COVID-19 FLOWCHART FOR ELEMENTARY, MIDDLE, & HIGH SCHOOLS

This flow sheet provides an overview for students and staff of what to do if someone in their school is exposed to COVID-19 or becomes symptomatic. All COVID-19 cases must be reported to the Philadelphia Department of Public Health at 215-685-5488 for contact tracing and further guidance.

**What to do if...**

**Someone is EXPOSED* to a confirmed case of COVID-19:**

- **QUARANTINE for 14 days. Stay home & away from others.**
  - If remains asymptomatic:
    - Can return to school 14 days after last day of exposure (if exposure was in household, must quarantine for 14 days from when COVID-19 positive individual ends their isolation).
  - If develops symptoms of COVID-like illness**:
    - If test results are POSITIVE:
      - Can return to school at least 10 days after onset of symptoms AND 1 day without fever, off fever reducing medicines AND symptoms improving. Call PDPh at 215-685-5488.
    - If test results are NEGATIVE:
      - Close contacts of the COVID-19 positive individual follow the exposed flow chart. In a school setting, all children & staff in the same cohort (classroom) as a COVID-19 positive individual are considered exposed.

**What to do if...**

**Someone has SYMPTOMS of COVID-like illness**:

- Symptomatic individual should leave the school immediately & stay home and away from others.
  - Get COVID tested and/or assessed by a healthcare provider:
    - Must remain in isolation until results are available. Quarantines of close contacts NOT suggested while awaiting test results.
    - If neither tested nor seen by a healthcare provider:
      - Can return to school at least 10 days after onset of symptoms AND 1 day without fever off fever-reducing medicines AND symptoms improving.
    - If healthcare provider documents alternative diagnosis:
      - Can return to school based on healthcare provider’s documentation.
  - If test results are NEGATIVE:
    - Can return to school when symptoms resolve and meets normal return to school criteria after an illness (if not exposed) OR upon completing 14 days of quarantine (if exposed).

*Definition: Exposure: spending at least 15 minutes, less than 6 feet apart from someone with a confirmed case of COVID-19 starting from 48 hours prior to that person developing symptoms. In a school, all children & staff in the same cohort (classroom) as the COVID-19 positive individual are considered exposed.

**Definition: COVID-like illness has at least ONE major symptom (new or persistent cough, shortness of breath, new loss of sense of smell/taste) OR at least TWO minor symptoms (fever, chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, nausea/vomiting, diarrhea, fatigue, congestion/runny nose).