

How to Respond to *Positive COVID-19 Tests* & Close Contacts in Early Care and Education (ECE) Programs

What is the definition of a close contact?

A close contact is defined as any child within 3 feet while wearing masks or any adult(s) within 6 feet while wearing masks.

Not Close Contact Definitions:

Children who were **more than 3 feet** from an infected child are **not considered close contacts**, if both the infected child and the exposed children correctly and consistently wore well-fitting masks the entire time.

Adults who were **more than 6 feet** from an infected child or adult are **not considered close contacts**.

UNVACCINATED

VACCINATED

TEST POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

ISOLATE

- **Report positive case to COVID coordinator.**
- **Provide information for any close contacts from the ECE Programs.**
- **With Symptoms** -- You can be around others:
 - 1) 10 days after symptoms first appeared**AND**
 - 2) 24 hours with no fever without the use of fever-reducing medications**AND**
 - 3) Other symptoms of COVID-19 are improving
(Note: Loss of taste and smell may persist for weeks or months after recovery and need not delay the end of isolation.)
- **Without Symptoms:**
 - Isolate for 10 days since your positive COVID-19 test.

CLOSE CONTACT WITHOUT SYMPTOMS

GET TESTED & QUARANTINE

- Quarantine until tested.
- Wear a mask around others.
- Get tested 5-7 days after exposure.
- **If positive**, isolate for 10 days since your positive COVID-19 test. Follow guidance for after testing positive for COVID-19 in the first box above.
- **If negative**, end quarantine after Day 7. Monitor for symptoms for 14 days.

GET TESTED & MONITOR

- No quarantine required.
- Get tested 3-5 days after exposure.
- Wear a mask around others for 14 days. If your test 3-5 days after exposure is negative, you no longer need to wear a mask *(except when required)*.
- Monitor for symptoms for 14 days.
- **If positive**, follow guidance for after testing positive for COVID-19 in the first box above.

CLOSE CONTACT WITH SYMPTOMS

GET TESTED & ISOLATE

- Wear a mask and get tested. Stay home and isolate while you are waiting for your test results. If your test is negative, please talk with the school nurse and/or DPH epidemiologists to determine if you should be considered a probable case.
- **If positive**, follow guidance for after testing positive for COVID-19 in the first box above.

SYMPTOMS WITH NO KNOWN EXPOSURE

WEAR A MASK AND GET TESTED

- Wear a mask and get tested. Stay home and isolate while you are waiting for your test results.
- **If positive:** Follow guidance for after testing positive for COVID-19 in the first box above. Report case to school nurse/COVID coordinator and provide close contacts.
- **If negative:** Stay home while you have symptoms.

Social Distancing in ECE Programs

CDC recommends children maintain at least 3 feet of physical distance between each other within classrooms, combined with indoor mask wearing to reduce transmission risk. When it is not possible to maintain a physical distance of at least 3 feet, such as when child care facilities cannot fully re-open while maintaining these distances, it is especially important to **layer multiple other prevention strategies**.

Read full CDC Guidance for Early Care and Education Programs:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/child-care-guidance.html>

**These procedures outline general guidelines, but each case is assessed based on the facts of each unique situation.

Design based on document issued by Haines Borough, Alaska: <https://www.hainesalaska.gov/covid19>

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