



Franklin County Public Health
280 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215-4562
(614) 525-3160
www.myfcph.org

December 30, 2021

Dear School and Community Partners:

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) updated its Isolation & Quarantine guidelines earlier this week. The Ohio Department of Health (ODH) adopted these guidelines yesterday and Franklin County Public Health (FCPH) is currently updating its guidance documents on its website to align with those changes. Please see below a summary of the changes for the general public. The ODH "Mask to Stay, Test to Play" guidance is still in effect for school-based exposures.

In support of Governor DeWine and the Ohio Hospital Association's recent statements, FCPH continues to advise all schools require masks in school. In addition to vaccination, this simple step is one of the best ways to slow the spread of the virus. For those schools that do not currently have a mask requirement, we strongly urge you to adopt one before the kids return to the classroom from the holiday break.

Our [K-12 school webpage](#) is in the process of being updated to reflect new information.

Isolation: Individuals who test positive for COVID-19

Anyone who tested positive may discontinue isolation after 5 full days (day "0" is the day they first exhibited symptoms or tested positive) if they are either asymptomatic or their symptoms have resolved. They should continue to wear a mask when around others until at least day 10. If you have a fever, continue to stay home until your fever resolves.

Quarantine: Individuals who have had close contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19

If you:

- o Have been boosted **OR**
- o Completed the primary series of Pfizer or Moderna vaccine within the last 6 months **OR**
- o Received the J&J vaccine within the last 2 months

You should:

- o Wear a mask around others for 10 days
- o Test on day 5, if possible
- o If you develop symptoms, get a test and stay home

If you:

- o Are not boosted and completed the primary series of Pfizer or Moderna vaccine OVER 6 months ago **OR**
- o Are not boosted and received the J&J vaccine OVER 2 months ago **OR**
- o Are not vaccinated

You should:

- o Stay home for 5 days. After that continue to wear a mask around others for 5 additional days.
- o Test on day 5, if possible.
- o If you develop symptoms, get a test and stay home.

Please contact us via the [COVID-19 technical assistance form](#) for any questions or concerns regarding this new guidance.

Additional information is available at:

<https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2021/s1227-isolation-quarantine-guidance.html>

<https://vax2normal.org/what-to-do-if-you-have-been-exposed-or-if-you-are-sick/>

Testing

At-home test kits are scarce, but testing is available at many locations around our community. Visit our [website](#) to find testing locations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joe Mazzola', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Joe Mazzola, MPA
Franklin County Health Commissioner