

# Isolation and Quarantine Procedures

(NJDOH guidance updated 1/12/2022)

## Isolation:

### **If an individual tests positive for COVID-19:**

- Regardless of vaccination status, the individual will be excluded from school for at least 5 full days
- Day 0 is the day symptoms began or day test was performed if asymptomatic. If the individual develops symptoms after testing positive, the 5-day isolation period should start over. Day 0 is the first day of symptoms.
- The individual may return to school on the 6<sup>th</sup> day and must be fever free without fever-reducing medication for at least 24 hours and symptoms must be resolving.
- Upon return to school, the individual must strictly wear a well-fitted mask, including outdoors, for the next 5 days upon their return to school.
- During lunch, students may remove their mask only while eating or drinking, and then put the mask back on whenever not actively eating or drinking. All students must physically distance according to school or location procedure and/or markings.

### **If an individual is SYMPTOMATIC with COVID-compatible symptoms:**

- The individual will be excluded from school for at least 5 days.
- Day 0 is the day symptoms began.
- The individual may return to school on the 6th day and must be fever free without fever-reducing medication for at least 24 hours and symptoms must be resolving.
- If the individual is tested by a laboratory-rapid test or PCR and receives a negative result, the individual may return to school when they provide the lab test results/report to the school nurse as long as the individual is fever free for 24 hours and additional symptoms have resolved.
- Upon return to school, the individual must strictly wear a well-fitted mask, including outdoors, for the next 5 days upon their return to school.
- An alternate diagnosis (i.e. positive strep test, influenza, etc.) absent a negative PCR test is not acceptable for individuals who meet COVID-19 exclusion criteria to return to school earlier than the recommended exclusion timeframes. The negative test must be a laboratory-rapid test or PCR and CANNOT be a home-based test unless the test is medically supervised and sent to a laboratory for processing.

## Quarantine:

### **If an individual is determined to be a CLOSE CONTACT to an individual confirmed positive with COVID-19:**

- The individual will be excluded from school and is recommended to quarantine for 5 days after the last exposure to the confirmed positive case.
- Day 0 is the last day of close contact to the confirmed positive case.
- The individual may return to school on day 6 provided that they do not become symptomatic or test positive for COVID-19 during the exclusion period.
- If the individual becomes symptomatic or tests positive for COVID-19 during the quarantine, they should isolate according to isolation procedures and notify the school nurse.
- It is recommended the individual be tested at least 5 days after last exposure to someone with COVID-19
- A negative test is not required as long as the individual remains symptom free for the full 5 days.
- **An individual will not be excluded from school if:**
  - The individual is fully vaccinated and has no symptoms (fully vaccinated = 2 weeks after a Pfizer or Moderna second dose; 2 weeks after a Johnson & Johnson single dose.), OR
  - Tested positive for COVID-19 using a viral test and clinically recovered from COVID-19 in the previous 90 days, OR
  - A student is further than 3 feet of an infected student, in an indoor classroom setting where both the infected student and the exposed student(s) correctly and consistently wore a well-fitted mask the entire time and has no symptoms.