



CABINET FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES
Department for Public Health

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School Leaders and Public Health Directors,

Schools can safely remain open for in-person instruction while minimizing disruptions to the learning environment when they implement **layered prevention strategies** to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

In light of recent CDC isolation and quarantine changes, KDPH has revised its recommendations for K-12 school operations and Test-to-Stay for Kentucky schools. Key changes to these guidance documents include:

- A shortened **5-day isolation** for individuals testing positive for COVID-19 but who **do not have symptoms and who wear a well-fitting mask for 10 full days**;
- A shortened **5-day quarantine** for individuals not up-to-date with their COVID-19 vaccination who are exposed to COVID-19 and who **wear a well-fitting mask for 10 full days**; and
- Expanded Test-to-Stay to include teachers and staff and individuals exposed to COVID-19 outside of school.

In school settings requiring universal masking for all individuals, the following changes also include:

- Discontinuation of contact tracing following at-school exposures; and
- Discontinuation of quarantine for individuals exposed to COVID-19 at school.

In addition to these changes, KDPH continues to recommend that all K-12 schools:

- **Promote COVID-19 vaccinations**, including boosters, to eligible students, teachers, staff, and family members;
- **Require universal** use of well-fitting **masks** in indoor school settings;
- **Ensure all sick persons stay away from school** and implement a [COVID-19 testing program](#); and
- **Enhance** ventilation, facility cleaning, handwashing facilities, and physical distancing.

Though the road has been long, progress has been made and better times are ahead. As we share this journey together, thank for your efforts to promote a safe learning environment for Kentucky's students and school staff.

Sincerely yours,



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