet for the Education Sector](#). For technical assistance on how to assess for epidemiological links, please contact [nursing@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:nursing@cityofpasadena.net).
- If epidemiological links do not exist, the school continues with routine exposure management.

- If epidemiological links exist, the school reinforces messages to students and employees on precautions to take to prevent spread at the school, including implementation of site specific interventions.

#### **Exposure Management for ≥ 3 COVID-19 Infected Persons at School within a 14-day Period**

- Required: If the school identifies a cluster of 3 or more linked infected persons (students and/or employees) within a 14-day period, the school should proceed with the following steps:
  - Report the cluster to PPHD within 1 business day via secure email at: [nursing@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:nursing@cityofpasadena.net) or by calling (626) 744-6089.
  - Complete the Line List for Infected persons and Contacts, available at: [COVID-19 Infected person and Contact Line List for the Educational Sector](#) and submit via secure email to [nursing@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:nursing@cityofpasadena.net) . For technical assistance on how to complete the line list contact [nursing@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:nursing@cityofpasadena.net).
  - PPHD will review the Line List for Infected persons and Contacts to determine whether the outbreak criteria have been met. PPHD will contact the school within 1 business day to advise on next steps. Outbreak Criteria: At least 3-confirmed infected persons with symptomatic or asymptomatic COVID-19 within a 14-day period in a group\* with members who are epidemiologically linked, do not share a household, and are not a close contact of each other outside of the campus. \*School groups include persons that share a common membership at school (e.g., classroom, school event, school extracurricular activity, academic class, sport teams, clubs, transportation). Epidemiological links require the infected persons to have been present at some point in the same setting during the same time period while infectious.
  - If outbreak criteria are not met, PPHD may advise the school to continue with routine exposure management.
  - If outbreak criteria are met, PPHD will initiate an outbreak investigation.
  - PPHD will coordinate with the school on outbreak management for the duration of the outbreak investigation.
  - The School Compliance Lead will submit requested information, including updates to the Line List for Infected persons and Contacts, to the investigator until the outbreak is resolved (i.e., no new infected persons at least 14 days since the last confirmed infected person).