

Sage School COVID-19 Decision Matrix

In consultation with local health care providers, other local organization COVID Coordinators, and the CDC website, Sage School has adapted the following COVID-19 Decision Matrix from the Indiana Department of Health. It provides a concise summary of the various COVID-19 health and safety protocols and outlines how to incorporate test results into return to school protocols.

Purpose: The purpose of the decision matrix below is to assist the Sage COVID-19 coordinator and staff in determining if a student or faculty/staff member needs to be excluded from campus for COVID-19 quarantine or isolation. The chart uses three criteria to determine this: close contact, symptoms, and COVID-19 test status.

How to use: The first step is to determine if the individual was a close contact to a COVID-19 case based on the definition below and then selecting the appropriate column in the decision matrix chart. The second step is to determine if the individual is showing symptoms of COVID-19 (symptomatic) or not. Finally, determine if the person was tested for COVID-19 and the result of the test. Key definitions are provided below.

Isolation means keeping sick people away from healthy ones. This usually means that the sick person rests in his or her own bedroom or area of your home and stays away from others. This includes staying home from school.

Quarantine means separating people who were around someone who was sick, just in case they get sick. Since people who were around other sick people are more likely to get sick themselves, quarantine prevents them from unintentionally spreading the virus to other people even before they realize they are sick. Usually, people who are in quarantine stay at home and avoid going out or being around other people. This includes staying home from school.

Close contact: An individual is considered a close contact if any of following is true:

- Was within 6 feet of a positive person for more than 15 minutes total in a day.
- Had physical contact with the person (ie hugged or kissed them).
- Had direct contact with the respiratory secretions of the person (i.e., from coughing, sneezing, contact with dirty tissue, shared drinking glass, food, or other personal items).
- Lives with or stayed overnight for at least one night in a household with the person.

These close contact criteria apply regardless of mask use, face shields, or physical barriers, such as Plexiglas or plastic barriers. The only exception is if a healthcare worker in a school setting is wearing the proper personal protective equipment. When an individual's symptom, contact, or test status changes, the quarantine or isolation requirements should be reassessed.

Individual who is NOT a known close contact to a COVID-19 case.

Individual	Symptomatic	No Symptoms
Blaine County Green Risk Level - Sick Student	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please complete daily attestation form AND email Sage COVID Coordinator (matt@thesageschool.org) & lead teacher. • Return to School after 24 hours fever free without the use of fever-reducing medication AND with improvement of symptoms AND complete a signed copy of the Sage Return to School form. 	May attend School
Blaine County Yellow Risk Level - Sick Student	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please complete daily attestation form AND email Sage COVID Coordinator (matt@thesageschool.org) & lead teacher. • Consult with COVID Coordinator to determine whether to follow Green or Orange Risk level procedures. 	May attend School
Blaine County Orange Risk Level - Sick Student	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please complete attestation form for recording purposes AND email Sage COVID Coordinator (matt@thesageschool.org) & lead teacher. • The individual must remain home for at least 10 days since the first symptoms began AND be fever free without the use of fever-reducing medications for 24 hours AND with improvement of symptoms. • Consider testing (see below) to potentially shorten quarantine. • If diagnosed with another condition that explains the symptoms, such as ear or bladder infection, individual does not need to isolate but should complete the Sage HCP Return to School Form • Consider quarantine for siblings and household members if you have significant concern for COVID-19 	May attend School
Tested and negative for COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The individual must be fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications and improvement of symptoms, unless otherwise advised by a healthcare provider AND complete the Sage HCP Return to School Form • If diagnosed with another condition, the individual must complete the exclusion period for the diagnosed disease. • Please provide proof of negative COVID-19 test (not antibody). 	May return to school with a completed Sage HCP Return to School form.
Tested and positive for COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The individual must isolate at home for at least 10 days since the 1st symptoms began AND be fever free without the use of fever-reducing medications for 24 hours AND with improvement in symptoms. • Repeat testing is NOT recommended for making decisions about when people can return to work or school. • Siblings, household members, and other close contacts should follow the close contact chart below. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must isolate at home for 10 days after the day the sample was collected. • Siblings, household members, and other close contacts should follow the close contact chart below.

Individual IS a known close contact to a COVID-19 case

Individual	Symptomatic	No Symptoms
Not tested for COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Because the individual is a close contact of a COVID-19 case, the individual must quarantine for at least 14 days after the last contact with the COVID-19-positive person. • Because the individual has developed symptoms and has not been tested or have an alternate diagnosis, the individual is likely a case and must also remain home for at least 10 days since the 1st symptoms began AND be fever free without the use of fever-reducing medications for 24 hours AND with improvement of symptoms. • The criteria in both of the above bullets must be met before returning to school whichever is longer. • If the individual cannot properly isolate away from others at home, the last date of contact may be the last day of isolation for the positive person. • Since the individual is a close contact who is now symptomatic, siblings, household members, and other close contacts should also follow this chart to determine quarantine length. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must quarantine for 14 days from the date of last exposure before returning to school. Siblings do not need to quarantine. • If the exposure is to a household member and the case cannot properly isolate away from others at home, the last date of contact may be the last day of isolation for the positive person. • If an individual who is a close contact becomes symptomatic, refer to the symptomatic scenarios.
Tested and negative for COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should continue to self-quarantine until symptom resolution as recommended by a health care professional by using the Sage HCP Return to School form. The individual must quarantine for 14 days after contact with the COVID-19-positive person, even if the student has an alternate diagnosis for symptoms. • If still symptomatic after the 14 days, individuals must wait to return to school until fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications and improvement of symptoms. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must quarantine for 14 days from the date of last exposure before returning to school AND submit a Sage HCP Return to School form. • If the exposure is to a household member and the case cannot properly isolate away from others at home, the last date of contact may be the last day of isolation for the positive person. • If an individual who is a close contact becomes symptomatic, refer to the symptomatic scenarios.
Tested and positive for COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The individual must isolate at home for at least 10 days since the 1st symptoms began AND be fever free without the use of fever-reducing medications for 24 hours AND with improvement in symptoms. • Repeat testing is NOT recommended for making decisions about when people can return to work or school. • Siblings, household members, and other close contacts should also follow this chart to determine quarantine length. • If the close contact tests positive, isolation starts on the day of symptom onset and isolation may end prior to the last day of quarantine or after the 14 days of quarantine. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must isolate at home for 10 days after the day the sample was collected AND submit a Sage HCP Return to School form. • Siblings, household members, and other close contacts should follow this chart.