

COVID-19 QUICK TIPS | SCHOOLS



QUICK TIP

1

Take steps to protect staff and students.

- Require masks** for students, staff, and visitors to our schools and facilities
- Promote physical distancing when feasible**
- Clean and disinfect regularly** with EPA-approved disinfectants
- Encourage students and staff to **wash hands often**
- Encourage students and staff to stay home when they are sick**

QUICK TIP

2

Watch for symptoms of illness.

Individuals who have COVID-19 may experience one or more of the following:

- Fever or chills
- New cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Nausea/vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Muscle or body aches
- Fatigue
- Headache
- New nasal congestion/stuffy or runny nose

QUICK TIP

3

Take action if someone is ill or illness is suspected.

1. **Separate the individual with symptoms from others until they can go home** (use an empty classroom, office, school clinic, etc.). Ensure the ill person is masked appropriately and that any staff with them when they are separated remain masked and socially distanced. **COVID-19 positive individuals should stay home until isolation is complete.**
2. **Identify close contacts.**
3. **Notify and require quarantine for close contacts who are not fully vaccinated, have not been diagnosed with COVID-19 in the last 90 days, or if both students were not masked.**
4. **The school's Health Response Team will report the positive and probable cases to the district. The district will report that information to the Health Department.**

Required **isolation** period for COVID-19 positive individuals

Who is considered a **close contact**?

How long is **quarantine** period for close contacts?

Individuals who start to have symptoms during their quarantine should immediately isolate and get tested.

Isolation keeps someone who is infected with the virus away from others.

Positive individuals with symptoms should isolate for at least 10 days and be 24 hours fever-free, without the aid of fever-reducing medications, and all other symptoms should have improved.

Positive individuals without symptoms should isolate for 10 days from first positive test date.

Close contacts include anyone who spent 15 minutes or more at a distance of 6 feet or less with the positive person during their infectious period.*

Quarantine keeps someone who might have been exposed to the virus away from others. CDC recommends close contacts quarantine for 14 days.

The following options exist to end quarantine after Day 7 or Day 10 if certain criteria are met:



CDC Recommended 14-Day Quarantine

- Quarantine Start Date
- Test On or After Day 5 of Quarantine
- Last Day of 14-Day Quarantine CDC Recommended
- Last Day of Quarantine IF No Symptoms and Negative Test On or After Day 5 (7-Day Quarantine)
- Last Day of Quarantine IF No Symptoms and no test was taken (10-Day Quarantine)

* Close contacts who have been fully vaccinated or who have had a COVID-19 infection within the last three months or for students in situations where both the close contact and the ill person were masked appropriately do not need to quarantine.

QUICK TIP

4

Report COVID-19 illness.

Each school's Health Response Team will follow the process to report COVID-19 cases. That information will be collected and transmitted to the Gwinnett Newton Rockdale Health Department.

District leaders continue to monitor for new guidance from health partners and the state, using it to inform decision-making about mitigation strategies that might be needed during the 2021–22 school year.