COVID-19 in Pediatric Patients
Triage, Evaluation, Testing and Return to School

This tool is intended to assist clinicians in decision-making. It is not intended to replace clinical judgment. This is a changing environment, and as we gain new knowledge about this virus, expect adaptations. The algorithm does NOT apply to children diagnosed with COVID-19 by PCR within the past three months. Please consult CDC protocols in those situations.

Close contact with known COVID-19 patient?¹

Yes

Exposure in home?

Yes

Test at 3-5 days following last exposure.²

Per CDC guidance, wear a mask until test results are back (including in school)

No

Vaccinated?²

Yes

Negative Test

Return to School when:
Finished 14-day quarantine and meet symptom resolution criteria
(>24 hours afebrile without the use of antipyretics and symptoms resolved or markedly improved)
14 day quarantine begins after person with latest onset of symptoms clears isolation (10 days from onset, fever resolved >24 hr, symptom resolution or improvement)

No

Positive Test

Return to school when:
≥10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared and ≥24 hours afebrile without the use of antipyretics and symptoms resolved or markedly improved³

Any of following symptoms? Fever, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, runny nose, loss of smell/taste, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, fatigue, muscle aches, headache

Yes

Obtain COVID PCR test and may consult medical home as indicated regardless of vaccine status

No: see page 2

Yes

Return to School when:
≥24 hours afebrile without the use of antipyretics and symptoms resolved or markedly improved⁴

Vaccinated?²

Yes

Negative Test

Return to School when:
Finished 14-day quarantine and meet symptom resolution criteria
(>24 hours afebrile without the use of antipyretics and symptoms resolved or markedly improved)
14 day quarantine begins after person with latest onset of symptoms clears isolation (10 days from onset, fever resolved >24 hr, symptom resolution or improvement)

No

Positive Test

Return to school when:
≥10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared and ≥24 hours afebrile without the use of antipyretics and symptoms resolved or markedly improved³

No

Exposure in home?

Yes

Option 1:
Quarantine from infected person in household for their entire isolation period/leave household and then Option A or B

Option 2:
Remain in household

No

Option A:
14-day quarantine

Option B:
Quarantine.
PCR test on day 7 if asymptomatic

Yes

Return to School when:
Finished 14-day quarantine, which begins after person with latest onset of symptoms clears isolation (10 days from onset, fever resolved ≥24 hr, symptom resolution or improvement) or negative PCR test at day 7 of quarantine.

Negative Test

Positive Test

* Please consult return to play documents located here

¹As determined by contact tracing
²Vaccinated means two weeks after final dose of vaccine series
³If ongoing exposure in the home, test 3-5 after initial exposure and then again 3-5 days after last exposure
⁴Loss of taste or smell may persist for months following COVID diagnosis

Note: Pediatric patients who have returned from international travel should follow the After International Travel guidance from the CDC.
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### Close contact with known COVID-19 patient?\(^1\)

- **Yes:** see page 1
- **No**

### Any of following symptoms? Fever, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, runny nose, loss of smell/taste, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, fatigue, muscle aches, headache

- **Yes**
  - Symptoms >24 hours
    - Obtain COVID PCR test and may consult medical home as indicated regardless of vaccine status
  - Return to school when:
    - ≥24 hours after symptom resolution\(^3\)
- **No**
  - Symptoms < 24 hours
    - Return to school when:
      - ≥24 hours afebrile without
        - the use of antipyretics
        - and symptoms resolved or
        - markedly improved

### Negative Test

- Return to school when:
  - ≥24 hours afebrile without
    - the use of antipyretics and
    - symptoms resolved or
    - markedly improved\(^3\)

### Positive Test

- Return to school when:
  - ≥10 days have passed since
    - symptoms first appeared and
    - ≥24 hours afebrile without
      - the use of antipyretics and
      - symptoms resolved or
      - markedly improved\(^4\)

### No test but alternative diagnosis made by medical home

- Return to school when:
  - ≥10 days have passed since
    - symptoms first appeared and
    - ≥24 hours afebrile without
      - the use of antipyretics and
      - symptoms resolved or
      - markedly improved

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\(1\) As determined by contact tracing

\(2\) Parent/caregivers may consult medical home for persistent symptoms

\(3\) Loss of taste or smell may persist for months following COVID diagnosis

\(4\) Consult usual infectious disease protocols (e.g. Red Book or Caring for Our Children)

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*Please consult return to play documents located here*