

Isolation & Quarantine Guidance for Childcare Settings (Updated Jan. 2022)

YES **AND** NEGATIVE

Did the child/staff person take a repeat PCR/molecular test within 48 hours of their positive test? Per NCDHHS, the positive antigen can be considered a false positive and the child/staff can return to childcare immediately.

Child/staff is not required to have documentation of a negative test in order to return.

Child/staff has tested positive without experiencing symptoms

Was it a rapid antigen test/athome test or a PCR/Molecular test?

Antigen

PCR/Molecular

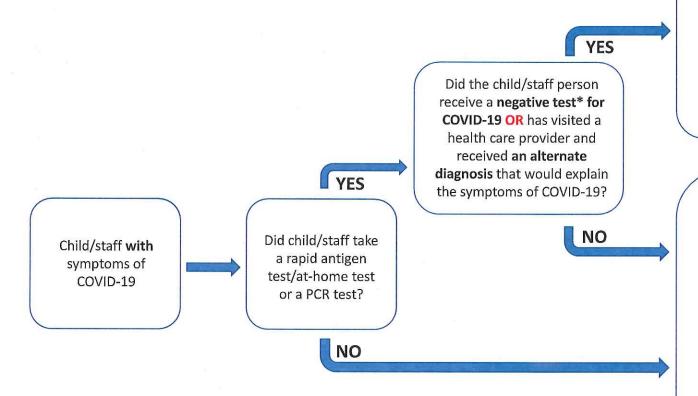
NO **OR** POSITIVE

Child/staff can return to childcare 5 days after specimen collection date of their first positive test, if they do not develop symptoms; AND

Child/staff must mask for an additional **5 days**.

If child/staff are unable to wear a mask, including children under the age of 2, they must be **excluded for**10 days after the specimen collection date.





*In a person with symptoms, a negative test is defined as either: (1) A negative PCR/molecular test or (2) A negative antigen test if the person: (1) Has no known or suspected exposure to a person with COVID-19 within the last 14 days or (2) Is fully vaccinated or (3) Has had a laboratory confirmed COVID-19 infection in the last 3 months.

Per NCDHHS, the child/staff person can return to childcare when

- It has been at least 24 hours since he/she had a fever (w/o fever reducing medicine); AND
 - Other symptoms are improving for at least 24 hours

Child/staff can return to childcare when

- He/she completes 5 days isolation**;
- It has been at least 24 hours since he/she had a fever (w/o fever reducing medicine); AND
 - Other symptoms of COVID-19 are improving.

The person must continue to mask for an additional 5 days. If they are unable to wear a mask, including children under the age of 2, they must be **excluded for 10 days** after the specimen collection date.

^{**}For individuals exposed, day of exposure is considered day 0. For cases, day of symptom onset is day 0 or day of specimen collection for cases with no symptoms.



Is the child between ages 5-17 and have they completed a primary series of COVID-19 vaccines?

OR

Is the staff person **18 years of age or older** and have they received their
primary series **AND** booster, if eligible, of
COVID-19 vaccines?

Child/staff person has been in close contact with someone with COVID-19

Has the child/staff had confirmed COVID-19 within the last 90 days (tested positive with using a viral test)?



Was child/staff in close contact with someone with a confirmed case of COVID-19, in which **both individuals** were wearing a mask the entire time?

Answered NO to 1+

Answer each of these questions to the left to determine the best guidance to follow.

Answered YES to ALL

Person must be excluded from childcare for **5 days** after exposure**.

The person may return to childcare after exclusion if asymptomatic but must continue to wear a **mask for an additional 5** days, for a total of 10 days after exposure. They should test on day 5, if possible.

If symptoms occur, person should immediately isolate until a test either confirms COVID-19, or a negative result rules it out.

If the person is unable to wear a mask, including children under the age of 2, they must be **excluded for 10 days** after the last day of exposure.

Person does not need to be excluded from childcare if they have had no symptoms.

Person must mask for 10 days after exposure and should get tested on day 5, if possible.

If the person cannot wear a mask, they must be **excluded for 10 days** after exposure.



of COVID-19

YES Did the symptomatic person receive a negative test* for COVID-19 OR has visited a health care provider and received an alternate diagnosis that would explain the symptoms of COVID-19? Child/staff person is a Did the **NO** or **POSITIVE** household symptomatic member of person get someone who tested for has symptoms COVID-19? of COVID-19 NO Child/staff person is a household member of someone with a confirmed case

Child/staff person can return to childcare immediately if symptomatic person receives negative test **OR** when symptomatic person receives alternate diagnosis, if he/she has not developed symptoms.

Child/staff person must be excluded from childcare for **5 days** after last exposure, unless an exemption to exclusion applies, if they do not develop symptoms.

They should get tested on day 5, if possible.

The exclusion period for the exposed person resets to day 0 on each exposure to the person with COVID-19. The day of last exposure is either:

- At the end of a 5-day isolation of the person with COVID-19; OR
- After the last known close contact with the COVID-19 positive person, in situations where the positive person isolates from all other household members.