



COVID-19

Guidance for 2022-23 School Year

Kern County
**Superintendent
of Schools**
...advocates for children



FOR INTERNAL SCHOOL DISTRICT USE ONLY

TREE 1: FOR STUDENTS

**Student has any of the following NEW symptoms
with NO KNOWN EXPOSURE**

Fever or chills
Cough
Shortness of breath
Difficulty breathing
Fatigue
Muscle or body aches

Headache
New loss of taste or smell
Sore throat
Congestion or runny nose
Nausea or vomiting
Diarrhea

**It is strongly recommended that students wear a mask
and test IMMEDIATELY. If test positive, see Tree 3.**

RECOMMEND EXCLUSION FROM SCHOOL

Until it is clear that symptoms are mild and improving OR due to a non-infectious cause (i.e., allergies). This includes waiting until 24 hours have passed since resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications.*

*This version of the guidance represents a shift in approach to where schools can manage with the existence of COVID-19. The district provides recommendations to the parent after assessing the symptoms in a standard manner and triaging appropriately. There is not an expectation from CDPH for districts to track students beyond what districts might have done for any student pre-COVID. However, schools should avoid policies that incentivize coming to school while sick.

For example: student has COVID symptoms. The parent picks the student up. District recommends testing, not returning until fever-free for 24 hours, and symptom improvement. District is not required to “enforce” the recommendations (ensure that the parent/student complies) before returning to school, which would require tracking and monitoring each student case.

Districts can choose to implement a rigorous monitoring and tracking method.

TREE 2: FOR STAFF

**Staff has any of the following NEW symptoms
with NO KNOWN EXPOSURE**

Fever or chills
Cough
Shortness of breath
Difficulty breathing
Fatigue
Muscle or body aches

Headache
New loss of taste or smell
Sore throat
Congestion or runny nose
Nausea or vomiting
Diarrhea

- Self-isolate and test as soon as possible to determine infection status. (For symptomatic persons who have tested positive within the previous 90 days, using an antigen test is preferred).
- Remain in isolation while waiting for testing results. If not tested, continue isolating for 10 days after the day of symptom onset, and if cannot isolate, wear a well-fitting mask for 10 days.
- Consider continuing self-isolation and retesting with an antigen or PCR test in 1-2 days if testing negative with an antigen test, particularly if tested during the first 1-2 days of symptoms.
- Continue to self-isolate if test result is positive, follow recommended actions in Tree 3.

TREE 3: STUDENT OR STAFF WITH A POSITIVE TEST

REPORT POSITIVE TEST RESULTS

Email positive test results to the following: deguiaj@kerncounty.com and jomendiburu@kern.org

For staff, identify employees at the same worksite exposed to a COVID-19 positive case and complete notifications required by CalOSHA.

EXCLUDE FROM SCHOOL

ISOLATE

Individual must isolate at home. May return to school as early as **Day 6** after symptom onset with a negative test result collected on Day 5 or later, symptom improvement, and no fever.*

NEGATIVE TEST COLLECTED ON DAY 5 OR AFTER?

YES

**HAVE SYMPTOMS IMPROVED
AND NO FEVER?**

YES

**RETURN TO
SCHOOL***

NO

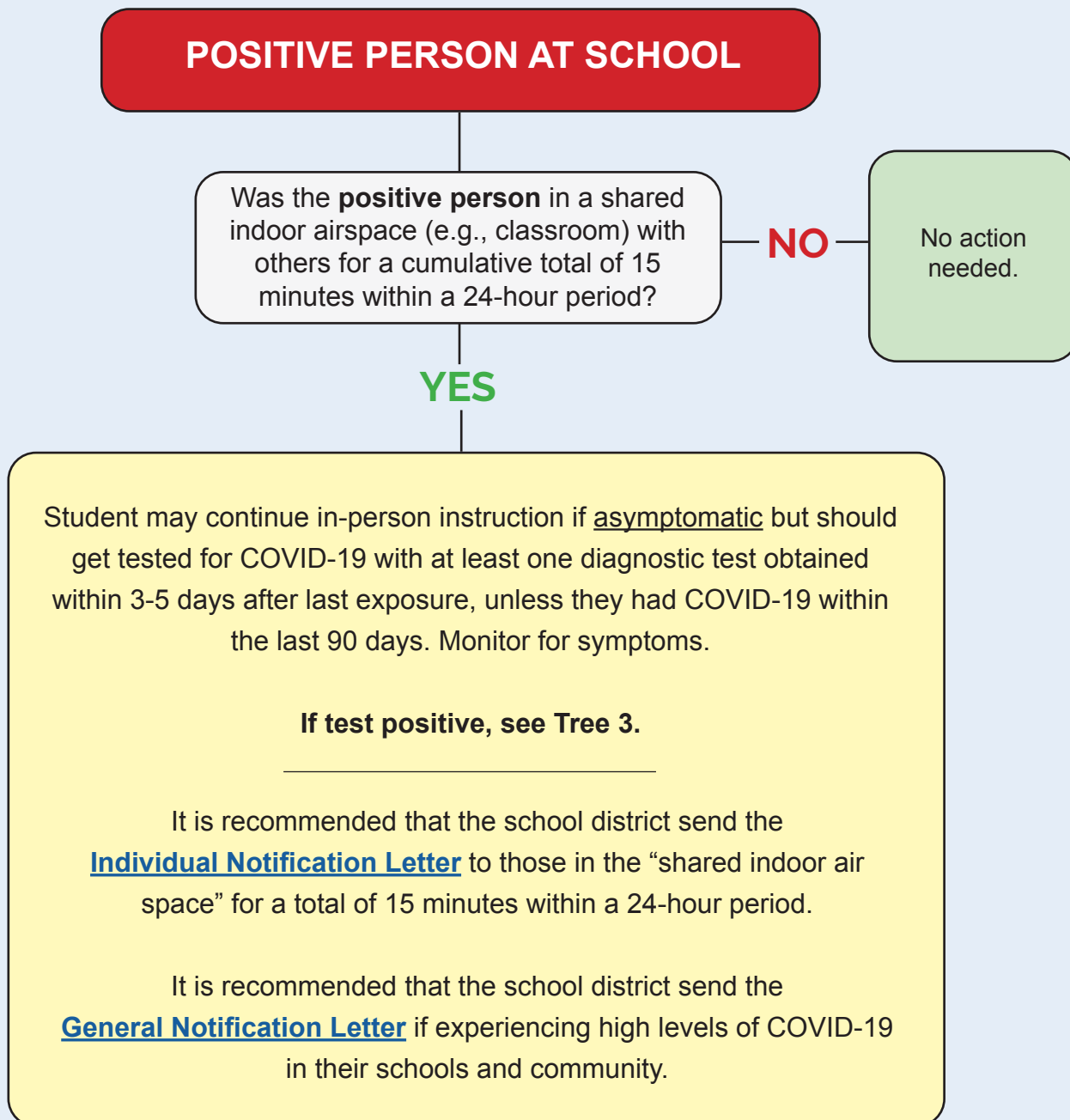
If fever is present, continue isolation until 24 hours after fever resolves. If symptoms, other than fever, are not resolving, continue to isolate until symptoms are resolving or until after Day 10.

NO

If unable to test, choosing not to test, or testing positive on Day 5 (or later), isolation can end after Day 10 if fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications. If fever is present, continue isolation until 24 hours after fever resolves. If symptoms, other than fever, are not resolving, continue to isolate until symptoms are resolving or until after Day 10.

*Wear a well-fitting mask around others for a total of 10 days, especially in indoor settings.

TREE 4: POSITIVE CASE AT SCHOOL (STUDENTS)



* Exposed students, regardless of COVID-19 vaccination status.

TREE 5: POSITIVE CASE AT SCHOOL (STAFF)

POSITIVE PERSON AT SCHOOL

Was the **positive person** in a shared indoor airspace (e.g., classroom) with others for a cumulative total of 15 minutes within a 24-hour period?

NO

No close contacts identified. No action needed.

Send required notice to employees with copy to union representative within one business day.*

YES

IS CLOSE CONTACT STAFF MEMBER SYMPTOMATIC?

YES

ISOLATE

Individual must isolate at home. May return to school site as early as Day 6 after symptom onset with a negative test result collected on Day 5 or later, symptom improvement, and no fever.**

NO

No quarantine required. May return to campus.

*Can send only one notice per exposure so long as all required information is included under Cal/OSHA Emergency Temporary Standards and Labor Code section 6409.6.

** Wear a well-fitting mask around others for a total of 10 days, especially in indoor settings. If unable to test, choosing not to test, or testing positive on Day 5 (or later), isolation can end after Day 10 if fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications. If fever is present, continue isolation until 24 hours after fever resolves. If symptoms, other than fever, are not resolving, continue to isolate until symptoms are resolving or until after Day 10.