

What to do if your student is a close contact of someone with COVID-19 at school

Families of students identified as close contacts are notified during the contact tracing investigation via email and/or phone call by the central contact tracing team.

Is your student (close contact) fully vaccinated OR have they tested positive in the past three months and recovered?



YES



Has Symptoms



Test for COVID-19



Can return to school after:

- A negative test result for COVID-19
- No fever within the past 24 hours (without medication)

AND

- Symptoms have significantly improved



NO Symptoms



Can remain at school, but they should:

- Get tested 3 to 5 days after known exposure
- Continue wearing a mask in all public indoor settings
- Watch for symptoms for 14 days after close contact



NO



Has Symptoms



Test for COVID-19



If positive for COVID-19

Can return to school after:

- 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared IF
 - No fever within 24 hours (without medication)
- AND
- Symptoms have significantly improved

If negative for COVID-19



NO Symptoms

Can return to school after:

- 14 days from the last day your student had close contact with the person with COVID-19 if no symptoms develop and they do not test positive
- Monitor for fever, cough, shortness of breath and COVID-19 symptoms. If symptoms develop, isolate your student, and get them tested

Get a COVID-19 Test

Fully vaccinated close contacts should be tested for COVID-19 3-5 days after exposure, even if they are not experiencing symptoms and monitor for symptoms for 14 days following the last exposure or until test result is negative. Unvaccinated close contacts should get tested immediately. If test is negative, they should test again 5-7 days after date of last exposure. If a close contact develops symptoms, they need to isolate and be tested as soon as possible. Students may return to school after 14 days if no symptoms develop and you do not test positive.

What communication will families of close contacts receive?

- The SPS contact tracing team will communicate directly with the family of a close contact with a confirmed case via phone and/or email to discuss next steps. Families of students identified as close contacts are notified by the SPS contact tracing team once the investigation is complete via phone call and followed up by email
- SPS also goes beyond state requirements and notifies the entire classroom via email when there is a positive case that students may have been exposed to.
- SPS does not notify the full school community, except in rare cases, to protect student and staff privacy.

Who is a close contact?

In general, a close contact is defined by:

- Staff within 6 feet (2 meters) of a person confirmed to have COVID-19 for a combined total of 15 minutes or more within a 24-hour period when the person with COVID-19 was infectious.
- Live in the same household as a person with COVID-19
- Cared for a person with COVID-19
- Been in direct contact with saliva or other body secretions from a person with COVID-19 (for example: been coughed on, kissed, shared utensils, etc.)

If a student in a K-12 indoor classroom...

The SPS Contact Tracing Team determines close contacts in partnership with school staff and consults with Public Health in response to several determining factors including:

- Students being less than three feet away from an infected student or six feet from an infected adult for a combined total of 15 minutes or more within a 24-hour period when the person with COVID-19 was infectious
- Inconsistent or incorrect wearing of face coverings/masks
- Vaccination status for individuals
- Other layered mitigation factors present (e.g. ventilation)