

GUSD 2021-2022 SCHOOL REOPENING & SAFETY PLAN

Under COVID-19 Conditions



UPDATED: September 7, 2021

This is a fluid working document that will be adjusted as conditions and/or LACDPH guidance change.



A MESSAGE FROM SUPERINTENDENT DR. DELEON

Dear Glendora Families,

We are thrilled to welcome our students back to school! This Reopening and Safety Plan provides an update on recent developments and our comprehensive efforts to reopen our schools and then keep them opened.

The district, site administration and school staff will continue to refine reopening plans collectively- focusing on safety, student wellness and high-quality instruction for all within the health guidelines. As we begin the 2021-22 school year, we once again find ourselves in a very fluid situation, receiving new, revised health orders from the California Department of Public Health and/or the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health almost daily. As we receive new orders and develop plans to implement the orders, those plans will be shared with families and the community through multiple channels, such as Parent Square, the GUSD Gazette and social media- as has been our practice throughout the pandemic.

The safety and well-being of our students and staff remains our top priority. As our students transition back to our classrooms for the fall, mental health is at the forefront of our work. As such, we have increased our on-campus mental health supports by securing seven additional mental health providers, called Student Support Specialists, to provide the key elements of our incredible Wellness Initiative during the school day and after school to ensure our students thrive. Our Wellness Initiative is one element of our comprehensive Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS), which we have begun to develop and include the selection of six elementary academic interventionists to help our students stay on track with literacy and mathematics following the pandemic school closures. Look for more information regarding these services and more as we embark on the new school year.

Thank you for your patience and steadfast support as we navigate these ever-changing times together.

In service,
Dr. Penelope DeLeon

Zondra Borg - Board President
Robin Merkley - Board Vice President
Dr. Rukshan Fernando - Clerk
Cory Ellenson - Board Member
Elizabeth Reuter - Board Member

Dr. Penelope DeLeon - Superintendent
Dr. Virginia Kelsen - Assistant Superintendent, Education
Dr. Tracey Vackar - Deputy Superintendent, Business
Dr. Dominic DiGrazia - Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources

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PLANNED REOPENING

Los Angeles County has approved the return of in-person instruction for all students with parameters and guidelines regarding safety. GUSD is eager to welcome our students to the 2021-2022 school year in-person. GUSD will also provide an Independent Study education opportunity through the Glendora Online Academy of Learning (GOAL) for families who feel this best meets their needs.

The safety and wellbeing of our staff and students continues to be a priority. GUSD will continue to plan according to the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, and district leadership will continue to regularly monitor all related guidelines.

Criteria to Open Schools & Keep them Open

While we continue to carefully monitor a constantly changing health landscape, one thing remains steadfast: our commitment to the health and safety of our students, teachers, and staff. This priority is the foundation of all of our policies moving into the school year.

On August 12, 2021 the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health released updated orders of the health officer for reopening K-12 schools. These orders are a staged approach, supported by science and public health expertise, to enable schools serving students from transitional kindergarten through grade 12 to reopen safely. In addition to the conditions imposed on schools by the State Public Health Officer and the California Department of Education, schools must also be in compliance with the employee and student safety and infection control protocols from the County of Los Angeles. As a district, we are working closely with the Department of Public Health to prepare for reopening. If staff and students aren't healthy, they can't teach and learn, and we are doing all we can to ensure that schools remain safe and healthy for learning.

Overall Health & Safety Protocols

Testing, contact tracing and providing vaccination opportunities are part of several strict health protocols designed to keep our school communities healthy. Here are the key things that you and your family should know about the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health (LACDPH) health and safety practices, policies, and protocols as we reopen our schools:

- At all times while indoors, students and staff must wear face coverings protecting their nose and mouth while at school or on their way to school, regardless of their vaccination status.
- Students and staff with documented reasonable accommodations for mask exemption due to a disability or other medical condition may be required to test up to twice weekly.
- Any student who refuses to wear a face mask will be excluded from campus and provided with alternative educational opportunities.
- Any physical education classes that are held indoors require all present to wear a mask except when drinking water.
- Students and staff are encouraged to physically distance throughout the school day whenever possible as long as it does not interfere with full time student attendance.
- Schools will be cleaned throughout the day and disinfected each night, with special attention to high-touch areas.
- Face coverings, hand sanitizer, and cleaning supplies will be readily available throughout every school.
- Every school will have a school-based team ready to respond in the event that there is a health concern in a school.
- Every school will have a designated isolation room for use in the event that a student becomes ill during the school day.
- Static seating is being practiced to facilitate contact tracing.
- Social distancing in classrooms when possible.
- Each school will be limiting visitors on campus to the school office with mask.

For more details on these and other policies, please visit <http://www.ph.lacounty.gov/media/Coronavirus/> and click on the Covid-19 tab for additional information and all the latest updates. (last updated by LACDPH 8/12/2021)

What Happens if Someone Gets Sick:

New Information on COVID-19 Testing & Tracing in Schools

In close collaboration with our health experts, we have developed strict protocols that address prevention, precaution, and response to one or more of our students or employees having a confirmed case of COVID-19. It's important to know that a "confirmed case" means that an individual received a positive test result from a healthcare provider, laboratory, a private doctor, or an urgent care center. As part of contact tracing, you may be asked to submit test results to the school. Our protocols in the event of illness include:

- **Informed Consent:** It is the responsibility of parents/guardians and staff to assess their children and themselves on a daily basis before arriving on campus. The screening should include a check in concerning symptoms consistent with possible COVID-19 and any other symptoms they are experiencing. If you have questions if your child should attend school, please contact your school's health office or the district nurse. Additionally, parents must have a person available to pick up their child right away, should they become sick during school.
- **Prevention:** Starting with the first day of the 2021-22 school year, if a student or staff member is feeling sick, they are required to stay home. Additionally, if their symptoms are consistent with COVID-19, they may be asked to get tested or go into quarantine.
- **Feeling Sick in School:** If a student begins experiencing symptoms in school, they will be isolated and monitored by a school staff member until they are picked up by their parent or guardian. Staff members who become symptomatic at school must notify administration and immediately leave the building.
- **Testing:** All students and school staff members will be provided resources for testing options when needed. Resources for required or mandated testing will be provided by the district. Families may be asked to provide district health staff or designated third party provider with their insurance information to process insurance reimbursement.

Contact Tracing: In the event of a confirmed COVID-19 case in a school all individuals determined to be a close contact of the confirmed case will be contacted for further information, including vaccination status. If any individuals require a period of quarantine, the length of quarantine will be determined by the health officer protocols.

Vaccination: Students and staff may be requested to show proof of vaccination status. Any eligible individual that is not fully vaccinated may be subject to weekly testing. GUSD health services will continue to provide vaccination opportunities for those who are interested.

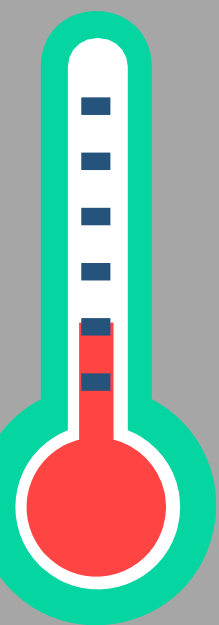
Communication: Whether symptoms begin at home or in school, there will be a clear flow of information to facilitate fast action and prevent spread. If a COVID-19 case is confirmed, schools will communicate to all families and students at school. Please note, all notifications will follow HIPPA laws and no personal information will be disclosed publicly.

WHAT TO EXPECT AS SCHOOL BEGINS

Students will begin the 21-22 school year with in-person instruction in accordance with current public health guidelines. LACDPH guidelines allow the return to in-person learning on campus. As we return in-person for full day instruction, conditions will look different than previous years due to continuing safety measures. The safety measures within this plan are based on current guidance from Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Officials and state agencies and will be updated as the situation evolves.

GUSD has developed protocols that every school site will be required to follow for students and staff. These protocols are divided into two areas: District Protocols and School Site Protocols. Under District Protocols, GUSD is responsible for creating the overall District Plan and for providing training for employees and students. Under School Site Protocols, school sites will be responsible for implementing school site control measures and screening; cleaning and disinfecting protocols; and physical distancing guidelines. These protocols will be available for viewing in the school office upon request. The district COVID team supports sites regularly and safety walks occur as needed.

Safety Screening at home and school.



Pre-Screening at Home:

Families should take temperatures daily before going to school. Anyone with a fever of 100.4° F or higher or who answers yes to any of the pre-check questions should not go to a school site. As outlined in the *Informed Consent to Attend In-Person Instruction*, the parent/guardian should report symptoms or a positive Covid test to the school office immediately. Personal illness, quarantine, and COVID-19 illness or symptom-related absences will be excused.

Students and staff are also recommended to self-screen for fever ≥ 100.4 °F; new cough (different from baseline); diarrhea or vomiting prior to coming to school each day.

Students and staff experiencing those symptoms should stay home.

Arriving at School:

All students and staff will have their temperature scanned as they enter their campus/classroom.

Students and staff members will be required to wear face masks when indoors.

Families and visitors will not be permitted access to the school campus, except in school offices when wearing a mask.

School sites will designate routes for entry and exit to limit direct contact with others.

School sites will have signage throughout campus to remind students and staff about physical distancing, hand washing, and spreading germs.

FACE MASKS & PPE

In accordance with Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Guidance:

GRADE	FACE MASK REQUIREMENT
Tk - 12	Yes, unless exempt*

*Students pre-school up to 12th grade are required to wear a face mask. If a student in pre-school-2nd grade is unable to wear a face mask, the student must wear a face shield with drape while indoors.

Students must wear face masks while indoors at all times.

- Exceptions will be made for eating and drinking.
- Personal face masks will be allowed in compliance with dress code policy.

Staff members are required to wear face masks at all times while indoors.

- Exceptions will be made for eating and drinking.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) will be provided to staff and students:

- If needed, students and staff will be provided reusable cloth face masks and are expected to wear them daily while indoors.
- If needed, teachers and identified staff members will receive a reusable face shield and masks. Gloves are not recommended for use by students or staff with the exception of those conducting cleaning, first aid, or food service.

Face Shields:

- Teachers can use a face shield with drape while teaching in the classroom. Face shields must wrap around the side of the face and extend below the chin.
- Face masks are required for students from preschool-12th grade. If a student is unable to wear a face mask, the student must wear a face shield with drape while indoors.

Face Mask Exemptions:

- Face mask exemptions must be requested using the GUSD Mask Exemption form and must be completed and signed both by the parent/guardian and a physician licensed within the state of California.
- ALL exemption forms will be verified with the authorizing physician by a confidential GUSD health staff member.
- Students/staff exempt from a face mask will be required to wear a face shield with drape.
- Students/staff exempt from both mask and shield/drape will be required to work with the school site health office to take a Covid test up to twice weekly per health orders.



SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS & CLEANING PROTOCOLS

Campus Cleaning

Occupied Areas

Occupied areas will have high-touch areas cleaned three times daily (example: two times during the school day and a third time during the evening). Area will be disinfected when students and staff are not present.

- Office areas will be cleaned: Door handles, counters, light switches, conference room and lunchroom tables and chair arm rests, lunchroom microwave handles, and sink faucets.
- Restrooms and handwashing stations will be cleaned: Restroom faucets, mirrors, partitions, toilet flushers, urinal flushers, trash lids, and door handles Handwashing station faucets and counter surfaces.
- Playground equipment (slides, swings, bars, etc.) will be disinfected daily.
- All other non-classroom spaces will be sanitized regularly.

Classroom

Classrooms will be disinfected when students and staff are not present.

- Classrooms are cleaned and disinfected. High-touch areas will be cleaned daily: door handles, light switches, hand sanitizer, pencil sharpener, and any additional identified high-touch items. Desk barriers, chairs, tables, desks, etc. will be disinfected nightly.

Other Safety Considerations

Cleaning & Disinfecting Products

Our cleaning and disinfecting products are approved for use against COVID-19 and are on the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approved list "N" with asthma-safer ingredients (hydrogen peroxide) as recommended by the US EPA Design for Environment Program. The product we are using is RTU Disinfectant Cleaner and its EPA N List Registration Number is 6836-385-6885; its active ingredient is hydrogen peroxide. This product is safe for spraying and wiping and is approved for hard surface and compliant with the Healthy Schools Act.

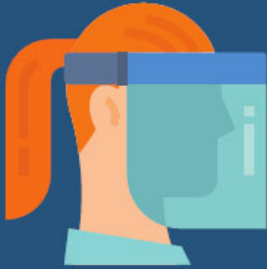
Other

- HVAC systems will have hospital grade antimicrobial filters and air supply will be modified to increase the quantity of outside air to the maximum extent possible.
- Staff members will complete mandated COVID-19 online trainings.
- Physical barriers will be installed in the front office areas where face-to-face interaction with the public occurs.
- Staff and students will be expected to wash/sanitize their hands regularly.
Every classroom and workstation will be provided hand sanitizer.
- Students will be encouraged to bring refillable water bottles.

If you have any questions about cleaning protocols or would like further information, please feel free to contact the GUSD Maintenance Department. At 626-963-1611 ext. 1602 or via email to tportugal@glendora.k12.ca.us.

SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

- All students, including students on an IEP or 504 Plan, are required to have a verified medical exemption if unable to wear a face mask.
- Students who are deaf/hard of hearing will not be required to wear facial coverings.
- Students who are on IEPs will have access to distance learning if student's family deems necessary.
- School personnel will work closely with families of students who are immunocompromised regarding specific needs when returning to school.



CONSIDERATIONS FOR STAFF WORKING WITH STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

- Staff will be given a choice as to type of face covering which is most conducive to addressing their specific student needs.
- IEP services will be delivered with adherence to the wearing of facial coverings, physical distancing, increased hand washing, and sanitizing.
- All staff who work with students who require more hands-on services such as diapering, catheterization, feeding, etc. will utilize both face coverings and gloves.
- Staff who work with students who require modeling of oral tasks to complete work will be issued clear face masks or face shields so students are able to view their instructor.



TRANSPORTATION

General Safety Measures

- Drivers will wear a face mask and conduct a verbal wellness check as students board the bus.
- Students will wear a face mask and maintain social distancing while waiting at the bus stop, when loading and unloading the bus, and while awaiting entry into their school.
- Students who do not have a face mask will be provided one upon entry. Students will load the vehicle from back to front and unload front to back to promote social distancing.
- Hand sanitizer will be available for students to use at their school sites and prior to boarding the bus.
- Windows on the bus may be slightly open to increase circulation of air within the bus.

Disinfecting Vehicles and Workplace

- All buses that are in active service will be cleaned and disinfected daily. High touch areas will be disinfected after each route.
- All First Student buses will also be disinfected every 30 days and regularly cleaned after each route with an electrostatic sprayer or similar equipment.
- Drivers will follow standard operating procedures (SOP) for disinfecting. (Information available upon request)

[SELPA Transportation COVID-19 Video](#)

SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL & MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORTS



In Glendora Unified, our goal is for every student to find both social-emotional and academic success. Not only for their current benefit, but we want our kids to have every opportunity for a rich and fulfilling future. In order to reach this goal, we provide a number of valuable supports for their academic and social-emotional success. We know that these are unprecedented times, and every member of our team from teachers and staff to parents and students are working hard in formats like never before.

Your family can access our free tele-health and virtual therapy resources made available through our partner Care Solace. Those in need of support may contact Care Solace 24/7 at 888-515-0595, email weserve@caresolace.org, or access our district's unique page: caresolace.com/glendoraparents.

GLENDORA HEALTHY MINDS

Glendora Healthy Minds was created in 2018 by the GUSD mental health team. Healthy Minds is a program dedicated to supporting the social and emotional needs of GUSD students with the goal of providing students with various supports and services including social emotional education, counseling and guidance, and therapeutic interventions. Glendora Healthy Minds promotes wellness to maintain and support a positive and balanced lifestyle for kids to obtain a healthy life.

GUSD partners with local universities and community agencies to provide mental health counseling to students in need. Student interns who are clinically supervised under licensed professionals provide services on site during school hours. For more information and resources, visit sites.google.com/glendora.k12.ca.us/glendora-healthy-minds/home

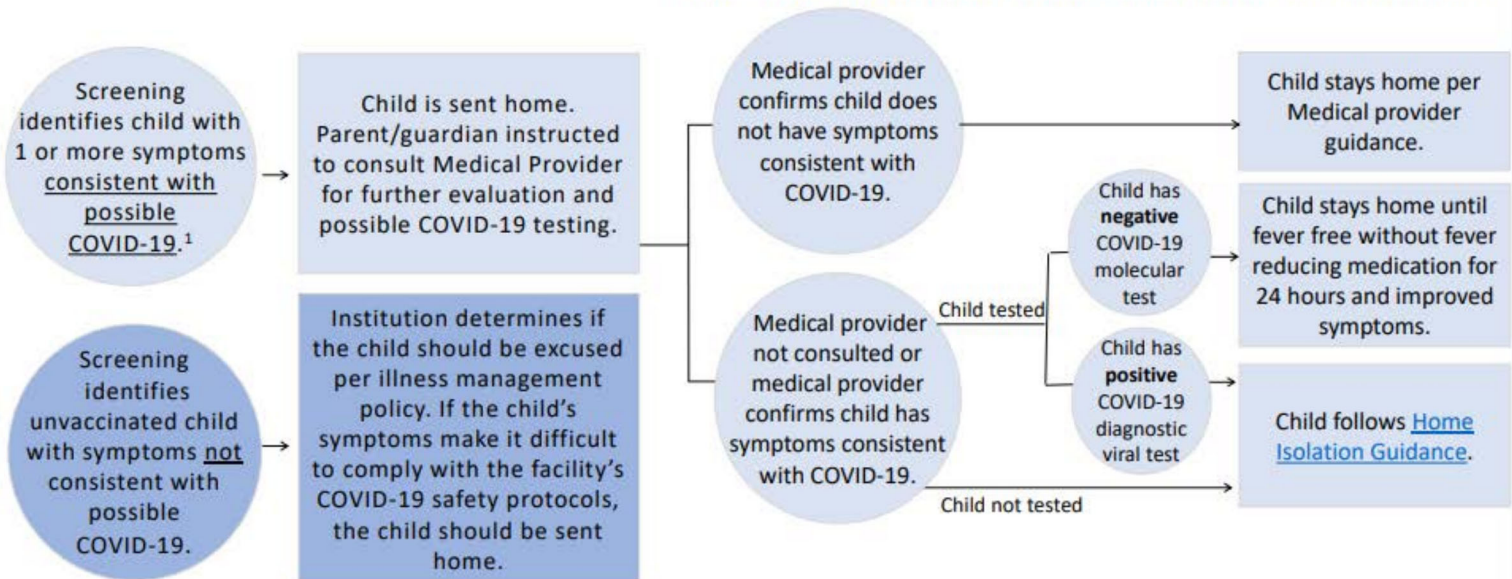
OTHER SOCIAL EMOTIONAL SUPPORTS

- Character Strong Curriculum & Resources
- GUSD Counselors, check-ins, and counseling websites
- Contact your school counselor or Student Support Specialist for more information & resources

COVID 19 DECISION PATHWAYS

Decision Pathways for Children with Symptoms Prior to Entry¹ into an Educational Institution, regardless of vaccination status

¹If child becomes unwell at the facility, place child in an isolation area (physically distant from attendant, ideally outdoors) and follow decision pathways described below.

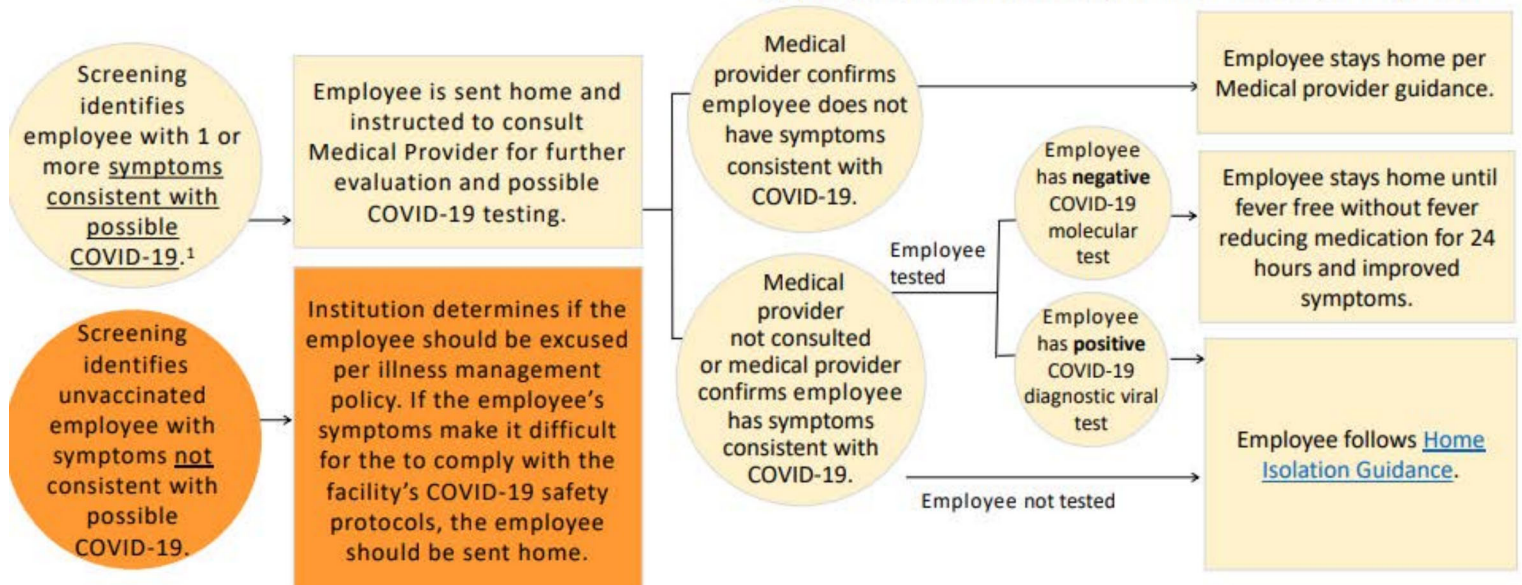


¹Symptoms consistent with possible COVID-19 infection in children include: **fever $\geq 100.4^{\circ}\text{F}$; new cough (different from baseline); diarrhea or vomiting.** If the child's symptoms are not consistent with possible COVID-19 but there is still concern, evaluation of the child by a medical provider is recommended.

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Decision Pathways for Unvaccinated Employees with Symptoms Prior to Entry¹ into an Educational Institution, regardless of vaccination status

¹If employee becomes unwell at the facility, place employee in an isolation area (ideally outdoors, physically distant from attendant) and follow decision pathways below.

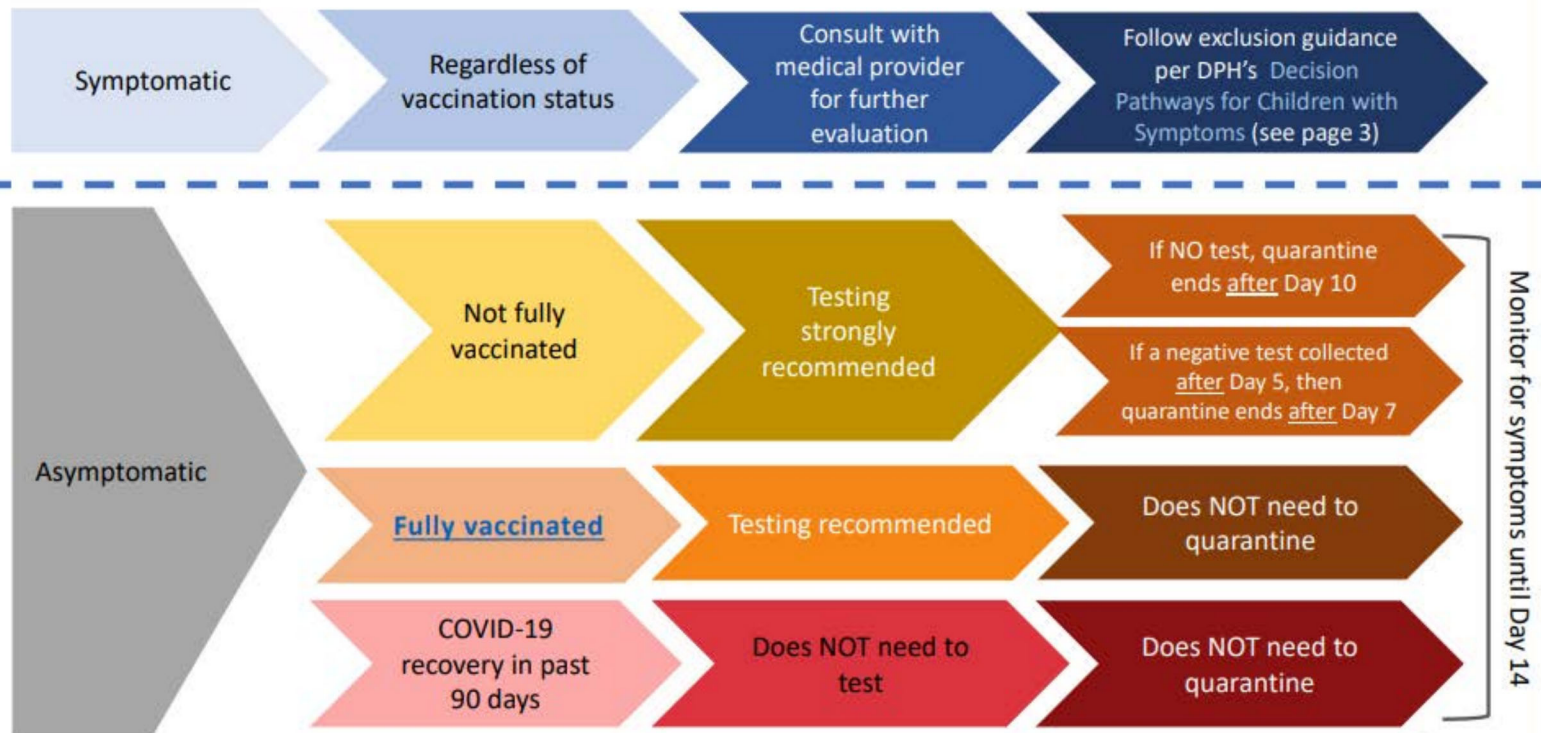


¹Symptoms associated with possible COVID-19 in adults: fever $\geq 100.4^{\circ}$ or feeling feverish (chills, sweating); cough; shortness of breath; new loss of taste or smell; fatigue; runny or stuffy nose; muscle or body aches; headache; sore throat; nausea or vomiting; diarrhea. If the symptoms are not listed but there is still concern, additional evaluation by a medical provider is recommended.

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COVID 19 DECISION PATHWAYS

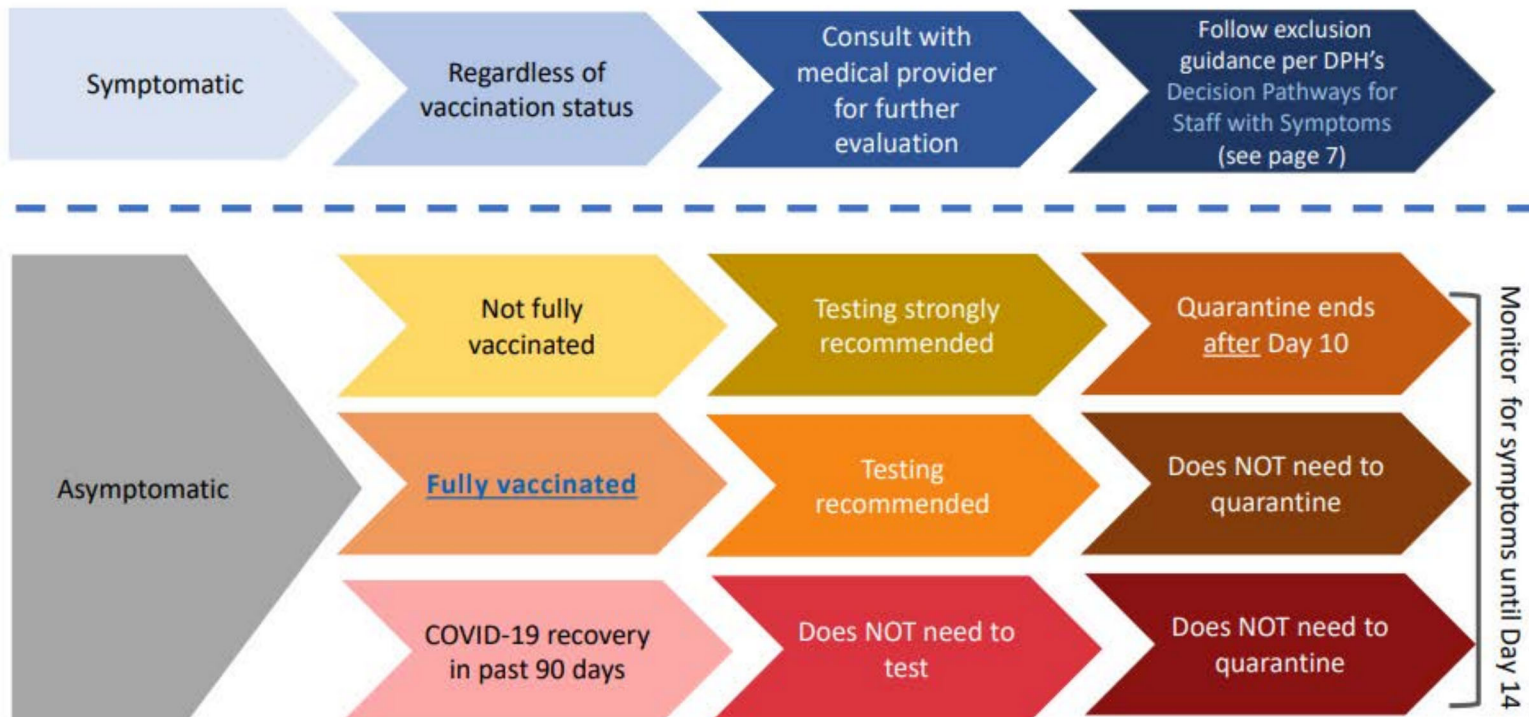
For Exposed Children*: *How long for quarantine?*



*Follows Los Angeles County Department of Public Health [Home Quarantine Guidance](#)

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For Exposed Employees*: *How long for quarantine?*



*Follows workplace guidance for employees outlined in the Cal/OSHA COVID-19 Prevention [Emergency Temporary Standards](#)

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Protect Yourself and Others from COVID-19

HOW TO WEAR A MASK



To get the best protection, make sure your mask fits well

- It should completely cover your nose and mouth.
- It should fit snugly against your nose, the sides of your face and under your chin, without gaps.

Do:

- Choose a mask made with two or more layers of tightly woven, breathable material.

Don't:

- Wear masks with a valve.
- Use a bandana or scarf as a mask.
- Use a face shield in place of a mask.

For more information, visit: ph.lacounty.gov/masks

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HOW TO MAKE YOUR MASK FIT BETTER



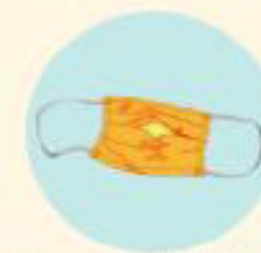
Use a mask with nose wires



Double Mask: Wear a cloth mask over a disposable mask



Knott and Tuck: Knot the ear loops at the edge of the mask and tuck the extra material



Use a mask with a filter



County of Los Angeles
Public Health



PREVENTING THE SPREAD OF RESPIRATORY ILLNESS IN THE HOME

WASH YOUR HANDS THOROUGHLY AND OFTEN



- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- If soap and water are not available use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
- Wash hands after emptying waste baskets and touching tissues and similar waste.

READ THE LABELS ON CLEANING PRODUCTS



- Follow the instructions on the product labels, including wearing gloves and having good ventilation.
- Use household cleaners and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-registered disinfectants that are appropriate for the surface.
- To find out if the product works against viruses, read the product label, call the 1-800 number on the label or visit www.epa.gov.
- A bleach solution can also be used as a disinfectant - mix 4 teaspoons of bleach to 1 quart (4 cups) of water, or for a larger supply, add 1/3 cup of bleach to 1 gallon (16 cups) of water.

CLEAN AND DISINFECT FREQUENTLY TOUCHED OBJECTS AND SURFACES OFTEN



Hard (Non-Porous) Surfaces

E.g. high-touch surfaces like counters, tabletops, doorknobs, railings, bathroom fixtures, light switches, toilets, phones, keyboards, remote controls, tablets, and bedside tables.

- Clean surfaces and items to remove visible dirt and disinfect them to kill germs. When using disinfectants, make sure the surface stays wet for at least 10 minutes and then rinse with water, especially in an area that comes into contact with food. Allow to air dry.
- Read directions carefully when using disinfecting wipes on electronics to make sure they can withstand the use of multiple wipes that are needed to keep the surface wet long enough to meet the required contact time.

Soft (Porous) Surfaces

E.g. towels, linen, clothing, and stuffed animals.

- Launder with hot water, using a household laundry detergent and dry on a high heat setting

FOR MORE INFORMATION



CDC guidance on cleaning and disinfection in households with suspected or confirmed coronavirus disease 2019

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/home/cleaning-disinfection.html#disinfect>

Public Health's guidance on the correct way to wash your hands.

<http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/Coronavirus/> - click on the handwashing menu



STEPS FOR HANDWASHING

Stop the spread of germs and keep yourself and others from getting sick.



1. Wet your hands with water.



2. Lather up with soap. Soap gets rid of the oil that helps germs stick to your hands.



3. Rub and scrub your hands together for at least 20 seconds. Strongly rub and scrub your wrists, palms, between fingers, under your nails, and the backs of your hands. The soap and scrubbing action loosens the germs off your hands.



4. Rinse your hands thoroughly with warm, running water.



5. Dry your hands completely with a clean towel or paper towel. Use the towel to turn off the faucet when you're finished drying your hands. Throw the paper towel away.

If soap and water aren't available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer. Alcohol-based hand sanitizers can usually be found as a gel or wipes. Make sure the product is at least 60 percent alcohol.

To use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer:

- Rub the gel or wipe all over both hands.
- Rub hands together for 20 seconds until they feel dry.

California's Blueprint for a Safer Economy

Los Angeles County Department of Public Health

California Department of Public Health Industry Guidance: Schools and School Based Programs

California Department of Education (CDE) Stronger Together: A Guidebook for the reopening of California's Public Schools

CIF Return to Physical Activity/Training Guidelines

American Academy of Pediatrics COVID-19 Planning Considerations: Guidance for School Re-