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# Summary of Changes to the Playbook

Version 6.0 (August 13, 2021)

- Revised definition of a probable case (Slide: 7)
- Revised testing protocol for all close contacts (Slides: 2, 50, 52, 53, 62)
- Revised close contact exceptions (Slides: 25, 26,

50, 72, 73)

- Revised travel quarantine guidance (Slides: 30, 39, 40, 50)
  - Revised bus quarantine guidance (Slide: 70)
  - Revised Isolation within a Household (Slide: 42)
  - Revised Sports Quarantine Protocols (Slide: 80)
  - Revised Testing for COVID-19 (Slides: 94, 95, 96, 97)
  - Revised Confirming a Positive Asymptomatic Antigen Test Results (Slides: 99, 100)
- Version 6.1 (August 27, 2021)
- Removed the probable case definition (Slides: 6, 7, 8, 112)

- Added the new universal mask requirement for K-12 schools (Slides: 20, 47, 48, 50)
- Reworded the definition of close contact (Slides: 18, 112)



# Symptoms of COVID-19

In the absence of a more likely diagnosis by a healthcare provider, any person with one or more of the following symptoms should isolate and get a test:

- Fever or chills
- Cough (new)
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- Sore throat





- New loss of taste or smell
- Congestion or runny nose (new)
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

## Symptoms FAQs

Who needs to quarantine if someone has symptoms of COVID-19 ?

- Unvaccinated household contacts must quarantine until the results of the COVID-19 test for the person with symptoms are known.
- School contacts do not need to quarantine pending the COVID-19 test results for someone who has COVID-19 symptoms.

What do I do if someone with symptoms refuses to get tested?

- If someone with symptoms refuses to get tested, the individual should be considered the same as a positive case of COVID-19 and
  - That individual should isolate for 10 days;
  - The household contacts should quarantine; and
  - School contacts should be tested upon learning that they are a close contact; get tested again five to 10 days after the close contact exposure; but do not need to quarantine.

# When to Call for Emergency Care

A person with the following symptoms needs emergency medical attention. Call 911 and notify the operator that you are seeking care for someone who may have COVID-19.

- Difficulty breathing
- Persistent pain or pressure in chest
- New confusion
- Inability to wake or stay awake

☐ Bluish lips or face

\*This list does not reflect all possible symptoms requiring emergency care.

## What Is the Infectious Period for COVID-19?

- Symptomatic Cases
  - Two calendar days prior to symptom onset until 10 days after symptom

onset. • Asymptomatic Cases

- Two calendar days prior to testing (the date the swabbing was conducted) until 10 days after the date of testing.

# Isolation

- Isolation is for the ill or infected:
  - Separating individuals who are infected with COVID-19 from others. •  
Staying home and isolating from household members as much as possible.
- Duration of isolation depends on whether the individual is:
  - Symptomatic or asymptomatic
  - Immunocompromised

# Isolation for Symptomatic Individuals

Symptomatic

- 10 days since symptoms first appeared (20 days if severely immunocompromised); and • At least 24 hours with no fever without fever-reducing medication; and • Other symptoms of COVID-19 are improving.

- Loss of taste and smell may persist for weeks or months after recovery and need not delay the end of isolation.

	Onset (Day 0)		Positive Test	
	January 11		Result	January 21 Return to normal activities
January 10 Symptom		Tested January 13	January 20 Last Day of Isolation (Day 10)*	

\*Assuming that symptomatic criteria are met.



# Isolation for Asymptomatic

# Individuals Asymptomatic

- 10 days from the date of individual was tested (20 days if severely immunocompromised).
- If symptoms develop during isolation, follow guidance for isolation for symptomatic individuals on Slide 15.

February 3  
Asymptomatic Test  
(Day 0)

February 5 Positive Test Results  
Return to normal activities

February 13 Last Day of Isolation  
(Day 10)

February 14

## How Is a Close Contact Defined?

- Close contact

- Individual who has been within six feet of an infected person (with or without a face mask) for a cumulative 15 minutes over a 24-hour period in either an indoor or outdoor setting regardless of vaccination status: • i.e., Three five-minute interactions during the day.
- Individual who has had unprotected direct contact with secretions or excretions of a person with confirmed COVID-19 in either an indoor or outdoor setting: • i.e., Infected person coughed directly in someone's face.

[www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/science/science-briefs/transmission\\_k\\_12\\_schools.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/science/science-briefs/transmission_k_12_schools.html)

## Close Contacts in Sports

- Physical closeness of players
  - When playing most team sports, 6 ft distance cannot be maintained
  - Athletes often have face to face contact with other players
- Level of intensity of activity
  - Activities that are high intensity or require a high level of exertion (such as full competition) present a higher level of risk of getting and spreading COVID-19

Proximity + Intensity = Increased Risk of Respiratory Droplets Transmission

(Close Contact without meeting the 15-minute mark)

## Testing of ALL Close Contacts who have not tested positive in the past

90

days

Updated

- Unvaccinated Close Contacts (Including students who meet the CDC Pre K-12 close contact exception)
  - People who are not fully vaccinated should get tested immediately after being identified as a close contact. If test results are negative, they should get tested again right away if symptoms develop during quarantine or five to seven days after last exposure.
- Vaccinated Close Contacts (Including Students who meet the CDC Pre K-12 close contact exception)
  - Fully vaccinated people who have a known exposure to someone with COVID-19 should get

tested three to five days after exposure. They should continue to wear masks in public indoor settings and crowded outdoor settings for 14 days or until they receive a negative test result.

- Fully vaccinated individuals may also be tested as soon as notified of being a close contact and then again three to five days after the close contact exposure. This will assist in detecting asymptomatic infection and isolating quickly to prevent further spread.

## Questions About Close Contacts in School

- If we are notified of a positive case during the school day, do we need to send the close contacts home immediately?

- It is always preferable to quarantine close contacts as soon as possible. However, if it is not feasible to send the student home immediately, a close contact can remain in school, follow the normal dismissal process, and begin their quarantine when they get home.

## Questions About Close Contacts in School

- What do we do if a close contact comes to school because they have not yet been quarantined by RIDOH?
  - Schools can send the student home.
  - Schools can inform staff/students that they have been identified as a close contact and should stay home in accordance with RIDOH guidance.



# Can Schools Quarantine Close Contacts?

- Yes. Under the Governor's Executive Order, schools can notify all close contacts and ask them to quarantine according to the RIDOH guidance.
  - Close contacts may also be contacted by RIDOH.

- School leaders also have the authority to:
  - Ask students/staff to stay home while RIDOH completes the case investigation;
  - Shift a class or grade to distance learning; and
- Inform students/staff that RIDOH may reach out to close contacts to provide quarantine guidance.

## Close Contacts Exempt from Quarantine

- Names and contact information of ALL close contacts should be provided to RIDOH

during case investigations and contact tracing.

- The following groups of people should still be considered close contacts and reported to RIDOH but are exempt from quarantine:
  - Fully vaccinated close contacts;
  - Close contacts who have been diagnosed with COVID-19 during the past 90 days; and
  - Individuals who meet the criteria for the new K-12 Close Contact Exception (see next slide for details).
- If the school knows who falls into these three categories, please mark that information on the close contact spreadsheet when submitting to RIDOH.

# New K-12 Student Close Contact Exception

- A K-12 student exposed to another K-12 student infected with COVID-19 does not need to quarantine if all of the following apply:
  - Both the infected person and exposed close contact are K-12 students;
  - The exposure occurred in an indoor K-12 classroom;
  - Both the exposed (close contact) student and the infected student wore face masks at all times during the close contact exposure; and
  - At least three feet of physical distance was maintained at all times during the exposure.
- This exception does not apply to teachers, staff, or other adults in the indoor classroom setting.
- Students meeting this close contact exception should be included on the close contact spreadsheet that is submitted to RIDOH, and the school must note that the students

meet the new K-12 student close contact exemption.

## Testing of Close Contacts

- Is testing during quarantine required?
  - Testing during quarantine is recommended but not required, unless the 7-day quarantine option is being used. However, in some outbreak situations, close contacts may be required to get tested before returning to school.
- What if the school requires testing before close contacts can return to school, and an individual is refusing testing?

- In a non-outbreak setting, the individual should quarantine for 10 days.
- In an outbreak setting, the individual should quarantine for 14 days.

## Testing of Close Contacts (Continued)

- Why is RIDOH recommending testing for some students who were never on quarantine?
  - RIDOH may recommend testing for the entire classroom or group due to the

possibility of asymptomatic transmission in certain situations, such as

- An outbreak involving many cases and many close contacts within a large group of students/staff (e.g., classroom, grade, wing of a school, or sports team) or when there is increasing community or statewide spread of COVID-19.

## Quarantine

- Quarantine is for unvaccinated individuals who were identified as a close contact to a case (infected person).
  - Quarantine keeps someone who may have been exposed to the virus away from others.
  - These individuals must stay home and monitor for symptoms.
  - Last date of exposure is considered “Day 0” for quarantine.



# Quarantine Options

RIDOH recommends the least disruptive

quarantine option:

- **Seven days** from the last day they were in contact with the infected individual **if they get a negative PCR test result on day 5 or later**. Continue to watch for symptoms through day 14.

Other quarantine options:

- **10 days** from the last day they were in contact with the infected individual. Continue to watch for symptoms through day 14.
- **14 days** from the last day they were in contact with the infected individual. Safest option but more disruptive.
- **RIDOH does not dictate which options schools/districts should choose to implement.**
- **RIDOH does encourage schools to inform their community which option they have chosen to implement.**

# Calculating Quarantine Options

- 14 Day

Quarantine  
Option

- 7 Day with  
Negative Test  
Quarantine  
Option

- 10 Day

Quarantine  
Option

# School Quarantine Policies

- How can schools communicate to families why they chose to enforce the quarantine option they selected?
  - RIDOH playbook includes recommendations and guidance.
  - Shorter quarantine policies for close contacts and travelers come with increased risk of transmission of COVID\_19 but are less disruptive to in person learning.

- Schools have discretion to implement more stringent policies.
- Schools can determine the risk-benefit assessment that is best for their school community.

## Calculating Quarantine Duration Options

- Need help determining end of quarantine dates?
- RIDOH has created a [COVID-19 Close Contact Quarantine Calculator](#) • Click link

above, and scroll down to the middle of the page to download the calculator

## What to do if you or a close contact has COVID-19

- Learn about Rhode Island's close contact quarantine requirements.  
[Requirements](#) [FAQ](#)
- To calculate the length of quarantine for close contacts, use this [COVID-19 Close Contact Quarantine Calculator](#).

## Quarantine Questions

For individuals who are not fully vaccinated and don't meet the K-12 student close contact exception

- If I get tested during quarantine and get a negative result, when does my quarantine end?  
Updated

- If you get tested on day 5 or later with a PCR test, your last day of quarantine will be Day 7. You can resume normal activities on day 8 and continue to monitor for symptoms through day 14.
  - If you get tested earlier than day 5 you cannot end quarantine after day 7.
- If I am not on quarantine and I want to go for asymptomatic testing, do I need to quarantine while I wait for results?
  - No. If you are asymptomatic and get tested, you do NOT need to quarantine while results are pending.

# Quarantine Questions

Updated

- If I get tested during quarantine and I'm positive, how long do I need to stay home?
  - If an individual on quarantine tests positive for COVID-19, the person must isolate for 10 days from symptom onset or 10 days from the date of the specimen collection if the person is asymptomatic.
- When do close contacts of a symptomatic person need to stay home?
  - Only unvaccinated household contacts of a symptomatic person should stay home while tests results are pending because of the increased exposure they have in the



home environment.

- Do contacts of contacts need to quarantine?
  - No. Only close contacts of the person who was infectious need to quarantine.

## School-Specific Quarantine Questions

- Can I require my staff to quarantine for more than seven days even if they get a negative result from a test taken at least five days after the close contact?
  - Yes, employers may require employees to quarantine for longer than the shortest quarantine option.

- Can I offer a shorter quarantine period for my staff but require students to wait for 10 days before returning to school?
  - Yes, you can have different policies for students and staff.

## Travel quarantine

- Travel Quarantine: While there is no law requiring quarantine after travel, RIDOH strongly recommends following CDC guidance on travel quarantine as the best public health practice (details on the follow two slides).
  - For more information on these recommendations please visit [Travel Information for Residents and Visitors | RI COVID-19 Information Portal](#).

# Quarantine Recommendations for Domestic Travelers

Updated

Fully vaccinated

- People who are fully vaccinated with an FDA authorized vaccine or a vaccine authorized for

emergency use by the World Health Organization (WHO) can travel safely within the United States.

- You do NOT need to get tested or self quarantine if you are fully vaccinated or have recovered from COVID-19 in the past 90 days.
- You should still follow all other travel recommendations from the CDC.

### Unvaccinated

- Get tested three to five days after travel AND stay

home and self quarantine for a full seven days after travel.

- Even if you get a negative test result, stay home and self quarantine for the full seven days.
- If your test result is positive, [isolate](#) yourself to protect others from getting infected.
- If you don't get tested, stay home and self quarantine for 10 days after travel.
- Avoid being around people who are at [increased risk for severe illness](#) for 14 days, whether you get tested or not.

# Quarantine Recommendations for International Travelers

Updated Fully vaccinated Unvaccinated

- Get tested three to five days after travel.
- Self monitor for COVID-19 symptoms, isolate, and get tested if you develop symptoms.

- Get tested with a [viral test](#) three to five days after travel AND stay home and self quarantine for a full

seven days after travel.

- Even if you get a negative test result, stay home and self quarantine for the full seven days.
- If your test result is positive, [isolate](#) yourself to protect others from getting infected.
- If you don't get tested, stay home and self quarantine for 10 days after travel.
- Avoid being around people who are at [increased risk for severe illness](#) for 14 days, whether you get tested or not.
- Self monitor for COVID-19 symptoms, isolate, and get tested if you develop symptoms.

# Isolation Within the Household

Updated

- A person in isolation is considered separated from others while in isolation within the household if
  - The isolated person remains in the household but stays in their own bedroom at all times and uses their own bathroom without sharing any common areas with others in the household.
  - If a separate bathroom is not available, special care should be taken to disinfect the shared bathroom in between uses. If the bathroom is disinfected between uses, the infected person is considered to



be isolating within the household;

- The isolated person remains in the household but on a completely separate floor or living area at all times (e.g., separate apartment within the house); or
- Either the isolated person or the other household members temporarily move out of the household while the case is in isolation.

## Quarantine for Unvaccinated Household Members Who CAN Separate from a Person in Isolation within the Household

- Household members would start their quarantine from the date of last exposure to the infected household member (called “Day 0”).

- Day 0 is the last day that household members and the infected household member shared living space;
- Spent time together in the same rooms;
- Were closer than six feet for more than 15 minutes or more during a 24 hour period. •

Household members have three options for quarantine starting on Day 0: •

Option 1: Seven days with a negative test result on day 5 or later (released on day 8); •

Option 2: 10 days (released on day 11); or

- Option 3: 14 days (released on day 15).

Quarantine for Unvaccinated Household Members Who

## CANNOT Separate from a Person in Isolation Within the Household

- Household members need to quarantine while the infected individual is in isolation (until 10 days after symptom onset or swab date if asymptomatic) and then start their own quarantine.
- Last day of isolation for the case is Day 0 for the household members.
- Household members have three options starting on Day 0:
  - Option 1: Seven days with a negative test result on day 5 or later (total of 17 days in quarantine—released on day 18);
  - Option 2: 10 days (total of 20 days in quarantine—released on day 21); or

- Option 3: 14 days (total of 24 days in quarantine—released on day 25).

## Quarantine End Dates for Household Members who Cannot Separate

Last Date of Quarantine for Each Option Based on the Sample Calendar

Date the person with COVID-19 ends home isolation + 14 days = end of quarantine

	mon	tue	wed	thu	fri	sat	sun
Person is sick/ has COVID-19	30	31	1	2	3	4	5
Criteria met to end home	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19

- 14-day Quarantine
  - Last day is Thursday, the 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- 10-day Quarantine
  - Last day is Saturday, the 19<sup>th</sup>.

- 7-day Quarantine
  - Test on Tuesday, the 14<sup>th</sup>, or later.
  - If the test result is negative, then the last day is Thursday, the 16<sup>th</sup>.

## Quarantine of Household Contacts with Ongoing Exposure

- If a household member has completed 10 days of isolation but still has symptoms,

can I start my quarantine or do I need to wait until symptoms are completely gone?

- As long as the case has been fever-free without fever-reducing medication for 24-hours and there has been *an improvement in symptoms*, the household members can begin their quarantine.
- If symptoms have not yet improved, household members need to wait to begin their quarantine.

# Statewide Masking Law for Public K-12 Schools

- As of August 19, 2021 via [Executive Order 21-87](#) all public K-12 schools are required to have a universal indoor mask requirement in place at the start of the 2021-22 academic year.
  - Schools without a requirement in place must follow the RIDOH Policy to establish one.
- The State is requiring that schools ensure all teachers, staff, students, and visitors to K-12 schools wear a mask indoors, even fully vaccinated people.
- Masks should be worn in all K-12 facilities at all times, regardless of whether school

is in session, including for

- School committee meetings; and
- Professional days when students are not present.

## COVID-19 Vaccine Quick Tips

- The COVID-19 vaccine is safe, highly effective against serious illness, and may prevent you from being infected with COVID-19.
- A person cannot get COVID-19 from COVID-19 vaccines.



- Because there still may be a chance you can become infected and spread the virus to others once you've gotten any COVID-19 vaccine, RIDOH recommends that everyone wear a mask indoors in Pre K-12 settings regardless of vaccination status.
  - Public K-12 schools are required to have a universal indoor masking policy in place for the start of the 2021-22 academic year.
- Please visit RIDOH's website for other Frequently Asked Questions about the Vaccine [COVID-19 Vaccine FAQs | RI COVID-19 Information Portal](#)

## COVID-19 Immunity

- When does a person have immunity after vaccination?

- After vaccination for COVID-19, it takes 14 days after the final recommended dose to have vaccine immunity.
- We won't know how long immunity lasts after vaccination until we have more data on how well COVID-19 vaccines work in real-world conditions.
- How long does a person have immunity after infection with COVID-19?
  - Current evidence suggests that getting the virus again (reinfection) is uncommon in the 90 days after the first infection with the virus that causes COVID-19.
  - The protection someone gains from having an infection (called “natural immunity”) varies depending on the disease, and it varies from person to person. Because this virus is new, we don't know if natural immunity might last longer than 90 days in certain individuals.

# Quarantine Exemption for Fully Vaccinated Persons

If a person is fully vaccinated (meaning it's been 14 or more days since the last recommended dose in the vaccine series) and remains asymptomatic, they do not need to

- Quarantine if identified as a close contact to a case (even if the close contact is a household member); or
- Quarantine after travel.
- RIDOH strongly encourages fully vaccinated people to get tested three to five days after

close contact with an infected individual or international travel and monitor symptoms for 14 days.

# Frequently Asked Vaccine Questions

Updated

I'm scheduled to get vaccinated but I'm on isolation. Can I leave isolation to go to my vaccination appointment?

- No. You cannot get your vaccination shot (dose one or dose two) while on isolation, even if you

are asymptomatic. You must reschedule your appointment for a time after you have completed isolation.

I got vaccinated for COVID-19 and now I have symptoms. What do I do?

- People are likely to experience symptoms after receiving a COVID-19 vaccine. This means the immune system is working. This is healthy, normal, and expected.
  - You may experience a sore arm, headache, fever, or body aches, but they should go away in a few days.
  - The vaccine will not cause other COVID-19-related symptoms such as congestion, loss of taste or smell, etc.
- If you have any symptoms of COVID-19 following vaccination, stay home, call a health care provider, and get tested.

FAQ Continued

- Can I get Vaccinated While on Quarantine?

Updated

- You cannot get your vaccination shot (dose 1 or dose 2) while on quarantine. You must reschedule your appointment for a time after you are done with quarantine.
- If I am fully vaccinated (14 days after the last dose of vaccine), do I need to participate in asymptomatic testing?
  - Those who are fully vaccinated are exempt from asymptomatic screening testing unless

required by RIDOH regulation or employer or school policy.

- These individuals may participate in testing if desired.

# Exemptions for Fully Vaccinated Individuals<sup>Updated</sup>

	After COVID-19 <b>vaccination</b> : Presumed immunity 14 days after last vaccine dose
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Quarantine for close contacts	Exempt. Test on Day 3 to 5 after exposure. Monitor for symptoms for 14 days after exposure. Wear a mask in public indoor settings until test result are received.
Quarantine for travel, domestic or international	Exempt. Test on Day 3 to 5 after travel. Monitor for symptoms for 14 days after return from travel.
Asymptomatic testing	Not required but may take part if desired
Eligible populations	All fully vaccinated individuals except hospitalized patients and long-term care residents.



# Quarantine Exemption for Persons Previously Infected with COVID-19

- If a person has tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 90 days, they do not need to:
  - Quarantine if identified as a close contact to a case (even if the close contact is a household member);

- Quarantine after travel; or
- Participate in asymptomatic screening testing for sports or school. They are exempt from such testing.
- 90-day calculation
  - If symptomatic, then start the 90-day count from the day of symptom onset (Day 0).
  - If asymptomatic, then start the 90-day count from the day of specimen collection (Day 0).

## Quarantine Exemption if Positive for COVID-19 within 90 Days

	After COVID-19 <b>infection</b> : Presumed immunity for 90 days after infection
Quarantine for close contacts	Exempt. Monitor for symptoms for 14 days after exposure.
Quarantine for travel, domestic or international	Exempt. Monitor for symptoms for 14 days after exposure/travel.
Asymptomatic testing	Not recommended within 90 days of infection.
Eligible populations	All individuals.

# Previously Ill with COVID-19-like Symptoms but Not Tested

- Scenario: An individual was previously ill with symptoms like COVID-19 but not tested. Household members were positive. When getting tested for sports, the individual tested positive but stated it was from past infection.
  - Does this individual need to isolate now since there is no record of a positive test result or a probable report to the school nurse?
  - Assessed on a case-by-case basis in consultation with RIDOH.
- Avoid this situation by getting tested when you have symptoms of COVID-19.

# Symptomatic Within 90 Days of Testing Positive for COVID-19

- For persons who develop new symptoms consistent with COVID-19 within 90 days after COVID-19 infection, get a medical evaluation by a professional health care provider who can:
  - Evaluate for other possible diagnoses; and
  - Evaluate for possible exposure to COVID-19 in the past 14 days (e.g., travel, large gatherings)

or events, household or other close contacts with suspected or confirmed COVID-19, occupational risk/healthcare workers, public safety, and recent workplace cases).

- If no other plausible diagnosis by a health care provider, the recommendations may include treating it as a new COVID-19 infection, isolating the symptomatic person, and quarantining close contacts.

Protocol for a Symptomatic Individual<sub>Updated</sub>

<p>Staff or student has a symptom(s) of COVID-19</p>	<p>Symptomatic individual is isolated, sent home,</p> <p><u>Unvaccinated household contacts</u> must quarantine while test results are pending</p> <p>School close contacts do NOT need to quarantine while test results are pending the</p>	<p>Advise symptomatic individual to seek medical advice and get a PCR test.</p> <p><i>RIDOH may recommend testing for others in certain situations.</i></p>	<p>Attestation that confirms one of the following (parent/guardian attests if a minor)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Not tested<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Has been fever free for 24 hours without use of fever-reducing medication and symptoms improved (back to usual health).</li><li>• Must have attestation from a professional health care provider if there's a more likely diagnosis.</li></ul></li><li>• Tested negative (PCR)<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Has been fever free for 24 hours without use of fever-reducing medication and symptoms improved (back to usual health).</li></ul></li><li>• Tested positive (PCR or antigen)<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Has met RIDOH guidelines for ending isolation.</li></ul></li></ul>
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# Protocol for a Confirmed Case

Updated



<p>Staff or student tests positive</p>	<p>Person testing positive is isolated per CDC/RIDOH guidelines</p> <p>Close contacts are quarantined per CDC/RIDOH guidelines</p>	<p>Close contacts in quarantine should self-monitor for symptoms and seek medical advice as needed. RIDOH recommends all close contacts get tested three to five days after the exposure.</p> <p>Close contacts who are fully vaccinated do not need to quarantine but should get tested three to five days after the exposure.</p> <p>Individuals who have tested positive in the past 90 days do</p>	<p>Individuals must meet the CDC/RIDOH guidelines for ending isolation:</p> <p>Symptomatic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication and</li> <li>• Symptoms have improved and</li> <li>• 10 days since symptoms first appeared (20 days if severely immunocompromised)</li> </ul> <p>Asymptomatic :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10 days since date of specimen collection (20 days if severely immunocompromised)</li> </ul>
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		not need to quarantine and should not get tested.	
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## Protocol- Close Contact of a Case<sup>Updated</sup>

<p>Staff or student is a close contact of a confirmed case</p>	<p>A close contact is quarantined per CDC/RIDOH guidelines</p> <p>If the close contact <u>is not fully vaccinated</u> and remains in the same household as the case, the contact must quarantine during the case's isolation period (10 days) and then quarantine per</p>	<p>Close contacts in quarantine should self monitor for symptoms for 14 days from last exposure and seek medical advice as needed.</p> <p>RIDOH recommends all unvaccinated close contacts get tested three to five days after contact.</p>	<p>A close contact must meet the CDC/RIDOH guidelines for ending quarantine before returning to school:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Remain asymptomatic</li><li>• Complete one of the quarantine options:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 14 days</li><li>• 10 days</li><li>• Seven days with a negative test (antigen or PCR) on day 5 or later.</li></ul></li><li>• If choosing a seven- or 10- day quarantine option, continue to monitor for symptoms for 14 days from the last exposure.</li></ul>
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	CDC/RIDOH guidelines.		
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## Protocol Summary

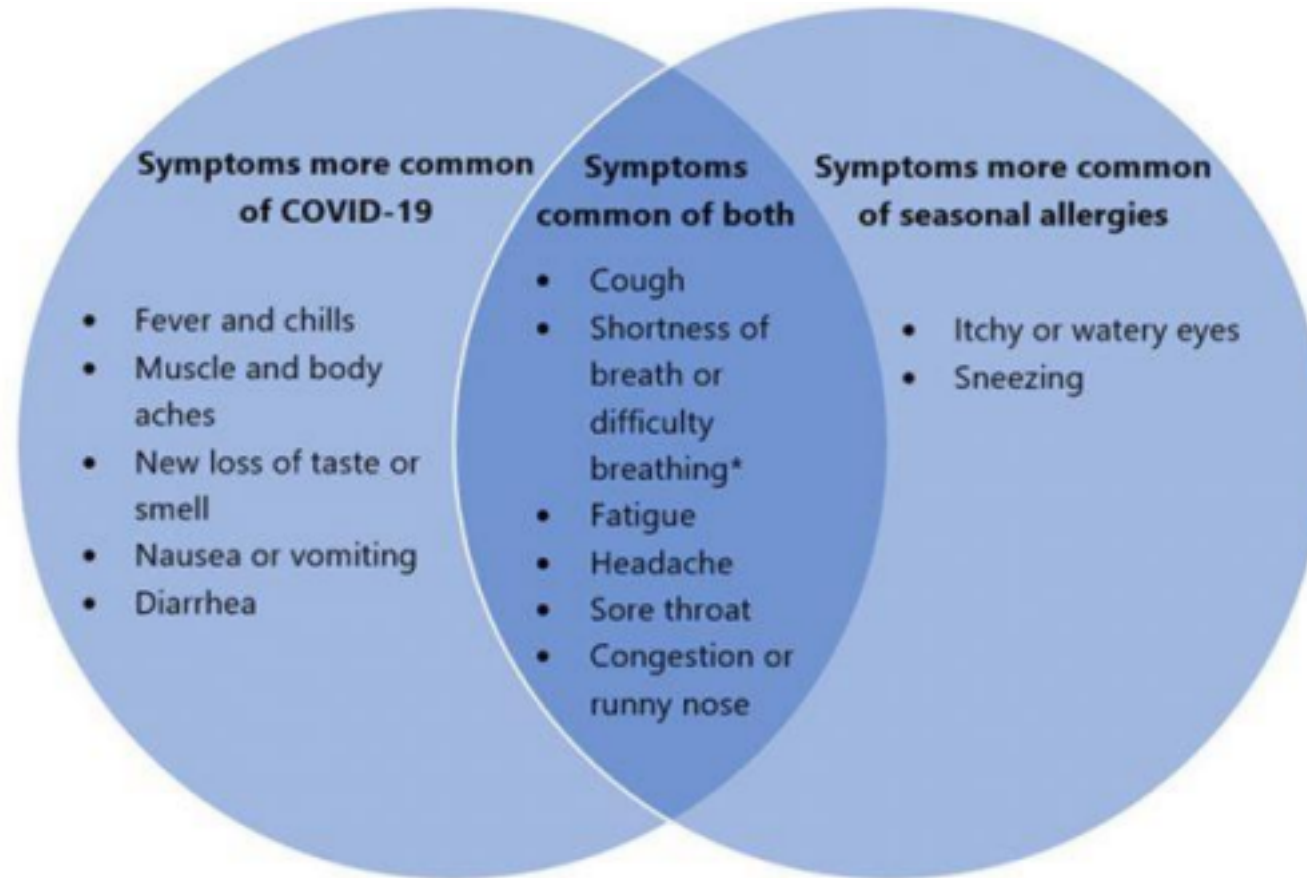
Isolation and Quarantine Guidance	Isolate. Medical advice. Test. If not tested/tests neg • Fever free for 24 hours; and • Symptoms improved (back to usual health).	Isolate for 10 days from symptom onset or 10 days from test if asymptomatic; and • Fever free 24 hours; and • Symptoms improved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fever free 24 hours; and</li><li>• Symptoms improved (back to usual health).</li></ul>
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Return to school	Parent/guardian attestation.	Parent/guardian attestation.	Parent/guardian attestation.
Close Contacts	No action.	Follow RIDOH guidance for isolation.	No action.

## COVID-19 and Allergies

## When you have new ons

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# COVID and Allergies, Asthma, or Chronic Health

**Problems** If you have new onset of ANY COVID-19 symptom, stay home and

get tested:

- If the test result is negative and symptoms are consistent with allergies, asthma, or other chronic health problems, then the individual may return to school/sports after being fever free for 24 hours.

- If symptoms are a result of allergies, they may last as long as the allergen (i.e. pollen) is present. This may be for weeks or longer. The child may attend school/sports as long as there is no fever, no new symptoms of

COVID-19, and no sudden change of symptoms.

- If there is any new additional COVID-19 symptom or sudden change or worsening of runny nose, nasal congestion, or other symptom then,
  - Dismiss home;
  - Seek medical advice; and
  - Get tested, as required to return to school/sports.



# Bus Quarantine Guidance—Student Tests

**Positive** • What happens if a student on bus tests positive for

COVID-19?

- Close contacts are those who sat in the same row or within two rows of the infected person. Quarantine is for those who sat in the following rows:
  - Two rows behind; and
  - The same five rows on opposite side of the aisle.
- If it is a small bus, then call RIDOH for consult.
- If the ride is fewer than 15 minutes, evaluate on a case-by-case basis:
  - May have close contact getting on/off the bus.
  - May be a long ride that day because of traffic or an accident.

	Bus Monitor
X	
X	X
COVID +	X
X	X
X	X
X	X
X	X

Bus Quarantine

Guidance—Driver Tests

# Positive

Updated

- What happens if a bus driver tests positive for COVID-19?
- Close contacts are those who sat within two rows of the driver. Quarantine is for those who sat two rows behind on both sides of the aisle.

	Bus Monitor
X	

X	X
X	X
X	X
X	X
X	X
X	X

# Overview of Case Investigation Process

- RIDOH receives a positive COVID-19 lab result (PCR or antigen test).
- Case investigator calls the case for an interview:
  - Asks about symptoms, exposures, activities, vaccination status, etc.;
  - Close contacts\*
    - Person who was within six feet for more than 15 minutes (cumulative within 24 hours) during the infectious period;
    - Infectious period is two days before symptom onset

(or if asymptomatic, two days before COVID-19 test).

- Case Investigator informs the case to isolate.
- Contact Tracer calls close contacts to put them in quarantine and recommend testing.

\*Close contacts may be exempt from quarantine if they are fully vaccinated; have had COVID-19 in the last 90 days; or meet the criteria for the CDC K-12 student close contact exception.

# Case Investigation—Questions for Schools

Updated

- Case Investigator emails the Superintendent and/or the Principal, School Nurse, or COVID-19 Coordinator to

- Verify the individual's last day in school.
- Determine if the child is in a stable pod?
  - Are there times when pods mix?
  - List the students and staff in each pod.
- Review seating charts for each classroom
  - Include names and locations of all students and teachers.
  - Indicate the amount of space between desks.
  - Note which students and teachers are vaccinated.
  - Note which students may have met the Pre K-12 student close contact exception.

## Case Investigation—More Questions for Schools

- Has anyone else been in the classroom? What is their vaccination status?
  - Substitute teacher;
  - Teacher's aide;
  - Student teacher; and/or
  - Support service provider.
- If a staff member, do teachers gather in a shared space?
  - Workroom;
  - Breakroom; and/or
  - Professional development sessions.

# Case Investigation—More Questions for Schools

- Before school care and aftercare
- Sports teams and gym
- Bus or carpool groups
- Lunch
- Recess
- Bathroom groups



- Drop off and dismissal
- Transitions within school

## Things to Keep Updated and Easily Accessible

- School Points of Contact
  - RIDOH will notify the principal/COVID-19 contact and the superintendent •  
Make sure RIDOH has updated contact information for all school points of contact • Office numbers
    - Cell phones for weekends/after hours
- Seating charts for classrooms and buses
- Phone numbers for teachers and coaches

# Guidance for Keeping Teams Safe

- Follow all the school-specific masking protocols.
- Social distance whenever possible (i.e. spread out on the bench; practice in pods).
- Ask players to screen for symptoms before participating in practice/game.
- They should not participate if
  - They have any symptoms of COVID-19 (even if it's only one symptom);
  - They are only mildly ill, and they feel well enough to play; or

- They think their symptoms are due to allergies.
- There should be no penalty for missing practice/games if they are not feeling well. •

Recommend routine asymptomatic testing unless a player has tested positive in the past 90 days.

## Sports Come With an Inherent Risk of exposure to COVID-19

- Parents, students, and coaches should understand the risk

- High contact sports, like wrestling, hockey, soccer, and football confer a higher risk for transmission.
  - Be prepared to quarantine
    - Distance learning for students
    - Parents may miss work if minor is on quarantine
    - Missing other games and events