



## QUARANTINE OF CONTACTS ([12/7/2020 Guidance](#))

All close contacts (staff and students) MUST be quarantined and excluded from the school setting and all extracurricular activities, regardless of students, teachers, or staff wearing masks or the use of physical barriers (e.g. plexiglass).

A 14-day quarantine period is still recommended; however, individuals may opt for a shorter quarantine period by following the below criteria.

Asymptomatic persons who have a known exposure to a person with COVID-19 can return to school:

- **After 7 full days have passed, if:**

1. Tested for COVID-19 (PCR/molecular or antigen test); AND
2. Receive a negative result; AND
  - ❖ A copy of this report will be submitted to and maintained at the school
  - ❖ Staff should also send a copy of the report to Human Resources
3. Remained symptom§ free; AND
4. Wears a mask appropriatelyΦ in school until day 15 after the initial exposure date; AND
  - ❖ Students who refuse to wear mask appropriately will be sent home to complete the 14-day quarantine
5. Will closely monitor themselves for COVID-19 symptoms§ for the entire 14-day quarantine period.

- **After 10 full days have passed, if:**

1. Not tested for COVID-19; AND
2. Remained symptom§ free; AND
3. Wears a mask appropriatelyΦ in school until day 15 after the initial exposure date; AND
  - ❖ Students who refuse to wear mask appropriately will be sent home to complete the 14-day quarantine
4. Will closely monitor themselves for COVID-19 symptoms§ for the entire 14-day quarantine period.

After stopping quarantine after day 7 or 10 - for at least the entire 14-days - all individuals who do not have symptoms§ should strictly adhere to mitigation measures including appropriate mask usage, following social distancing guidelines to the extent feasible, washing hands, avoiding crowds, and taking other steps to prevent the spread of COVID-19

**Grades  
6-12  
only are  
eligible for  
7-day  
option**

### **Athletics and Activities**

Student participating in athletics and/or activities and who end quarantine after day 7 or 10 can return to practice/meetings if they can adhere to the mitigation measures, including appropriate  $\Phi$  mask usage and following social distancing guidelines to the extent feasible while at practice or meeting. **However, they cannot return to contests/competition until a full 14-days have passed since their exposure.**

- Each head coach/sponsor should maintain a working spreadsheet for all their athletes/participants
- If the athlete/participant meets all criteria for a shorter quarantine period (7 or 10 days), the coach/sponsor must check the athlete's temperature daily
- The athlete/participant cannot participate in contests/competition until a full 14-days have passed since their exposure. Athletes/participants may attend home contests to observe if all criteria are met, but do not need to travel to away contests.
- This guidance does not apply to feeder programs that utilize your campus; feeder programs shall adhere to the current 14-day quarantine period.

If an individual, who is a close contact AND ended quarantine after day 7 or 10, develops symptoms  $\S$  they should be sent home immediately and follow the guidelines for symptomatic individuals and seek COVID-19 testing.

### **Reporting**

Continue to report all initial positive cases and close contacts, however, there is no need to provide a follow up entry for students/staff who return after day 7 or day 10 quarantine option. However, all return dates should default to a return date of Day 11 of the initial exposure. Any reduction to a 7-day or extension to a 14-day quarantine will be kept at the local school/department of level and shared with your Executive Director as appropriate.

Moving forward, in order to provide consistent reporting of students/staff identified as close contacts, at a minimum, please use one of the following appropriate phrases in the comment box when reporting an entry:

- *Close contact to COVID+ staff (insert name). May return (insert date).*
- *Close contact to COVID+ student (insert name). May return (insert date).*
- *Close contact to COVID+ outside of school. May return (insert date).*

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‡ The test must be a PCR/molecular or antigen test performed after the 5th day of quarantine. If an individual is tested more than 48 hours prior to release from quarantine, they must be retested after the 5th day OR follow the 10-day guidance. If you plan to discontinue quarantine after 7 full days, this means you should not have a sample collected for a test until after you have completed 5 full days of quarantine.

You may not discontinue quarantine until you have completed a minimum of 7 full days since your most recent exposure, even if you receive your negative test result earlier. If your result is positive, you must follow DPH isolation guidance <https://dph.georgia.gov/isolation-contact>

§ If the individual experiences:

**ONE** of the following COVID symptoms:

- |                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fever     | <input type="checkbox"/> new loss of taste or smell                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chills    | <input type="checkbox"/> shortness of breath or difficulty breathing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> new cough |  |

**OR**

**TWO** of the following symptoms:

- |                                      |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> sore throat | <input type="checkbox"/> muscle pain                               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> nausea      | <input type="checkbox"/> extreme fatigue/feeling very tired        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> vomiting    | <input type="checkbox"/> new severe/very bad headache              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> diarrhea    | <input type="checkbox"/> new nasal congestion/stuffy or runny nose |
| <input type="checkbox"/> chills      |  |

then follow the guidance for symptomatic individuals.

Φ How to Wear Masks (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/how-to-wear-cloth-face-coverings.html>

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Georgia Department of Public Health Quarantine Guidance:  
<https://dph.georgia.gov/contact>

Georgia Department of Public Health Administrative Order [10]:  
<https://dph.georgia.gov/administrative-orders>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Symptom-Based Discontinuation of Isolation:  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/strategy-discontinue-isolation.html>