



Dear Parent/Guardian of _____ :

The Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH) considers the health and well-being of students and staff a priority. We have been alerted that an individual diagnosed with COVID-19 was in close proximity to your student in school on _____. DOH has provided the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations for isolation to that individual, including that they remain away from others until they can safely return to the school setting. The school will also continue to clean and disinfect all areas of the school.

In collaboration with school and public health officials, it has been determined that **your student is considered a [close contact](#)** of the person diagnosed with COVID-19; as a result, **your student should follow the following [quarantine at home provisions](#)**, unless they are fully vaccinated or tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 90 days and recovered. A quarantine period of 14 days from the date of the last exposure is the most protective quarantine. However, **two options for shortened quarantine are noted below**. Please make note of the following important dates:

- Your student was in close contact with a person with COVID-19 on _____
- **Option 1:** Since your student was identified as having close contact with a person with COVID-19, they should [quarantine](#) at home for a full 10 days from the last date of known exposure, unless they are fully vaccinated or have tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 90 days and have recovered. If your student does not develop symptoms or test positive for COVID-19 during those 10 days, your student may return to school on _____. Although this option does not require testing to shorten the quarantine period, we recommend that your student be tested 2-5 days after their exposure unless they have tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 90 days and recovered.
- **Option 2:** Your student's quarantine can end **after** Day 7 if your student is tested using a [viral test](#) on or after day 5, their specimen tests negative, and the student does not have any symptoms. The specimen must be collected and tested within 48 hours before the anticipated end of quarantine.
- **If either option for shortened quarantine is used, your student should still monitor symptoms for a full 14 days following exposure (date of last exposure is day 0).**
- **If your student has been [fully vaccinated](#) against COVID-19** and you are willing to provide proof of vaccination to the school if you have not previously done so, please contact _____ at _____. Fully vaccinated individuals do not need to quarantine; however, they should get tested 2-5 days after their exposure and wear a mask indoors in public for 14 days or until they receive a negative test result. They should also monitor for symptoms of COVID-19 for 14 days and get [tested](#) and [isolate](#) immediately if they develop [symptoms](#) of COVID-19.



- **If your student has tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 90 days** and you are willing to provide proof of the previous positive viral test to the school, please contact _____ at _____

Asymptomatic people who have tested positive in the last 90 days, completed 10 days of isolation, and subsequently recovered do not need to get tested or quarantine. Instead, they should monitor for symptoms of COVID-19 for 14 days after the exposure and [isolate](#) immediately if they develop [symptoms](#) of COVID-19. They should consult with a healthcare provider for testing recommendations if new symptoms develop.

During quarantine, if your student develops symptoms of COVID-19 or tests positive, please have them [isolate](#) immediately and notify the school right away. If your student has not yet been tested, we recommend they be tested as soon as possible. When you notify the school, the school can take additional steps to keep our school community safe. They may need to identify potential close contacts your student has had with others in order to prevent additional spread of the virus.

We encourage you to visit [COVID-19 in Pennsylvania](#) for additional information for ways to keep your family and school community safe. In addition, CDC's website also provides information about COVID-19, including an overview of quarantine as it relates to the K-12 school setting at: [Overview of COVID-19 Quarantine for K-12 Schools](#).

The school will be happy to welcome your student back to in-person learning on the date specified above, or if you can provide proof of vaccination or positive test result within the past 90 days. In the meantime, _____ will reach out to you with additional information on how your student can continue learning and receiving instruction during this time away from in-person school.

DOH will continue to provide regular updates to you and your student as needed and will provide prompt notification of any COVID-19 or other health-related concerns that require your attention. You may contact DOH at 1-877-PA-HEALTH with questions and concerns. You also may contact the school at _____ or _____ for school specific updates. or visit their website at _____

Please be assured that we are committed to facilitating an optimal learning experience and ensuring the safety of all Pennsylvanians.

Sincerely,

The Pennsylvania Department of Health