

## COVID-19 Protocols for TK-12 School Settings in Santa Barbara County

**\*updated 1/07/2022 in coordination with Santa Barbara County Public Health**

### STUDENTS

- When a **student has a confirmed case** of COVID-19 (regardless of vaccination status), they may:
  - Return to school on **Day 11** and are fever-free for 24 hours with no medication **and** symptoms have improved **OR**
  - Return to school as early as **Day 6** with a negative test (on or after day 5; antigen test preferred) **and** are fever-free for 24 hours with no medication **and** symptoms have improved
- When an **unvaccinated student has had close contact\* inside of school** with a person with a confirmed case of COVID-19 and **both individuals were masked** at the time of the close contact:
  - **Standard quarantine** at home and return to school as early as **Day 11** if symptoms are improving **OR**
  - **Modified quarantine** at school (excluded from sports, extracurricular activities and school activities) **and** are symptom-free **and** test twice weekly (recommend immediate and again between days 5-7). Modified quarantine may end as early as **Day 8** with negative test (on or after day 5) **OR**
  - **Shortened quarantine** at home and return to school as early as **Day 8** with a negative test (on or after day 5) **and** are symptom-free
- When an **unvaccinated student has had close contact\* inside of school** with a person with a confirmed case of COVID-19 and **both parties were unmasked** at the time of the close contact:
  - **Standard quarantine** at home and return to school as early as **Day 11** if symptoms are improving **OR**
  - **Shortened quarantine** at home and return to school as early as **Day 8** with a negative test (on or after day 5) **and** are symptom-free
- When an **unvaccinated student has had close contact outside of school** with a person with a confirmed case of COVID-19, they may:
  - Return to school on **Day 11** if symptom-free **OR**
  - Return to school on **Day 8** if they test negative (on or after day 5) **and** are symptom-free

- For 14 days, wear mask, continue self monitoring, handwash, and avoid crowds
- When a **vaccinated\*\* student has had close contact inside or outside of school** with a person with a confirmed case of COVID-19:
  - Return to school provided there are no symptoms
  - Recommend to test between days 5-7 from close contact (antigen preferred), monitor symptoms; SBCPHD recommends testing days 3-5 from close contact
  - For 14 days, wear mask, continue self monitoring, handwash, and avoid crowds

### **SCHOOL EMPLOYEES Effective January 7 - January 13**

*(Effective January 14, having a booster vaccination, once eligible for one, will be required by Cal/OSHA for employees to be considered fully vaccinated.)*

- When an **employee tests positive** for COVID-19 (regardless of vaccination status):
  - Return on **Day 11**, provided that they are fever-free (100.4 degrees) for 24 hours with no fever-reducing medication and symptoms have improved
  - May return as early as **Day 6** if they test negative (on or after day 5) **and** symptoms are improving **and** fever has resolved **and** they continue to wear face coverings around others for a total of 10 days after the positive test.
- When a **fully vaccinated\*\*\* employee has had close contact** with a confirmed case of COVID-19:
  - May remain at work **and** must test negative on day 5 from close contact **and** remain symptom-free
  - If any symptoms develop, the employee must be excluded pending test results
- When an **unvaccinated employee has had close contact** with a confirmed case of COVID-19:
  - Must quarantine at home for 10 days from close contact
  - May be released from quarantine as early as **Day 6** if they test negative (on or after day 5) **and** symptom-free **and** they continue to wear face coverings around others for a total of 10 days after the close contact, especially indoors.
  - If any symptoms develop, the employee must be excluded pending test results

## RETURNING TO SCHOOL AND WORK: SYMPTOMATIC STUDENTS and STAFF MEMBERS

Before returning to school or work, symptomatic students and staff members:

- Must remain out of school or work for 10 days **unless**:
  - they test negative and have improving symptoms,
  - **OR** have an alternative diagnosis from a doctor,
  - **OR** have a doctor provide documentation of a chronic condition.

\*[close contact](#) is defined within 6 feet from someone with a confirmed case of COVID-19 for 15 minutes or more within a 24-hours period

\*\*current [CDPH K12 school guidance](#) does not yet make clear whether “fully vaccinated” includes a booster vaccine for students. Per the CDC, vaccinations are considered effective 14 days after the second dose (or first dose if J&J).

\*\*\*currently, “fully vaccinated” for employees is defined by Cal/OSHA as 14 days after the second dose (or first dose if Johnson & Johnson). Effective January 14, having a booster vaccination, once eligible for one ([per Table 4 of the Cal/OSHA FAQs](#)) will be required by Cal/OSHA for employees to be considered fully vaccinated.