



Updated School Guidance Highlights

July 27, 2021

Layer Prevention Strategies

A portion of the school population is not eligible to be vaccinated.
Layered prevention strategies are important to help protect those not vaccinated.

Factors to consider:

- Level of [community transmission](#) of COVID-19.
- [COVID-19 vaccination coverage](#) in the community and among students, teachers, and staff.
- Use of a frequent SARS-CoV-2 screening testing program for students, teachers, and staff who are not fully vaccinated.
 - Testing provides an important layer of prevention, particularly in areas with substantial to high community transmission levels.
- COVID-19 outbreaks or increasing trends in the school or surrounding community.
- Ages of children served by K-12 schools and the associated social and behavioral factors that may affect risk of transmission and the feasibility of different prevention strategies.



Promote Vaccination



Consistent & Correct Mask Usage



Physical Distancing



Screening Testing



Ventilation



Handwashing & Respiratory Etiquette



Staying Home When Sick



Contact Tracing



Cleaning & Disinfecting

Mask Usage

Indoor

Universal masking is recommended for **all** teachers, staff, students, and visitors regardless of vaccination status.

Exclusions:

- [Children under 2 years of age](#)
- A person with a documented disability who cannot wear a mask or safely wear a mask, because of the disability as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act

Masks must be worn on buses, under CDC's mask order.

Outdoor

In areas of [substantial to high transmission](#), CDC recommends that people who are not fully vaccinated wear a mask in crowded outdoor settings or during activities that involve sustained close contact with other people who are not fully vaccinated.

Physical Distancing

Implement physical distancing to the extent possible.

CDC recommends at least 3 feet of distancing

- If 3 feet cannot be maintained, it is especially important to layer prevention strategies.



← 3+ ft →

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Update to School Close Contact Definition

In the **K-12 indoor classroom** setting, the close contact definition **excludes students** who were within **3 to 6 feet of an infected student** where:

- Both students were engaged in **consistent and correct** use of **well-fitting face masks**;

This exception does not apply to teachers, staff, or other adults in the indoor classroom setting.

*Fully vaccinated people do not need to quarantine, unless they have symptoms.