

Greene Street Friends School
Frequently Asked Questions
About COVID-19

(as of March 10, 2021)

Guidelines are subject to change. For the most recent information, look to the health attestation questions on the AUXS Safety App. If you would need to answer yes to any of the questions on the AUXS Safety App please contact Cindy, you may be asked to stay home.

Definitions:

What is quarantine?

Quarantine separates and restricts the movement of people who were exposed to a contagious disease (COVID-19) to see if they become sick. Being quarantined does not mean you are sick, it means you were exposed to someone that was sick.

<https://www.cdc.gov/quarantine/index.html>

What is isolation?

Isolation separates sick people with a contagious disease from people who are not sick. Isolation means staying in a separate room from others, using a separate bathroom, avoiding contact with other household members and pets, and not sharing personal items, including utensils, cups, and towels.

<https://www.cdc.gov/quarantine/index.html>

Who is a Primary/Close Contact?

Close Contact is defined as someone who has had close contact to COVID-19.

Regardless of face mask use, these individuals generally include:

- Anyone who was within 6 feet for 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period.
- Anyone in the same cohort.
- Anyone in a shared office space.
- Anyone carpooling (to and from the facility).
- Anyone sharing a school vehicle – i.e.: to and from sporting events.
 - School bus, carpool, etc.
- Anyone eating lunch together (i.e. adults eating in a shared space).
- Using the “model of 9” (tick tack toe grid) – the positive case would be in the center – the surrounding individuals are considered to be the close contacts.

<https://www.phila.gov/programs/coronavirus-disease-2019-COVID-19/guidance/guidance-documents/schools-guidance/#anchor>

Who is a secondary contact?

Someone exposed to an (primary contact) individual who was exposed to COVID-19. The secondary contact did not have exposure to COVID-19. The secondary contact DOES NOT have to quarantine.

What is a confirmed case?

A confirmed case of COVID-19 is someone who tests positive for COVID-19

<https://www.phila.gov/programs/coronavirus-disease-2019-COVID-19/guidance/guidance-documents/schools-guidance/#anchor>

What is a probable/presumed positive case?

A probable/presumed case is someone who has had close contact with someone with COVID-19 within the last 14 days *and* develops a COVID-19 like illness.

<https://www.phila.gov/programs/coronavirus-disease-2019-COVID-19/guidance/guidance-documents/schools-guidance/#anchor>

What is an infectious period?

The infectious period for COVID19 starts 2 days prior to development of symptoms or positive COVID-19 test. People with mild to moderate COVID-19 remain infectious no longer than 10 days after their symptoms began, and those with more severe illness or those who are severely immunocompromised remain infectious no longer than 20 days after their symptoms began.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/global-COVID-19/operational-considerations-contact-tracing.html#:~:text=Close%20contact%20is%20defined%20by,the%20patient%20is%20isolated.>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/disposition-in-home-patients.html>

General:**Who do I contact for anything COVID-19 or health-related?**

Cindy Shehatou, cshehatou@greenestreetfriends.org, 215-901-5427.

Do I need to stay home and self-isolate if I have COVID-19 symptoms?

Yes. And notify Cindy.

How long do I need to isolate?

In accordance with Health Department guidance, the individuals with a confirmed or probable/presumed case should self-isolate until ALL of the following are true: 1) at least 10 days have passed since the onset of symptoms AND 2) the individual has been fever free without fever-reducing medications for 24 hours AND 3) symptoms are improving. Isolation may need to be extended for certain individuals who continue to have symptoms, have severe COVID-19, or have a severely weakened immune system. Refer to CDC guidelines on duration of isolation for more details.

<https://www.phila.gov/programs/coronavirus-disease-2019-COVID-19/guidance/guidance-documents/schools-guidance/#anchor>

How long do I need to quarantine?

As a reminder, one must quarantine if there was an exposure to COVID19. Quarantine times may vary. In general:

- Quarantine can end after 10 days without a COVID-19 test if the person has reported no symptoms.
- Quarantine can end after 7 days with a negative test result if the person reported no symptoms. The test should be taken within 48 hours prior to discharge, meaning on or after day 5.
- People should still watch for symptoms for the full 14 days after exposure.

<https://www.phila.gov/programs/coronavirus-disease-2019-COVID-19/updates/the-latest-news/>

What if I got a COVID-19 vaccine? Do I still need to quarantine?

You are not required to quarantine when exposed to someone with COVID-19 if you have been fully vaccinated and you meet ALL of the following criteria:

- It has been at least 2 weeks after the last dose in the vaccine series;
- It has been less than 3 months after the last dose in the series; AND,
- You have remained asymptomatic since the current COVID-19 exposure.

Vaccination is not 100% effective. Please follow the below guidance.

- Anyone who develops COVID-19 symptoms should be tested.
- Anyone who tests positive for COVID-19 must isolate according to CDC guidelines.
- After vaccination, continue to wear a facemask, distance from others and avoid crowds.

<https://www.phila.gov/programs/coronavirus-disease-2019-COVID-19/updates/the-latest-news/>

If I have COVID-like symptoms when can I return to school?

If you have COVID-like symptoms you will be asked to isolate for 10 days starting from symptom onset. You can return sooner than 10 days with a negative COVID test and resolution of symptoms.

A member of my household has COVID-like symptoms. Do I need to contact anyone?

Yes. Contact Cindy, and have your student stay home.

I am sick with non-COVID like symptoms, do I need to stay home?

Anyone with a potentially contagious illness should stay home. School policy for symptoms such as fever (over 100.4), diarrhea, or vomiting require a student to stay home at least until symptoms have subsided (without fever reducing medications for fever). Contact Cindy.

I was exposed to someone with COVID-19. What do I do?

Quarantine immediately, and notify Cindy.

My student or member of the household took a COVID test and it came back positive.

What do I do?

Have the student stay home and contact Cindy.

What if I got a red pass on the health attestation because I made a mistake filling it out?

Text Cindy and let her know it was a mistake.

Do I need to quarantine if I travel?

At this time no. Subject to change in accordance with PDPH and PA DOH.

<https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Pages/Travelers.aspx>

If I have COVID-19 do I need a negative test before coming back to campus?

No. A COVID-19 positive individual does NOT need a repeat COVID-19 test or a doctor's note in order to return to the school.

<https://www.phila.gov/programs/coronavirus-disease-2019-COVID-19/guidance/guidance-documents/schools-guidance/>

Does GSFS require COVID-19 testing?

No. COVID-19 testing is a medical procedure which we cannot force on anyone. However, lack of a test may result in a isolation period or extended quarantine period.

If a student tests positive does their sibling need to quarantine?

Yes. Siblings are considered a close contact.

Why do secondary contacts not have to quarantine?

Secondary contacts did not have direct exposure to COVID and therefore, in accordance with the PDPH, they will not need to quarantine. If a primary contact that they were exposed to becomes positive, that individual will go from a secondary contact to a primary, and will be asked to quarantine.

Who will be asked to isolate?

Individuals who are sick with COVID-like symptoms or individuals with a positive COVID-19 test.

I have a household member that is quarantining. What does that mean for my student?

Your student can still come to school. If the household member starts developing symptoms your student should stay home and Cindy should be notified.

Who is GSFS's public health authority?

Philadelphia Department of Public Health.

What are COVID like symptoms?

NOTE: COVID-like illness is defined as:		
At least ONE of these symptoms		At least TWO of these symptoms
cough shortness of breath new loss of sense of smell new loss of sense of taste	OR	fever chills muscle pain headache sore throat nausea/vomiting diarrhea fatigue congestion/runny nose

<https://www.phila.gov/programs/coronavirus-disease-2019-COVID-19/guidance/faq/>

How does Greene Street Friends School determine if an individual or class needs to quarantine?

GSFS consults and follows the guidance from the PDPH. Quarantine is required for anyone considered a close contact. Here are the thresholds for school exposure from the PDPH:

Situation	Response
Single case of COVID-19 in facility	Pause in-person activity for the entire cohort for 14 days.
Two or more cases in two or more classes of the same grade	Pause in-person activities for the entire grade level for 14 days.
Multiple cases in faculty/staff: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 within 14 days were exposed at facility • 6 or more within 14 days (regardless of source of exposure) 	Pause in-person activities for the entire facility for 14 days.
Multiple clusters of cases in multiple grades	Pause in-person activities for the entire facility for 14 days.

<https://www.phila.gov/programs/coronavirus-disease-2019-COVID-19/guidance/guidance-documents/schools-guidance/#anchor>

Will I be told if my student was in a class with an individual who is now quarantining?

No. We respect the privacy and confidentiality of individuals and they are under the protection of HIPAA. You will be notified if you or your student is considered at risk in accordance with PDPH guidance.

I carpool, and one of the students in the carpool tested positive for COVID19. Do I need to quarantine?

Yes. And notify Cindy.

Case on Campus:

Who will be notified if there is a case on campus?

Everyone will be notified, however disclosure of the details will only be made as they pertain to you in accordance with HIPAA and PDPH guidance. If you must quarantine based on exposure, you will receive an email or a phone call outlining that plan of action.

Who will be asked to quarantine if there is a case on campus?

Quarantine is required for anyone considered a close contact. If the individual with COVID-19 was present at the school during their infectious period, in-person activities for these exposed groups must be paused for 14 days following last exposure. The duration of isolation or quarantine for an individual may differ from this.

Situation	Response
Single case of COVID-19 in facility	Pause in-person activity for the entire cohort for 14 days.
Two or more cases in two or more classes of the same grade	Pause in-person activities for the entire grade level for 14 days.
Multiple cases in faculty/staff: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3 within 14 days were exposed at facility• 6 or more within 14 days (regardless of source of exposure)	Pause in-person activities for the entire facility for 14 days.
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Will anyone know the identity of an individual who is quarantining or isolating?

No, we will maintain the privacy and confidentiality of the individual, and ask the community to also respect their privacy if they were to discover their identity.

Will the siblings of a quarantined class also need to quarantine?

No. Siblings of a quarantined class would be considered secondary contacts and would therefore not have to quarantine.

If a student tests positive will their sibling's class need to quarantine?

No. The sibling's class would be considered a secondary contact and would therefore not have to quarantine.