

# Decision tree for managing illness at school



**If screening in person, wear PPE.**

**Exposure:** Within the last 14 days, have you been in contact with a person who was diagnosed with COVID-19?

yes

Within the last 14 days, were you within 6 feet for longer than 15 minutes with this person?

yes

Quarantine at home.  
Return to school after: 14 days from last contact unless symptoms develop.  
If symptoms develop, isolate at home and seek evaluation by a healthcare provider.

no

no

**Symptoms:** Within the last 48 hours, have you had any of the following signs and symptoms of illness?

<input type="checkbox"/> New cough (for students with chronic allergic or asthmatic cough, any change in their typical cough)	<input type="checkbox"/> Sore throat
<input type="checkbox"/> Fever (over 100.4°F)	<input type="checkbox"/> Vomiting/diarrhea
<input type="checkbox"/> New onset severe headache	<input type="checkbox"/> Abdominal pain
	<input type="checkbox"/> Loss of taste/smell

No symptoms.

Return to class.

yes, for any symptom - send this person home

Seek virtual or in-person evaluation by a healthcare provider.

Based on outcome of assessment and/or tests

Diagnosis of COVID-19 (notify school district and LCPH of positive).  
Isolate at home.  
Return to school after:  
• 24 hours fever-free without fever-reducing medicines,  
• AND 10 days since first symptoms,  
• AND symptoms improving.

Alternative diagnosis.

No diagnosis of COVID-19.

Isolate at home.  
Return to school after:  
• 24 hours fever-free without fever-reducing medicines,  
• AND symptoms improving.  
Return may depend on your diagnosis.

Isolate and quarantine are used throughout this document. For clarification, the definitions are:

- **Isolate:** Separate a sick or contagious person from others who are not sick.
- **Quarantine:** Separate or restrict movement of people who were exposed to a contagious illness to see if they become sick.

These guidelines are based on current scientific information at the time of publishing and are designed to assist the schools in decision making. They are not meant to diagnose COVID or provide an exclusive course of action.