### Quick Guide: Confirmed or Suspected COVID-19 Case or Close Contacts in CHILDCARE

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| **Scenario 1:** Child or staff has one or more COVID-19 symptoms, regardless of vaccination status | • Send child/staff home and recommend a COVID test immediately.  
• Tell program administrator and COVID-19 Designee, if you have one.  
• Program stays open while awaiting test results.  
• If child/staff is not tested, instruct to isolate for 10 days. No test/note to return to school. | • If test is negative, child/staff must stay at home until symptoms improve and at least 24 hours after fever goes away.  
• If test is positive, child/staff must isolate at home for at least 10 days after the first symptoms started and at least 24 hours after fever goes away and other symptoms improve. Send out letters. | • If test is negative, person can return to the program 24 hours after fever goes away and other symptoms improve; they must bring proof of negative test or a medical note to explain why they were not tested.  
• If positive, they can return once the full isolation period is completed. |
| **Scenario 2:** Child or staff is a Close Contact* of someone who tested positive for COVID-19 | • Consult 2021-2022 CHILDCARE Test Result Decision Tree for guidance; give testing and quarantine instructions accordingly.  
• If symptomatic, test immediately and repeat test on/after Day 5 after exposure.  
• Recommend all others test immediately & on/after Day 5 after last exposure to case.  
• Request that test results be reported to the program ASAP.  
• Tell program administrator and COVID-19 Designee, if you have one.  
• Program stays open.  
• Send relevant notification letters. | • If test is negative, test again on/after Day 5 of quarantine and continue to monitor for symptoms. If symptoms develop, isolate and test immediately.  
• If case is a household member, contact's quarantine starts now and extends for 7 or 10 days (depending on test results) from the day the case ends isolation.  
• If test is positive, isolate for at least 10 days from date of positive test or, if symptomatic, 10 days from symptom onset AND ≥24 hours after resolution of fever AND other symptoms improve. | • Return to program once required quarantine period and testing is completed (per CHILDCARE Test Result Decision Tree). If completed a full 10-day quarantine, no test results needed to return.  
• Fully vaccinated contacts need to provide negative test results promptly to continue in program.  
• Regardless of test results, all should continue to follow recommended interventions (masking, hand-washing) for 14 days after exposure. |
| **Scenario 3:** A child or staff member, regardless of vaccination status, tests positive for COVID-19 in a cohort or non-cohort setting | **COHORT – Group closes**  
Case:  
• Send home with instructions to isolate.  
Contact:  
• Send home all members of the group cohort and any other in-program close contacts. Then follow SCENARIO 2.  
• Tell program administrator and COVID-19 Designee, if you have one.  
**NON-COHORT – Group stays open**  
Case:  
• Send home with instructions to isolate.  
Contact:  
• Use attendance list/roster & staff/child input to identify close contacts and send them home. Then follow SCENARIO 2.  | **Case:**  
• For child/staff whose test is positive, isolate for at least 10 days after symptoms started AND at least 24 hours after fever goes away AND other symptoms improve. (If the person never had symptoms, isolate for 10 days after the date of their positive test.)  
**Contacts:** FOLLOW SCENARIO 2 | **Case:** Return to program/work once full isolation period is completed.  
**Contacts:** FOLLOW SCENARIO 2 |
| **Scenario 4:** Routine COVID-19 screening (no symptoms, not a close contact) | • After a screening test, the person can continue at the program/work until results are available. | • If negative, no action needed.  
• If positive, FOLLOW SCENARIO 3. | • If negative, can go to program/work.  
No test results needed.  
• If positive, FOLLOW SCENARIO 3. |

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*Close contact can be 15 minutes of contact all at once OR repeated contact with the infected person that adds up to 15 minutes or more in a 24-hour period. Being considered a close contact does not depend on whether the contact or the infected person were wearing face coverings during the time they were in contact.*