

NEW MILFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Office of the Superintendent

50 East Street

New Milford, Connecticut 06776

(860) 355-8406 FAX (860) 210-4132



Ms. Alisha DiCorpo
Superintendent of Schools



New Milford Department of Health

December 8, 2021

Dear NMPS Staff and Families:

First, we'd like to thank you for all of your efforts to keep our children well and able to attend school in person as often as possible. Recently, the number of children who have been affected by COVID-19 has risen in the community, and consequently, the number of children in quarantine has risen.

As you know, the New Milford Health Director Lisa Morrissey and I work closely together to make informed decisions regarding the state of NMPS. Currently, our guideline for quarantine has been 10 days with an option to test out on day five or later with a return on day 8. **This will remain the practice. However, we are strongly recommending a 10 day quarantine for all students and staff until further notice.**

Also of note, due to the increase in cases, we will be **pausing the Screen and Stay option**. As of today, December 8, 2021, this will no longer be an option for staff and families. We sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

If you are planning to travel for the holidays or take part in a large gathering, please be certain to review the travel recommendations found here: <https://portal.ct.gov/coronavirus/travel>. "The New Milford Department of Health strongly encourages people to get vaccinated or get their booster shots if they have not done so already, especially for those who plan on attending social gatherings this holiday season", noted Lisa Morrissey, Director of Health for the Town of New Milford.

Attached, you will find an informational packet that will provide additional details.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to your child's school directly or the New Milford Health Department.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Alisha DiCorpo".

Alisha DiCorpo
Superintendent of Schools

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lisa Michelle Morrissey".

Lisa Michelle Morrissey, MPH
New Milford Department of Health Director



New Milford Department of Health

COVID-19 RECOMMENDATIONS: SCHOOLS

December 7, 2021



TOWN OF NEW MILFORD DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

10 Main Street New Milford, Connecticut, 06776 | 860-355-6035 | healthdept@newmilford.org | www.newmilford.org

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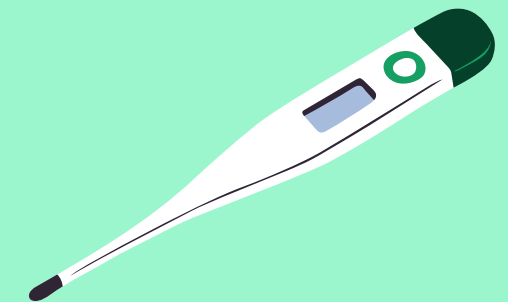
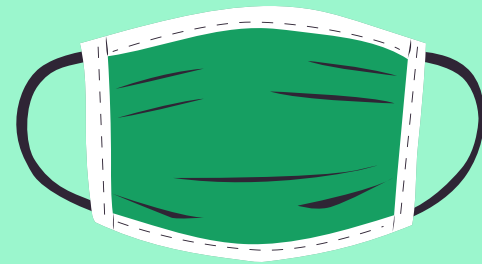


NEW MILFORD DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



COVID-19 Recommendations

QUARANTINE



Quarantine for 10 days if exposed (unvaccinated).



***We recognize that families may opt to use the shorter, approved quarantine guideline which requires a COVID-19 test on day 5 or later, with a return to school on day 8 following a negative result.**

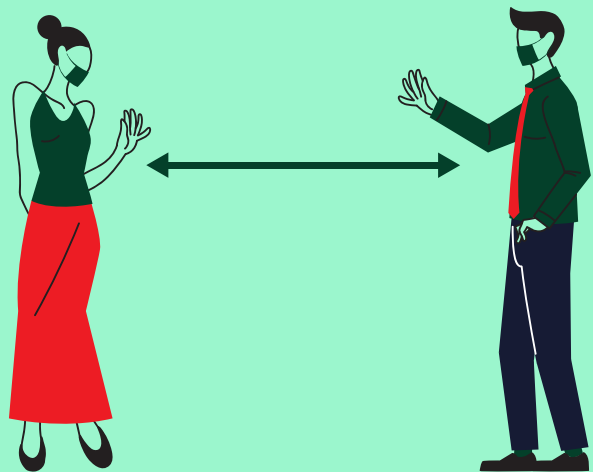
Wear a mask in public, crowded places, and at social gatherings

Get tested if you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms

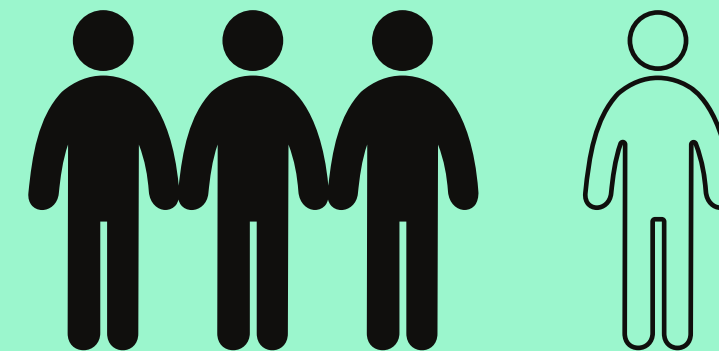
Practice proper hygiene (wash hands regularly, cover your mouth/nose when coughing and sneezing)

Stay home if you are not feeling well

DEFINITIONS



QUARANTINE



Close Contact

Someone who was less than 6 feet away from sick person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period.

Quarantine

Keeps someone who was in close contact with someone with COVID-19 away from others.

Isolation

Keeps someone who is sick or tested positive for COVID-19 without symptoms away from others, even in their own home.

Screen & Stay

Allows unvaccinated individuals that were exposed to COVID-19 in school to attend school as long as they are asymptomatic and follow the proper procedures.

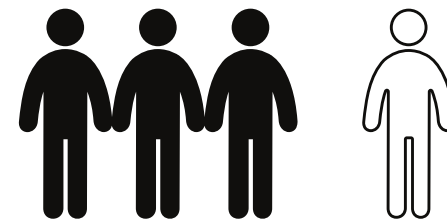
COVID-19 GUIDELINES FOR SCHOOLS: QUARANTINE VS. ISOLATION

Source: CT DPH Addendum 5

Updated 10/27/2021

QUARANTINE

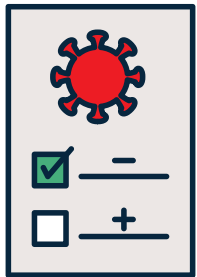
Quarantine = when you have been exposed but you are not experiencing symptoms



Isolation = when you are experiencing symptoms or have a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19 (tested positive)

COVID-19 SYMPTOMS + NO CLOSE CONTACT

1



Negative test

+



OR

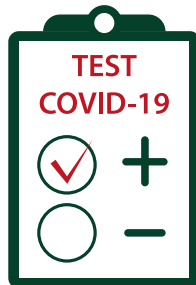


=

Return to school after no fever
for 24 hours without using fever
reducing medications & other
symptoms have improved

Regardless of
vaccination status

2

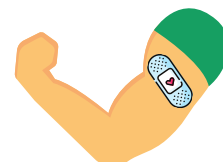


Positive test

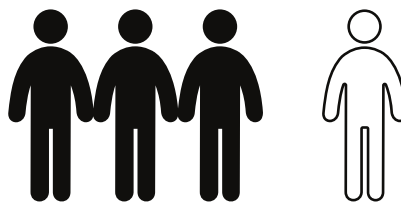
+



OR



=



SELF-ISOLATE
10 DAYS

Regardless of
vaccination status

3



No test

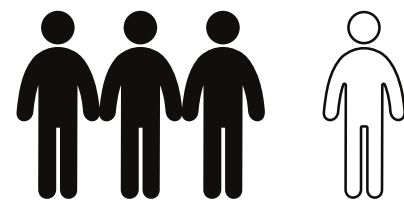
+



OR



=



SELF-ISOLATE
10 DAYS

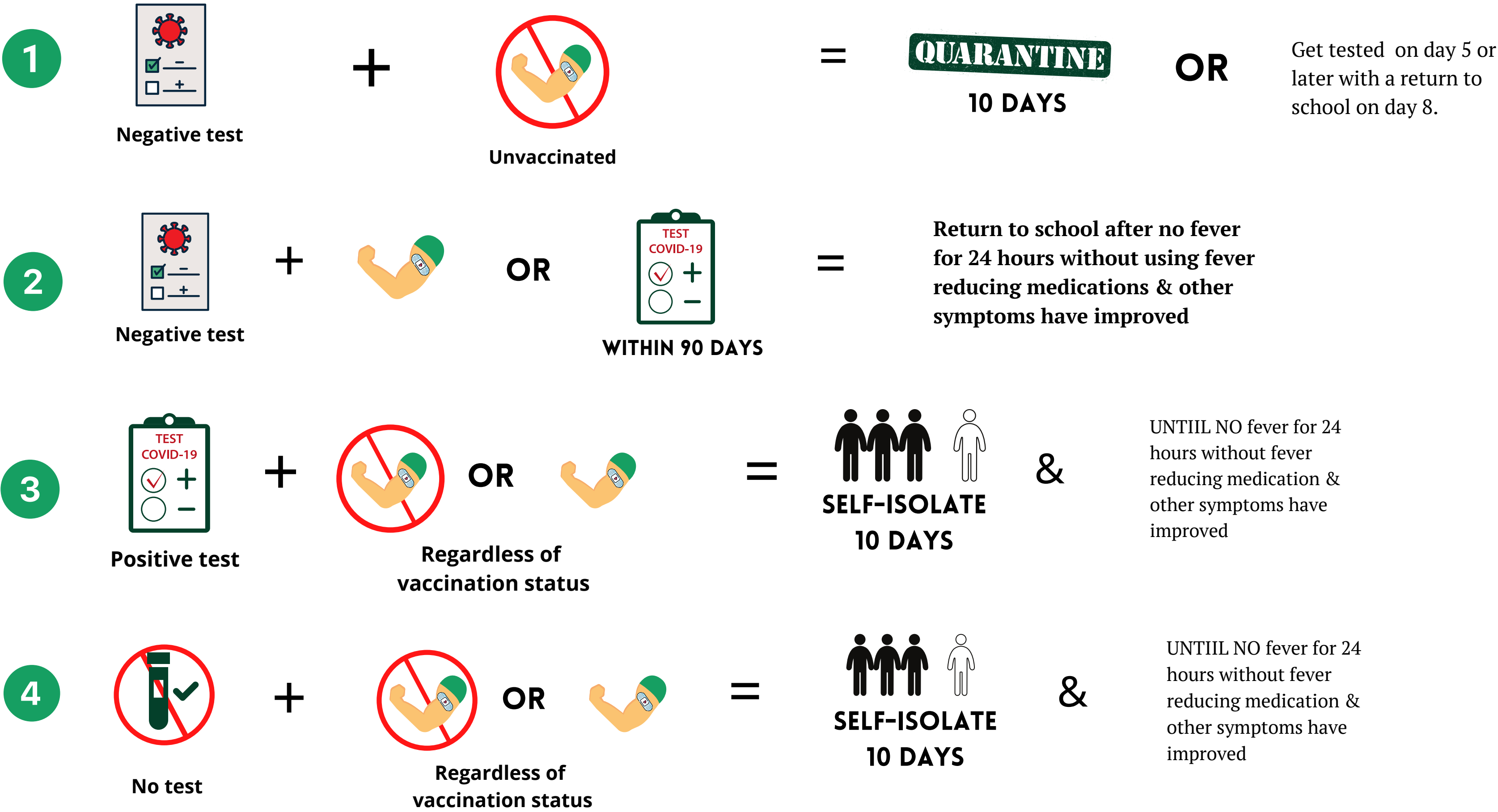
&

UNTIL NO fever for 24
hours without fever
reducing medication &
other symptoms have
improved

Regardless of
vaccination status

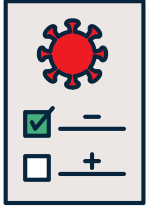
**can return to school earlier if healthcare
provided provides documentation**

COVID-19 SYMPTOMS + CLOSE CONTACT



NO COVID-19 SYMPTOMS + CLOSE CONTACT

1



Negative test

+



Unvaccinated

=


QUARANTINE

10 DAYS

OR

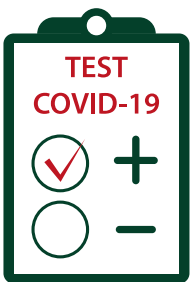
Get tested on day 5 or later with a return to school on day 8.

2




Unvaccinated

+




Tested positive in the last 90 days

=




No test, if asymptomatic

3




Positive test

+

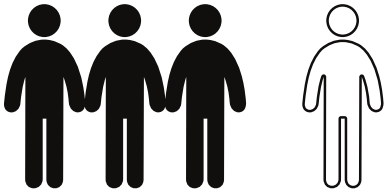


Regardless of vaccination status

OR




=




SELF-ISOLATE 10 DAYS

4



Vaccinated

=



3-5 DAYS AFTER EXPOSURE

Get tested

*NO QUARANTINE UNLESS DEVELOP SYMPTOMS

NO COVID-19 SYMPTOMS + CLOSE CONTACT

P. 8

SCREEN & STAY

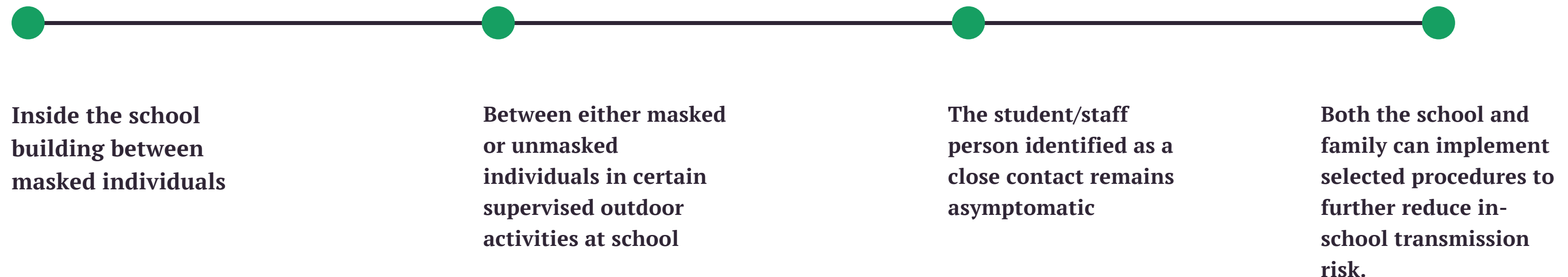


Protocols & Procedures

PAUSED AS OF DECEMBER 8, 2021

Screen & Stay applies to students or staff who are unvaccinated or partially vaccinated and were exposed to COVID-19 while in school. **NOTE: This does not apply to before/after school programs UNLESS they are controlled situations such as tutoring or classroom style learning.**

These individuals are choosing to continue to report to school for in-person learning or work provided exposure occurred:



SCREEN & STAY



Requirements

- Perform a daily symptom assessment for 14 calendar days.
- Provide a documented affirmation to their school health office, administration, or other designee.
- The person will quarantine at home and not report to school if they experience any of the COVID-19 symptoms during any time of the 14-day monitoring period.

THESE GUIDELINES DO NOT APPLY WHEN INDIVIDUALS ARE NOT IN SCHOOL

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Screen & Stay does not apply to:

- **PreK students and staff**
- **having a close contact outside of school (e.g. parties, sports, play dates, etc)**
- **in a situation indoors where masks were removed and 6 feet of spacing was not maintained**
- **during extracurricular or other activities outside the regular school day**

INTERSCHOLASTIC, YOUTH AND OTHER AMATEUR SPORT ACTIVITIES



CT DPH COVID-19 Guidance

Those who are fully vaccinated athletes, coaches, officials and other participants:

- no longer need to quarantine after an exposure
- do not need to be included in regular screening testing
- can actively compete (in-game) without a mask starting on December 23, 2021

