

# WHO NEEDS TO QUARANTINE?

For students, teachers, and staff in the school setting

Was there a probable or confirmed case of COVID-19?

- A positive COVID-19 test, even if later tests are negative, or
- Any major, or two or more minor symptoms (but has not had a negative test while symptomatic) or,
- Symptoms after a recent exposure to COVID-19 (but has not had a negative test while symptomatic)

YES

Was it a higher risk exposure or is the individual a teacher/ staff member?

Including not limited to: indoor sports, contact sports, band, and other activities with forced exhalation. Most bus exposures are high risk, but may be considered routine by the LPHA in some instances.

YES

HIGHER RISK EXPOSURE

Was the exposed person a close contact? (For higher risk exposures)

- Within 6 ft for > 15 minutes if both ill and exposed person masked, or
- Within 12 ft for > 15 minutes if indoors and either ill or exposed person not masked, or
- Had any direct physical contact with ill person for any duration such as tackling, hugging, diapering, feeding, or sneezed/coughed on, or
- Lives in the same household as the ill person, or
- Sleeps in the same space as ill person, or
- Is identified as a close contact based on public health investigation

YES

Was the exposed person immune? (For higher risk exposures)

- Is the student or staff member up to date on recommended COVID-19 vaccinations ([bit.ly/cdcuptodate](https://bit.ly/cdcuptodate)), or
- Viral test-confirmed infection in past 90 days

NO

QUARANTINE RECOMMENDED

ROUTINE CLASSROOM EXPOSURES

\*For students only\*

Was the exposed student a close contact? (For routine classroom exposures)

- Within 6 ft for > 15 minutes if either ill and exposed person not masked, or
- Had direct physical contact with ill person for any duration such as tackling, hugging, diapering, feeding, or sneezed/coughed on, or
- Is identified as a close contact based on public health investigation

YES

Was the exposed student immune, protected, or participating in screening testing? (For routine classroom exposures)

- Is the student up to date on recommended COVID-19 vaccinations ([bit.ly/cdcuptodate](https://bit.ly/cdcuptodate)), or
- Viral test-confirmed infection in past 90 days, or
- Protected via well-fitted mask wearing by the ill and exposed persons
- Participating in weekly screening testing and will continue to participate for at least 2 additional weeks

NO

Criteria for Reduced Quarantine met and adopted by the LPHA? (For routine classroom exposures)

See table: Criteria for Reduced Quarantine in [Colorado's Practical Guide for Operationalizing CDC's School Guidance](#)

YES

REMAIN IN SCHOOL

**NOTE:** Local public health agencies (LPHAs) have statutory authority to require quarantine and determinations may differ from this tool; individuals should defer to the determinations of their LPHA. Issuance of exposure notification letters, 10-day masking around others and symptom monitoring, and exposure-based testing at 3-5 days are recommended even when quarantine is not required.



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