

COVID-19 Mitigation in Schools

Updated 7/8/20

No cases in building

Use preparedness measures

Ask staff and families to self-screen for COVID symptoms at home. Symptoms may include a fever of 100.4 F or higher, cough or shortness of breath, and a lack of taste and smell.

If sick, require staff/students to stay home.

Teach, practice, and reinforce healthy hygiene practices.

Make common sense adjustments to current practices: desks separated instead of pods, no supply sharing, 6-ft distancing when possible, maintain cohorts of students to minimize cross-over when possible.

Isolated cases in building

All of GREEN, plus:

Reassess processes looking for gaps in prevention strategies.

Deep clean and disinfect affected areas. CDC recommends waiting for 24 hours, if possible, before cleaning. Once an area is appropriately disinfected, it can be opened for use.

Allow for contact tracing. Ensure individual does not return until self-isolation is complete.

Communicate general message to families while maintaining privacy. DOH contact tracing will communicate and provide education to close contacts and to positive patient's family.

Substantial cases in building

All of GREEN, YELLOW, plus:

Understand the level of virus spread within your school building.

Assess relevant facts to determine appropriate steps:

- Degree of potential exposure within building
- Number of cases in surrounding community
- Grade levels impacted
- Ability to staff building

Consider options such as staggered schedules, blended learning, etc.

Engage state's School Response Team.