



Dear _____ :

The Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH) considers the health and well-being of students and staff a priority. **We have been alerted that an individual diagnosed with COVID-19 was in close proximity to you in work/school on _____**. DOH has provided the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations for isolation to that individual, including that they remain away from others until they can safely return to the school setting. The school will also continue to clean and disinfect all areas of the school.

In collaboration with school and public health officials, it has been determined that **you are considered a [close contact](#)** of the person diagnosed with COVID-19; as a result, **you should follow the following [quarantine at home provisions](#)**, unless you are fully vaccinated or tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 90 days and recovered. A quarantine period of 14 days from the date of the last exposure is the most protective quarantine. However, **two options for shortened quarantine are noted below**. Please make note of the following important dates:

- You were in close contact with a person with COVID-19 on _____
- **Option 1:** Since you were identified as having close contact with a person with COVID-19, you should [quarantine](#) at home for a full 10 days from the last date of known exposure, unless you are fully vaccinated or have tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 90 days and have recovered. If you do not develop symptoms or test positive for COVID-19 during those 10 days, you may return to work/school on _____. Although this option does not require testing to shorten the quarantine period, we recommend that you be tested 2-5 days after your exposure unless you have tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 90 days and recovered.
- **Option 2:** Your quarantine can end **after** Day 7 if you are tested using a [viral test](#) on or after day 5, your specimen tests negative, and the student does not have any symptoms. The specimen must be collected and tested within 48 hours before the anticipated end of quarantine.
- **If either option for shortened quarantine is used, you should still monitor symptoms for a full 14 days following exposure (date of last exposure is day 0).**
- **If you have been [fully vaccinated](#) against COVID-19** and you are willing to provide proof of vaccination to the school if you have not previously done so, please contact _____

at _____

Fully vaccinated individuals do not need to quarantine; however, they should get tested 2-5 days after their exposure and wear a mask indoors in public for 14 days or until they receive a negative test result. They should also monitor for symptoms of COVID-19 for 14 days and get [tested](#) and [isolate](#) immediately if they develop [symptoms](#) of COVID-19.



- **If you have tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 90 days** and you are willing to provide proof of the previous positive viral test to the school, please contact

at

Asymptomatic people who have tested positive in the last 90 days, completed 10 days of isolation, and subsequently recovered do not need to get tested or quarantine. Instead, they should monitor for symptoms of COVID-19 for 14 days after the exposure and [isolate](#) immediately if they develop [symptoms](#) of COVID-19. They should consult with a healthcare provider for testing recommendations if new symptoms develop.

During quarantine, if you develop symptoms of COVID-19 or test positive, please [isolate](#) immediately and notify the school right away. If you have not yet been tested, we recommend you be tested as soon as possible. When you notify the school, the school can take additional steps to keep our school community safe. You may need to identify potential close contacts you have had with others in order to prevent additional spread of the virus.

We encourage you to visit [COVID-19 in Pennsylvania](#) for additional information for ways to keep your family and school community safe. In addition, CDC's website also provides information about COVID-19, including an overview of quarantine as it relates to the K-12 school setting at: [Overview of COVID-19 Quarantine for K-12 Schools](#).

DOH will continue to provide regular updates as needed and will provide prompt notification of any COVID-19 or other health-related concerns that require your attention. You may contact DOH at 1-877-PA-HEALTH with questions and concerns. You also may contact the school at _____ or _____ or visit their website at _____ for school specific updates.

Please be assured that we are committed to facilitating an optimal learning experience and ensuring the safety of all Pennsylvanians.

Sincerely,

The Pennsylvania Department of Health