

SEBRSD Covid -19 Protocols (Updated 01/03/2022 in alignment with DESE/DPH/CDC Guidance)

| <p>Test Positive for COVID-19</p> | <p>A Close Contact Test & Stay & Traditional Quarantine <i>Quarantine is still strongly recommended for identified close contacts when they are outside of school settings.</i> <i>(See testing and quarantine exemption criteria below)</i></p> | <p>COVID-19 symptoms diagnosed as alternative diagnosis</p> | <p>COVID-19 Symptoms and Negative COVID test result</p> | <p>COVID-19 symptoms, not a close contact, and not tested</p> |
|--|---|--|---|--|
| <p>Duration: Self-Isolation for 5 days after symptom onset or after positive PCR or antigen test (if asymptomatic).</p> <p>Return to school: After 5 days, returning on day 6, provided they:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have improvement in symptoms • Have been without a fever for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications. • Wear a mask for 5 additional days when around others. <p>Return to school should be based on time and symptom resolution. Even with a 5-day isolation period, repeat viral testing prior to return is not recommended.</p> | <p>Test and Stay Program <i>(available to in-school close contacts only)</i></p> <p>Duration of Testing: 5 days from the date of exposure Return to School: Close contacts can remain in school and do not have to quarantine, as long as they:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are asymptomatic • Wear masks in school at all times, other than when eating or drinking. When these individuals cannot be masked (i.e., when eating or drinking) they should maintain 3 feet of distance from other individuals to the extent feasible. • Take a rapid antigen test (e.g., BinaxNOW) on each school day and receive a negative result. When the 5 days from date of exposure includes weekends or holidays, individuals should quarantine on weekends, and if they remain asymptomatic, upon return to school be tested immediately. If the individual remains negative, they can stay in school. • Conduct active monitoring for symptoms through day 10. <p>Traditional Quarantine Protocol</p> <p>Duration: Quarantine at least 5 days from the date of exposure. Return to school: After 5 days, returning on day 6, provided that they:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remain Asymptomatic, and • Conduct active monitoring for symptoms through 10 days, self isolate if symptoms develop, and adhere to strict mask use for additional 10 days. <p><i>*Best Practice would also include an antigen or PCR test at day 5 after exposure. An antigen test may be self-administered.</i></p> | <p>Duration: <i>Dependent on symptom resolution.</i></p> <p>Return to school:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have improvement in symptoms • Have been without a fever for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications. <p><i>* So long as the individual is not a close contact, if a medical professional makes an alternative diagnosis for the COVID-19-like symptoms, the individual may use this recommendation in lieu of a PCR or antigen test.</i></p> | <p>Duration: <i>Dependent on symptom resolution.</i></p> <p>Return to school:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have improvement in symptoms • Have been without a fever for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications. <p><i>* If a symptomatic individual was a close contact who is not exempt from testing and quarantining response protocols, after symptoms resolve and they receive a negative PCR test, they should follow Test and Stay.</i></p> | <p>Duration: Isolation is at least 5 days from symptom onset.</p> <p>Return to school: after 5 days, returning on day 6, assuming they:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have improvement in symptoms • Have been without a fever for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications. |

If Student/Staff sent home from school due to COVID-19 Symptoms

PCR or antigen test required for return to school. An antigen test may be self-administered and does not need to be proctored or performed by a healthcare professional.

- If a negative PCR or antigen test, follow return to school guidelines (see *COVID-19 Symptoms and Negative COVID test result on previous page*)
- If a PCR test is positive, follow isolation guidelines (see *Test Positive for COVID-19 on previous page*)

Vaccination Status

- At this time, a person is considered fully-vaccinated two weeks following the completion of the Pfizer or Moderna two-dose series or two weeks following a single dose of Johnson and Johnson's Janssen Vaccine.

The following close contacts are exempt from testing and quarantine response protocols:

- **Asymptomatic, fully vaccinated close contacts:** Individuals who are asymptomatic and fully vaccinated are exempt from testing and quarantine response protocols.
- **Classroom close contacts:** An individual who is exposed to a COVID-19 positive individual in the classroom while both individuals were masked, so long as the individuals were spaced at least 3 feet apart, is exempt from testing and quarantine response protocols.
- **Bus close contacts:** Individuals on buses must be masked according to federal requirements. As such, individuals who are masked on buses when windows are open are exempt from testing and quarantine response protocols.
- **Close contacts who have had COVID-19 within the past 90 days:** An individual who has been previously diagnosed with COVID-19 and then becomes a close contact of someone with COVID-19 is exempt from testing and quarantine response protocols if:
 - The exposure occurred within 90 days of the onset of their own illness AND
 - The exposed individual is recovered and remains without COVID-19 symptoms.

Resources:

- Covid Test Location: [Find a COVID-19 Test | Mass.gov](#)
- Vaccination Finder: <https://vaxfinder.mass.gov/>

Vaccination Information

- [COVID-19 vaccinations Information for children ages 5-11](#)
- [COVID-19 vaccinations information for people ages 12-17](#)

References:

- [DESE/DPH Guidance on Protocols for Responding to COVID-19 Scenarios](#)
- [CDC- Isolation and Quarantine Guidance](#)
- [COVID-19 Updates and Information | Mass.gov](#)
- [Guidelines for When Your Child is Sick](#)