

Updated Changes for TK-12 School and Childcare Settings 2024-2025 Guidance

Summary of Changes

- This document updates and replaces the CDPH [K-12 Guidance 2023-24 School Year](#).
- The language and terminology of the guidance has been simplified to assist in applying strategies and to support schools in communicating health information to their students and communities.
- In workplaces, employers remain subject to the [Cal/OSHA COVID-19 Prevention Non-Emergency Regulations](#). These requirements are expected to expire on February 3, 2025.
- In May of 2024, the CDC published [Preventing Spread of Infections in K-12 schools](#). CDPH has reviewed the CDC guidance and included updated resources.

Additions/Updates to Mitigation Measures:

- There are no major changes to the communicable disease mitigation measures outlined in the guidance. The recommendations for school health operations and coordination with local health jurisdictions remain the same as last school year.
- CDPH has reviewed the mitigation measures and updated resources. A summary table of the updated links and adjusted language is provided below:

Table Summary by Topic:

<p>Stay Up to Date on Vaccinations:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDPH Shots for School site has new resources for school-based vaccination events and tools to see how well-vaccinated a school or childcare facility is. • COVID-19 and flu vaccines are strongly recommended for all eligible people in California. More information can be found at CDPH's Respiratory Viruses webpage.
<p>Optimizing Indoor Air Quality:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consult CDPH guidance on improving indoor air quality in schools and reducing the health risks from indoor transmission of airborne infections. • Facility maintenance staff can find more guidance and information in the Environmental Protection Agency's Air Quality Tools for Schools
<p>Using Face Masks:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote respiratory virus prevention measures and protective actions. • Encourage masking when around others if you have respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, runny nose, and/or sore throat) or are around those who are at higher risk of getting sick. • Employers should continue to follow Cal/OSHA COVID-19 Non-Emergency Regulations return to work masking requirements.
<p>Maintain Good Hygiene:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post hand washing and hygiene education materials in appropriate languages where suitable.
<p>Manage Individuals with Symptoms:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools and child care settings should refer to the CDPH guidance when determining whether to send a child with symptoms home or allow them to remain on site. • For a suspected or confirmed COVID-19 infection, follow recommendations from CDC Preventing Spread of Respiratory Viruses When You're Sick.
<p>Reporting Diseases and Responding to Outbreaks:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools should be aware of reporting requirements in Title 17, California Code of Regulations (CCR) §2500 and §2508. • Local educational agencies are encouraged to work with their local health department to develop additional school health operational plans. • For communicable disease reporting see CDPH: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Disease Information and Reports; ○ Infectious Disease Investigations; ○ Tuberculosis Control; • For outbreak reporting see CDPH: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Reportable Diseases and Conditions; ○ Communicable Disease Quicksheets; ○ Norovirus Toolkits; • For more preparedness recommendations, see CDC guidance on Planning for Outbreaks, Epidemics, and Pandemics.
<p>Get Tested for Respiratory Infections:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At-home testing for respiratory viruses (such as COVID-19 or flu) provides individuals with rapid test results. • Testing can assist in decision making about treatment and understanding how to reduce the spread of disease.