

# COVID-19 Decision Table for K-12 Schools



This table highlights recommendations and requirements for K-12 schools and childcare settings that reflect the [CDPH COVID-19 Isolation Guidance](#), [CDPH Public Health Guidance for K-12 Schools and Childcare Settings](#) and the [Cal/OSHA COVID-19 Prevention Non-Emergency Regulations](#). School districts, charter schools, and private schools have authority to exceed these recommendations and requirements.

SCENARIO	STUDENTS	EMPLOYEES
<p><b>For Those Who Have <a href="#">COVID-19-Like Symptoms</a></b></p>	<p>Should consider wearing a mask when experiencing respiratory symptoms and should test for COVID-19.</p> <p>If testing positive, follow the directions for students who test positive.</p> <p>Follow the <a href="#">Considerations when a Child has Symptoms of Illness in Child Care or School</a> to determine if the student should be sent home or stay at home.</p>	<p>Should consider wearing a mask when experiencing respiratory symptoms and should test for COVID-19.</p> <p>If testing positive, follow the directions for staff who test positive.</p>
<p><b>For Those Who Test Positive for COVID-19</b></p>	<p><b>Symptomatic</b> Stay home when symptoms appear. May return to school when they are fever-free for 24 hours without using fever-reducing medication AND other non-fever symptoms are mild and improving.</p> <p><b>Asymptomatic</b> Remain at school unless symptoms develop. Then follow the symptomatic guidance above.</p> <p><b>All students who test positive for COVID-19:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Should wear a mask indoors through day 10 after their symptom onset or positive test date if asymptomatic. Students may remove their mask sooner than 10 days if they have two sequential negative tests at least one day apart.</li> <li>■ Should avoid contact for 10 days with individuals who are at higher risk for severe COVID-19.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Symptomatic</b> Stay home when symptoms appear. May return to work when they are fever-free for 24 hours without using fever reducing medication AND other non-fever symptoms are mild and improving.</p> <p><b>Asymptomatic</b> Remain at work unless symptoms develop. Then follow the guidance above.</p> <p><b>All staff who test positive for COVID-19:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Must wear a mask at work indoors through day 10 after their symptom onset or positive test date.</li> <li>■ Should avoid contact for 10 days with individuals who are at higher risk for severe COVID-19.</li> </ul>
<p><b>For Those Who Are Close Contacts*</b></p>	<p>May remain at school unless they develop symptoms. Then follow the symptomatic guidance above.</p> <p><b>All students who are close contacts should test for COVID-19 if they:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Develop symptoms</li> <li>2. Are at higher risk for severe COVID-19</li> <li>3. Are around others who are at higher risk for severe COVID-19.</li> </ol> <p>They should wear a mask through day 10 after the close contact if they develop symptoms, or when around others indoors who are at higher risk for infection.</p>	<p>May remain at work unless they develop symptoms. Then follow the symptomatic guidance above.</p> <p><b>All staff who are close contacts should test for COVID-19 if they:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Develop symptoms</li> <li>2. Are at higher risk for severe COVID-19</li> <li>3. Are around others who are at higher risk for severe COVID-19.</li> </ol> <p>They should wear a mask through day 10 after the close contact if they develop symptoms, or when around others indoors who are at higher risk for infection.</p>
<p>*Close Contact is defined as: In indoor spaces of 400,000 or fewer cubic feet per floor (such as homes, clinic waiting rooms, airplanes, etc.), sharing the same indoor airspace for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period (for example, three individual 5-minute exposures for a total of 15 minutes) during a confirmed case's infectious period.</p> <p>In large indoor spaces greater than 400,000 cubic feet per floor (such as open-floor-plan offices, warehouses, large retail stores, manufacturing, or food processing facilities), it's being within 6 feet of the infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period during the confirmed case's infectious period.</p> <p><b>NOTE:</b> The confirmed case is only considered infectious to close contacts when they are symptomatic.</p>		<p><b>In an Outbreak Setting (3 or more cases in 7 days)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Staff must wear a mask indoors or within six feet of others outdoors, until the site no longer qualifies as an outbreak setting.</li> <li>■ Staff must test for COVID-19 within 3-5 days of the close contact in order to remain at work.</li> </ul>