

# COVID-19 EXCLUSION GUIDANCE

## Decision Tree for Symptomatic Individuals in Pre-K, K-12 Schools and Day Care Programs



Send home or deny entry (and provide remote instruction) if ANY of the following symptoms are present: Fever (100.4°F or higher), headache, shortness of breath, cough, sore throat, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain.

In addition, some individuals (especially adults) may present with the following symptoms:  
congestion or runny nose, new loss of sense of taste or smell, nausea, fatigue, muscle or body aches.

**Medical Evaluation and Testing are Strongly Recommended for ALL Persons with COVID-Like Symptoms.**

Status	COVID-19 diagnostic test Positive (confirmed case) OR COVID-19 diagnosis without diagnostic testing (probable case)	Symptomatic individual with a negative COVID-19 diagnostic test <sup>2</sup> <i>(Negative COVID-19 diagnostic test must be from a specimen collected 48 hours prior to or after symptom onset.)</i>	Symptomatic individual with an alternative diagnosis without negative COVID-19 diagnostic test <sup>2</sup>	Symptomatic individual without diagnostic testing or clinical evaluation	Asymptomatic individual who is a close contact to a confirmed OR probable COVID-19 case
Evaluated by Healthcare Provider?	YES	YES / NO	YES	NO	NA
Return to School Guidance	<u>Stay home</u> at least ten <sup>1</sup> calendar days from onset of symptoms AND for 24 hours with no fever (without fever-reducing medication) AND improvement of <b>respiratory</b> symptoms.	<u>Stay home</u> until symptoms have improved/resolved per return-to-school criteria for diagnosed condition. Follow provider directions, recommended treatment & return to school guidance as per school policies and <a href="#">IDPH Communicable Diseases in Schools</a> .	<u>Stay home</u> until symptoms have improved/resolved per return-to-school criteria for diagnosed condition. Follow provider directions, recommended treatment & return to school guidance as per school policies and <a href="#">IDPH Communicable Diseases in Schools</a> .	<u>Stay home</u> at least 10 <sup>1</sup> calendar days from onset of symptoms AND for 24 hours with no fever (without fever-reducing medication) AND improvement of respiratory symptoms.	Stay home for 14 calendar days after last exposure to the COVID-19 case. If COVID-19 illness develops, use the ten-day isolation period <sup>1</sup> guidance for a COVID-19 case from the onset date. Testing is recommended.
Quarantine for Close Contacts?	YES	NO	NO	YES	NA
Documentation Required to Return to School	'Release from Isolation' letter issued by Local Health Department and provided to parent/guardian or individual	Healthcare Provider's note with alternative diagnosis and negative COVID-19 test result	Healthcare Provider's note with alternative diagnosis	'Release from Isolation' letter issued by Local Health Department and provided to parent/guardian or individual	'Release from Quarantine' letter issued by Local Health Department and provided to parent/guardian or individual

<sup>1</sup> Severely immunocompromised or severely ill: may need to isolate for 20 days as per guidance from individual's infectious disease physician.

<sup>2</sup> If individual has been identified by public health for quarantine or knows they are a close contact to a case, the 14-calendar-day quarantine must be completed.