



St. Joseph School- Mitigation FAQs 2022

What is the definition of “fully-vaccinated”?

To ensure adequate time for an immune response to occur, a person is considered fully vaccinated 2 weeks after completion of a two-dose mRNA series or one dose of Janssen vaccine.

Do fully vaccinated need to be tested?

Per the IDPH and the CDC:

- If a fully vaccinated person develops symptoms of COVID-19, they should be tested, isolated, and excluded from school.
- If a fully vaccinated student or staff has close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19, they should be tested 5 to 7 days after the exposure but are not required to be excluded as long as they remain asymptomatic.
- If a fully vaccinated staff or student attends a school or classroom that is currently experiencing an outbreak, that student or staff may have been exposed and should be tested as part of the school’s outbreak testing response.

How long do students/staff have to quarantine for if they test positive?

Students and staff who are confirmed to have Covid-19 must be excluded from school for 10 calendar days from the date of positive test if asymptomatic or following onset of symptoms if symptomatic, or as otherwise directed by the local health authority. Unvaccinated students/staff who are exposed to someone who has Covid must quarantine for 10 days.

If a student is sent home sick with suspected COVID-19, must all their siblings/household members be sent home as well?

If the ill household member is tested within 24 hours of first notification of symptoms, household members do not need to be sent home unless there is a high suspicion the ill person has COVID-19. If the ill household member tests positive for COVID-19, then any unvaccinated household members should be removed from the school immediately.

Will there be remote learning options?

At this time, SJS will not be offering remote learning options for students. If a student has to quarantine, the teacher(s) and administration will work with that family to make sure the student is staying on target (through video conferencing after school and through e-mails).

What is the definition of an outbreak in PreK-12 schools?

(A) "Multiple cases comprising at least 10% of students, teachers, or staff within a specified core group" (e.g., extracurricular activity, cohort group, classroom, before/after school care, etc.)"

OR

(B) "At least three cases within a specified core group meeting criteria for a probable or confirmed school-associated COVID-19 case (laboratory-positive by PCR or antigen testing) with symptom onset or positive test within 14 calendar days of each other; who were not identified as close contacts of each other in another setting outside of the school setting (i.e., household); and that are epidemiologically linked in the school setting or a school-sanctioned activity."

Schools should consult with their local health department (LHD) to determine if their circumstances and cases constitute a school-associated outbreak, using either of the definitions above as determined by the LHD. This would prompt an investigation by the LHD that may result in recommendations for testing and quarantining of students/staff in the affected classroom(s).

Under what conditions can a student under suspicion (held out of school for one or more symptoms) return to school?

The student needs a documented negative PCR test OR a doctor's note, needs to be fever-free for at least 24 hours without fever-reducing medication, and then must be well enough to engage in learning activities. This applies to students/staff that exhibit any Covid symptoms.