

COVID-19 Decision Trees for K-12 Schools

Aug 29, 2023

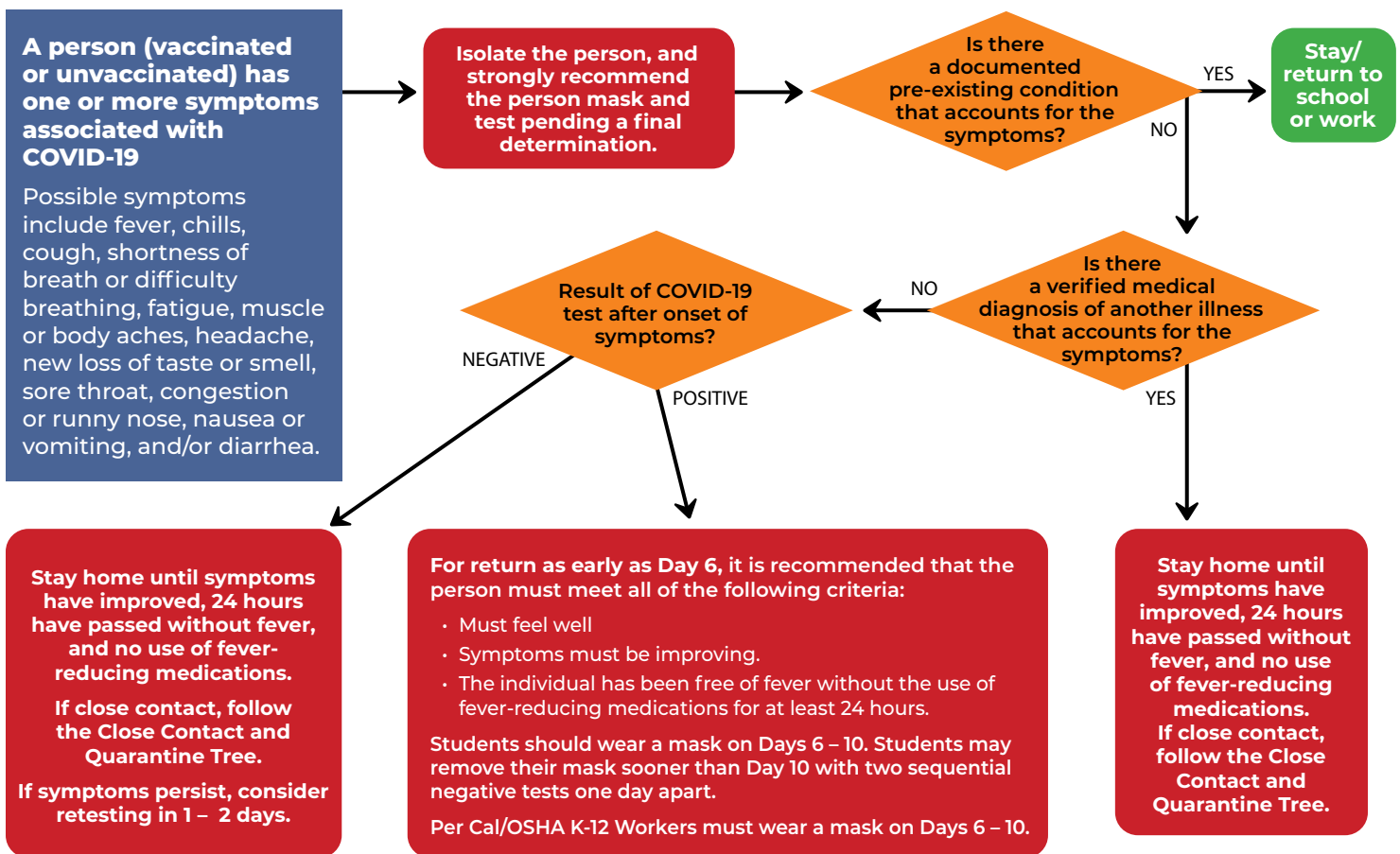
The COVID-19 public health emergency declaration has ended, and the related Local Health Officer Orders have been rescinded. These are the current recommendations for students per CDPH guidance and requirements for K-12 workers per Cal/OSHA for COVID-19 management in schools. Reporting of outbreaks of students or staff or a combination of (3 cases linked within a 7-day period) is still required.

Today's updates: A subhead was added with reminders around recommendations and requirements, and the time period within which an outbreak is defined was changed from 14 to 7. Guidance encouraging schools to develop their own infectious disease policies was also removed.

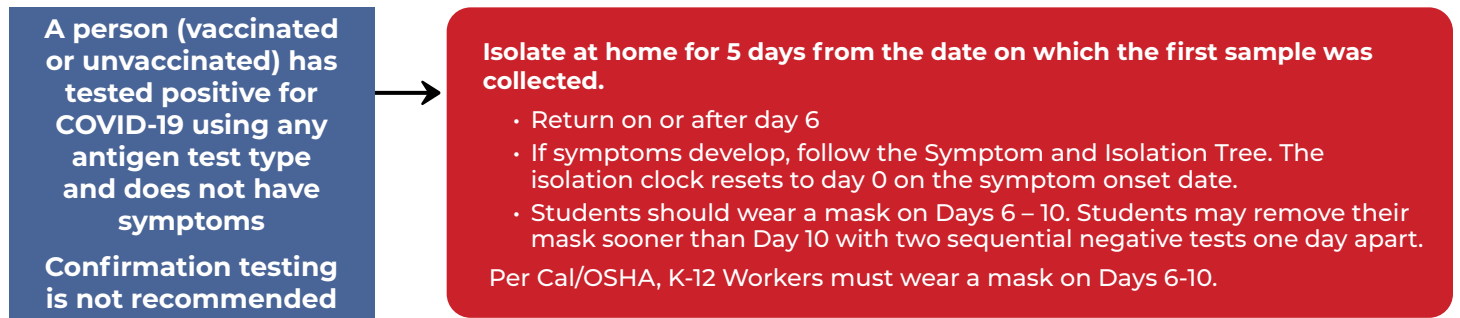
If the person...

- Has **symptoms**, use the **Symptom and Isolation Tree**
- Has **tested positive** and **does not have symptoms**, use the **Asymptomatic Positive Tree**
- Is identified as a **close contact** and **does not have symptoms**, use the **Close Contact and Quarantine Trees**

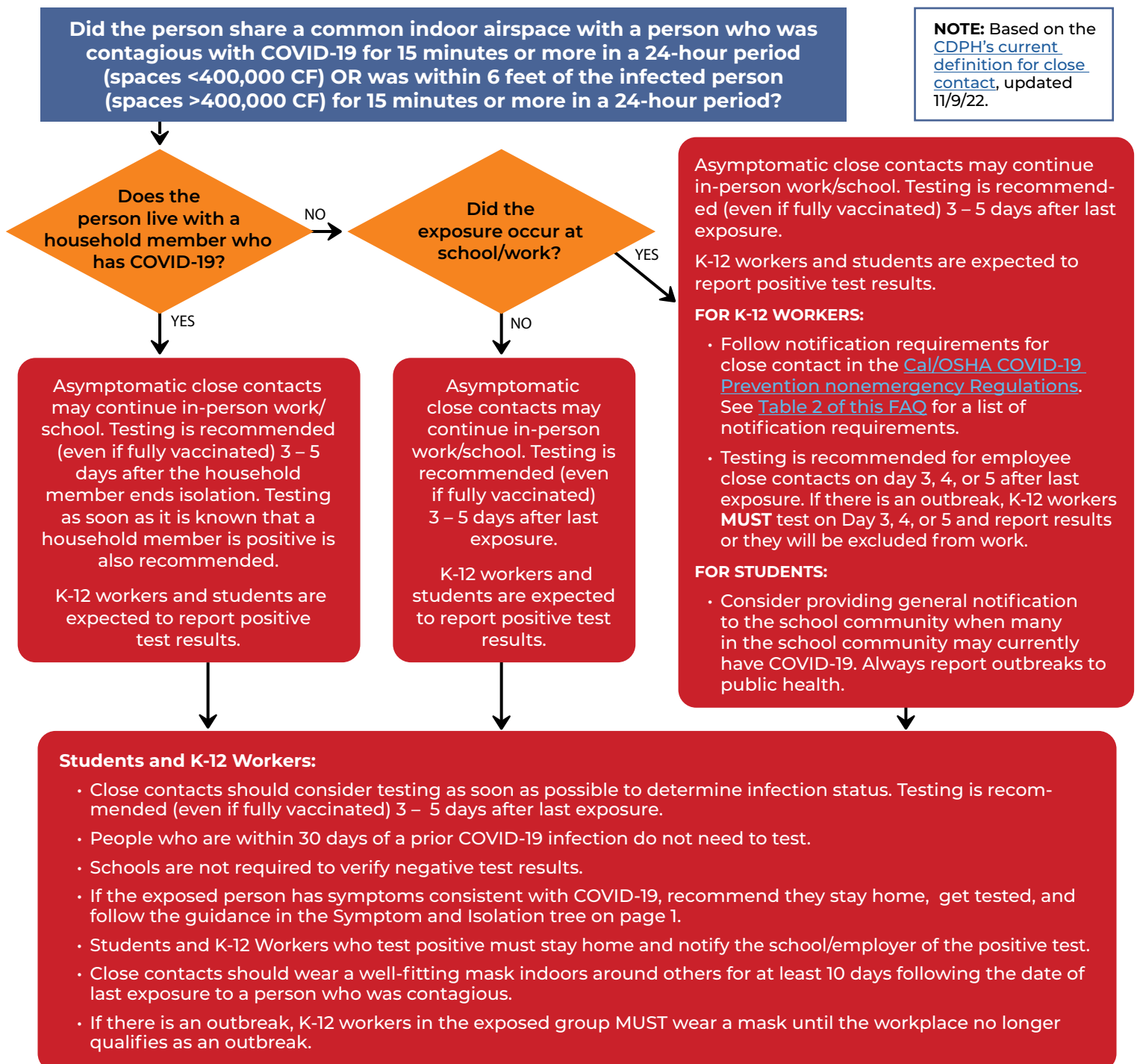
Symptom and Isolation Tree for Students and K-12 Workers



Asymptomatic Positive Tree for Students and K-12 Workers



Close Contact Tree for Students and K-12 Workers



Test Types By Situation

Situation	Appropriate Test Types
Person with symptoms (For initial testing in response to symptoms.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Antigen is preferred because it returns a quick result • PCR or other NAAT are acceptable.
Close Contacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Antigen is preferred because it returns a quick result • PCR or other NAAT are acceptable. • Per CDPH Guidance for Local Health Jurisdictions on Isolation and Quarantine of the General Public “Close contacts should consider testing as soon as possible to determine infection status and follow all isolation recommendations above if testing positive. Knowing one is infected early enables (a) earlier access to treatment options, if indicated (especially for those who may be at risk for severe illness), and (b) notification of exposed persons (close contacts) who may also benefit by knowing if they are infected. If testing negative before Day 3, retest at least a day later at least once, during the 3–5 day window following exposure.”
Required screenings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Antigen is preferred because it returns a quick result • PCR or other NAAT are acceptable.
At-Home Testing	
<p>STUDENTS: Schools may accept the results of at-home testing for the same uses for which antigen tests are approved. Schools are encouraged to use a means described in the Over-The-Counter Tests Guidance to verify the results on tests administered at home, if necessary. See the “What are best practices for verification of self-test results?” section for specific recommendations.</p> <p>EMPLOYEES: If testing is required, per Cal/OSHA, “an over-the-counter (OTC) COVID-19 test may be both self-administered and self-read if verification of the results, such as a time and date stamped photograph of the result or an OTC test that uses digital reporting with time and date stamped results, is provided.” This guidance can be found in Cal/OSHA COVID-19 Prevention Non-Emergency Regulations FAQ-Testing.</p>	
Public Health Notification Requirements	
<p>As of March 1, 2023, schools will no longer be expected to report individual COVID-19 cases to the County Public Health Department. Reporting of outbreaks to PHS will continue as required under California Code of Regulations (CCR) Title 17, §2500 and §2508.</p> <p>Based on Cal/OSHA mandates, employers must report all major outbreaks at any worksite to CAL/OSHA. (Cal/OSHA COVID-19 Prevention Non-Emergency Regulations FAQ - Outbreaks)</p>	

