

Geneva Day School COVID-19 Policies

Updated 1/28/2022

ISOLATION: Persons 2 years of age and older who test positive for COVID-19 or have COVID-19 symptoms, regardless of vaccination status

Day 1 is the first full day after the first symptom began or the first full day after testing positive for COVID-19 via a PCR or Rapid Test with no symptoms.

Day	Action
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| Day 1-10 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stay home, isolate, and wear a well-fitting mask around others in your home• Postpone social activities• Other family members should also wear a well-fitting mask |
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Day 11	You may end isolation and return to school if:
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- You have no symptoms and
- You have been fever-free for at least 24 hours without using fever reducing medication

You must continue to stay home and isolate if you still have symptoms that are not improving and should consult with a health care provider.

QUARANTINE: Persons 2 years of age and older who are not fully vaccinated or boosted and exposed to COVID-19

Day 1 is considered the first full day after the date of last close contact. If you develop symptoms, contact your healthcare provider and get PCR tested on Day 5. If positive, stay home and follow recommendations for isolation in previous section.

Day	Action
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| Day 1-5 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stay home, isolate, and wear a well-fitting mask around others in your home• Postpone social activities• Other family members should also wear a well-fitting mask |
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Day	Action
Day 5	<p>Get PCR tested.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If your PCR test result taken on day 5 is negative, you have been consistently wearing a well-fitting mask, and you have no symptoms without the use of medication, you may return to school on Day 8 • If you are unable to consistently mask around others, you <u>must</u> remain at home for a full 10 days before returning on day 11* • If your test result is positive, stay home and follow recommendations for isolation
Day 8	You may end quarantine and return to school.
*Day 11	
All days	<p>During Isolation, you must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wear a well-fitting mask if you must be around others • Avoid being around people who are high risk • Avoid travel

Persons 5 and older exposed to COVID-19, who are fully vaccinated and/or boosted *or* persons who tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 90 days and have completed isolation

YOU DO NOT NEED TO QUARANTINE, BUT:

For 10 days, you should:

- Wear a **well-fitting mask** whenever you are around others,
- Avoid being around people who are high risk, and
- Avoid travel

If you are unable to consistently wear a well-fitting mask around others you must quarantine for 10 days as outlined in the “QUARANTINE” section of this policy

If you develop any symptoms you should be PCR tested, stay home, contact your healthcare provider, and follow recommendations for isolation as appropriate.

Frequently Asked Questions

Do I need to wear a mask during isolation or quarantine?

During periods of isolation or quarantine, unmasked time should be minimized, and physical distancing and ventilation should be maximized whenever you are around others. You should avoid participating in any unmasked activities with others (including eating and drinking). It is strongly encouraged that everyone in your household wears size appropriate (child or adult size) well-fitting masks, such as KN95 masks.

What does “fully vaccinated and boosted” mean?

- Persons 5-11 years old who have completed the primary series of Pfizer
- Persons 12 years and older who have completed the primary series of vaccinations and have been boosted
- Persons 12 years and older who have completed the primary series of Pfizer or Moderna within the last 5 months
- Persons 18 years and older who completed the primary series of J&J within the last 2 months

What does “high risk” mean?

Individuals who are more susceptible to complications from COVID. Individuals at high risk for COVID-19 include those 65 and older and people of any age with certain medical conditions. Please see the CDC’s [full list of high risk medical conditions](#).

What are the symptoms of COVID-19?

Symptoms of COVID-19 include: fever or chills, cough (either new or different than usual), shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, or diarrhea. [Learn more about symptoms](#) on the CDC website.

What is a close contact?

A close contact of someone with COVID-19 (or suspected of having COVID-19) includes, but is not necessarily limited to, being within 6 feet of infected persons for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period (e.g., three 5-minute exposures for a total of 15 minutes). For more information, see the revised [CDC guidance on close contact](#).

Can I “test-out” of isolation?

No. DHHS follows the CDC’s current guidance, which is based on a time and symptom-based return from a COVID-19 infection.

Why can't my 3-year-old leave isolation and return to childcare after day 5?

Because some individuals are still infectious more than 5 days after initial infection, early release from isolation relies upon the consistent use of masks and social distancing around others until day 10. Children under 5 are developmentally less able to consistently wear well-fitting masks around others or socially distance during unmasked activities (such as during naps and mealtimes) and are not yet eligible for vaccination. Given the increased risk for spread in these settings, it is our guidance that children under 5 who are recovering from COVID-19 remain in isolation for the full 10 days.

How many days after COVID-19 exposure should someone get tested?

The CDC states that anyone who may have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 should test five days after their exposure, or as soon as symptoms occur. If any symptoms occur, individuals should immediately quarantine until a PCR test confirms a positive or negative result. If the PCR test result is positive, the individual should immediately isolate for 10 days. If the PCR test result is negative for COVID-19 but the individual has symptoms, they should consult with their health care provider to identify other conditions.

On what were these guidelines based?

Recently published guidelines from Montgomery County dated January 25, 2022 were consolidated from the CDC, MSDE, and DHHS, among other agencies. Geneva carefully considered these guidelines and its high risk population, most of whom are not vaccinated, have difficulty consistently wearing well-fitting masks, and social distancing appropriately. Geneva feels that these updated guidelines appropriately address its needs to protect students and staff, and to keep the school as open as possible.