



Launch Fall 2022 Health & Safety

Dear Fall 2022 Launch Families—

We thank you for your patience as we continue to adapt to the changing landscape of COVID-19 and new requirements from the Department of Children Youth and Families, King County Department of Health, and Seattle Public Schools.

As a reminder, per Governor Inslee's guidance, ALL people, including staff, volunteers, and families, must be vaccinated (or have a verified exemption) to enter Launch's program spaces while children are present. Beginning October 18th, 2021, all Launch employees and any volunteer or parent who wish to enter the program space will be asked about their vaccination status prior to entering any Launch programs.

Please read through the guidance below carefully, as many components have changed.

COVID-19 Prevention Best Practices

MASKS

Students and staff will be **HIGHLY** encouraged to continue wearing masks while inside the classroom, however they are no longer required.

NOTE: ALL Visitors, including non-site-based Launch staff, vendors, community members and family members who are entering the program space to pick-up/drop-off or for other reasons, must be masked while indoors and in spaces with children

Masks for staff and students may be required depending on transmission rates in a specific classroom and/or location to help mitigate spread.

Masks will be required for participants in certain circumstances related to attending program after isolation or exposure to COVID-19, or due to health concerns in a specific classroom.

PHYSICAL DISTANCING

We will continue to minimize close contact whenever possible. A school's ability to do so will depend on students' ages, developmental and physical abilities, and available space.

HANDWASHING

We will continue frequent handwashing — with teacher support — throughout the day.

CLEANING & DISINFECTING

Classroom spaces and high touch surfaces will be frequently disinfected throughout the day.

CHECK-IN/CHECK-OUT

Launch families will begin checking their own students in/out utilizing the Procure system, with either their fingerprint or a self-selected code. Kiosks will be accessible to families, and regularly sanitized throughout the day.

MEALS

Meals and snacks will NOT be offered in family style.

Illness Policy

Launch staff based at sites will monitor their own health for symptoms of COVID-19 and will stay home if they are exhibiting and COVID-19 symptoms. Launch students will be monitored for symptoms of COVID or other illnesses throughout the day. Students who begin to exhibit any symptoms of illness will be sent home immediately.



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Visitors, vendors and non-site based Launch staff will be asked to sign-in when entering a Launch space, including a health screening. This allows us to track potential exposures or transmission in the event we have a positive case of COVID-19. **(Appendix A)**

Launch reminds all families that their children should not attend school while exhibiting any symptoms of illness and only return when symptoms are no longer present.

Any student, child, or staff who reports or has COVID-19-like symptoms is required to be immediately isolated from others, sent home or where they are currently residing, and referred to diagnostic testing as soon as possible, regardless of vaccination status. While waiting to leave the school or childcare, the individual with symptoms is required to be isolated and wear a well-fitting face mask

Tuition Policy

Per Launch Policy, there are no credits or refunds for any short-term closures relating to COVID-19 or any days missed while a student is in quarantine. In the event of a classroom, school, or district-wide closure, Launch leadership will meet to evaluate appropriate next steps. The decision to reopen classrooms, open a Full Day program, or to continue an After School program during such a closure would be based on community safety, space availability, and staffing ability.

Notification

Launch will continue to notify families if there has been a positive case of COVID-19 when their child is considered a close contact.

Health & Safety Guidance

1. What should Launch staff or students do if they begin to demonstrate symptoms of COVID-19?

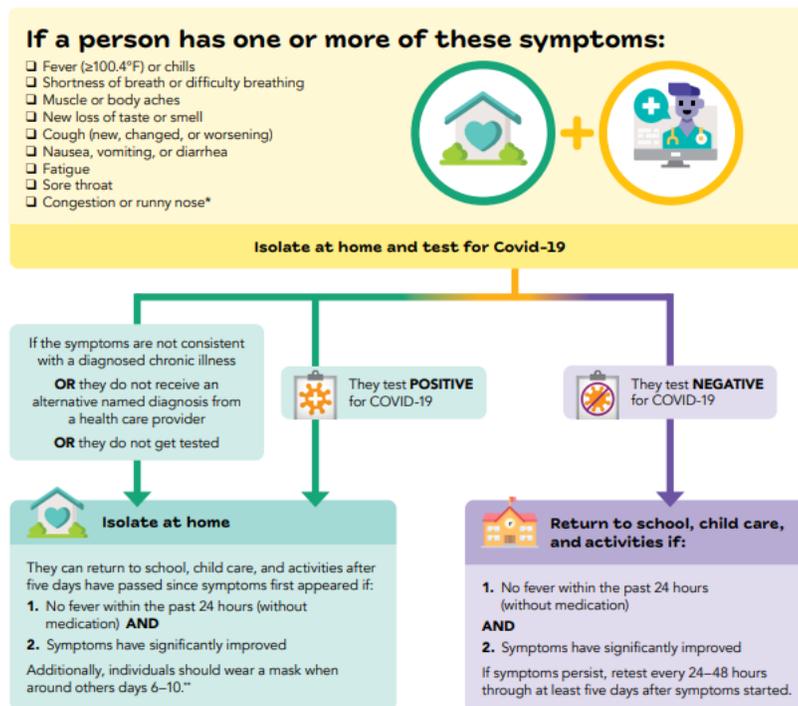
DOH Guidance: *Students, children, and staff who have symptoms of COVID-19, are **required** to stay home and should get tested and/or see a health care provider and follow the return to work/care/school protocol accordingly. Any student, child, or staff member who tests positive for COVID-19 is required to isolate at home following current guidelines from DOH and the CDC. This isolation guidance applies regardless of vaccination status.*

Launch will adhere to the DOH Guidance “[What To Do...Symptom Flowchart](#)”

What to do if a Person is Symptomatic



This flowchart is for K-12 schools, child care, and connected extracurricular activities.



Child care providers should review their WAC and licensing requirements and follow any additional measures that are required.

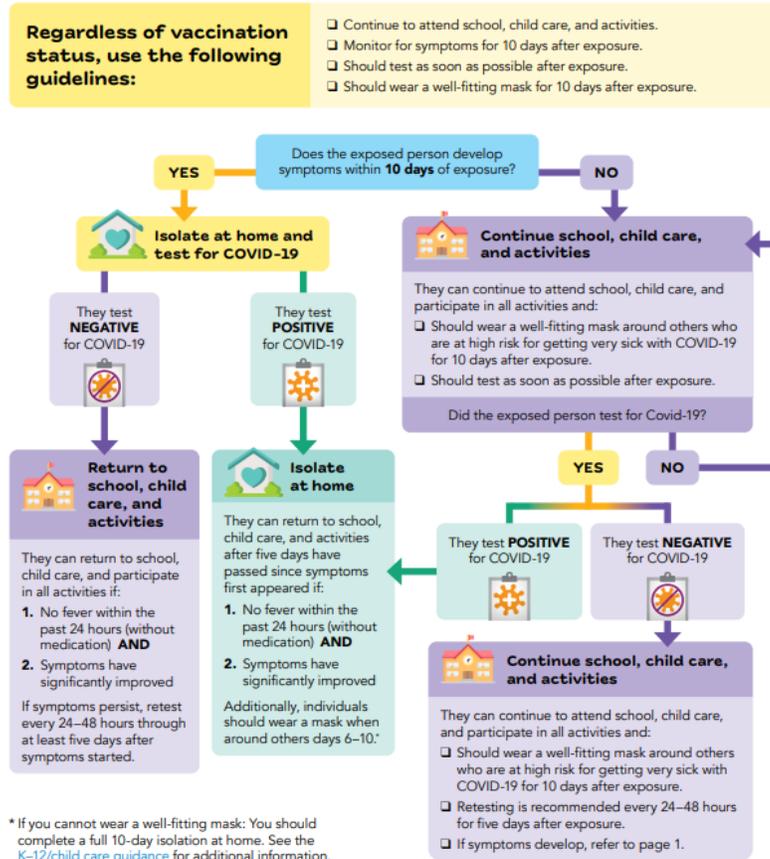


* If the child is under the age of two and ONLY has congestion/runny nose with no other symptoms, testing and isolation is not required. If the child's symptoms worsen or persist longer than five days, follow the flowchart for children over two and it is highly recommended to contact a healthcare provider.
 ** If you cannot wear a well-fitting mask: You should complete a full 10-day isolation at home. See the [K-12/child care guidance](#) for additional information.

What to do if you receive an exposure notification or think you have been exposed to COVID-19



This flowchart is for K-12 schools, child care, and connected extracurricular activities.



* If you cannot wear a well-fitting mask: You should complete a full 10-day isolation at home. See the [K-12/child care guidance](#) for additional information.

2. What should a Launch staff/student do if they test positive for COVID-19?

DOH Guidance: *An individual who tests positive for COVID-19 with a viral test (Molecular (PCR/NAAT) or antigen, including self-tests) is required to follow isolation guidelines outlined below. A student, child, or staff who tests positive for COVID-19 is required to isolate at home or where they are currently residing, regardless of vaccination status. The individual may return after 5 full days of isolation if they are asymptomatic or their symptoms have improved and they have had no fever for the past 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications. Day 0 is the first day of symptoms. For people without symptoms, day 0 is the day of the positive viral test. [See Isolation and Quarantine Calculator](#). Repeating initial tests does not change the isolation protocol; a positive test initiates the isolation protocol. Additionally, individuals who test positive using antigen or at-home tests towards the end of the full 5 days of isolation, and/or on days 6-10, are required to complete the 10 full days of isolation. Testing after day 10 is not recommended. Individuals should continue to wear a well-fitting mask for an additional 5 days (day 6 through day 10) if they return to school after the end of their 5-day isolation period. If an individual is unable to wear a well-fitting mask, they should continue to isolate for a full 10 days.*



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Launch staff and students who test positive for COVID-19 MUST quarantine for 5 days, with Day 0 being the first day of symptom on-set OR positive test if asymptomatic. The individual may return to school/care after 5 full days of isolation if:

- Their symptoms have improved or they are asymptomatic, **AND**
- They are without a fever for the previous 24 hours without use of fever-reducing medications.

***AND IF** returning to school/care days 6-10, the individual is required to:*

- Wear a well-fitted mask or during days 6-10 of their isolation period, consistent with CDC guidance, **OR**
- Test negative with an antigen or at-home test any day after day 5 before returning without a mask. Testing beyond day 10 is not necessary.

If the individual is not able to wear a well-fitted mask, AND does not test negative, they are required to continue isolating through the end of their isolation period.

3. What about staff/students who are considered close contacts of someone who tested positive (including siblings/family members)

Generally, a close contact is someone who was within six feet of a person with COVID-19 for at least 15 cumulative minutes over a 24-hour period during the period of time when the person with COVID-19 was infectious. The infectious period of someone with COVID-19 starts two days before the onset of symptoms, or is estimated as two days before the positive test collection date if someone with COVID-19 is asymptomatic

In a Preschool-Grade 12 indoor classroom, the close contact definition excludes students who were at least three feet away from an infected student when (a) both students were wearing face coverings/masks and (b) other prevention strategies were in place.

DOH no longer requires exposed students, children, and staff to quarantine. To protect their school or child care community, students, children and staff, regardless of vaccination status, who are potentially exposed to COVID-19 should:

- Monitor for symptoms, AND
- Test* as soon as possible after exposure and then repeat testing every 24-48 hours through at least the first 5 days after exposure AND
- Students, children, and staff who spend time indoors with individuals at risk for getting very sick with COVID-19 should wear a well-fitting mask for 10 days after exposure.

Follow the DOH [What to do if a Person is Symptomatic](#) flowchart. Exposed students, children, and staff may continue to take part in all in-person instruction and care, including sports, performing arts, and other extracurricular activities, as long as they do not have symptoms or test positive. If an exposed student, child, or staff member develops symptoms, they should test and are required to immediately isolate at home, or where they currently reside, and follow the guidance outlined in the Exclusion of Individuals with Symptoms of COVID-19 section.

*Individuals who have been recently infected (within the past 90 days), should use an antigen test, as PCR results may remain persistently positive even if there is not a new, active infection



Household Exposures

Household exposures often result in prolonged and repeated contact with positive individuals. When possible, a student, child, or staff member, who is continuously exposed at home, regardless of vaccination status, is recommended to test every 24-48 hours until 5 days after the last positive household member's isolation has ended. *PLEASE notify Launch if there is an exposure in your household.*

4. What will prompt a Launch-initiated closure? (Appendix B)

All cases of COVID-19 and outbreaks in schools and child care facilities must be reported to the local health jurisdiction as per Washington State law ([WAC 246-101](#)). In addition, schools, child care facilities, and the general public must cooperate with public health authorities in the investigation of cases and outbreaks that may be associated with the school or child care center ([WAC 246-101](#)). A COVID-19 outbreak in a school or child care center is considered when the following have been met:

- There are five or more COVID-19 cases among students or staff.
- The cases have a symptom onset or positive test result within a 7-day period of each other.
- The cases are epidemiologically linked.
- The cases do not share a household.
- The cases are not identified as close contacts of each other in another setting during the investigation.

Launch programs located in Seattle Public Schools *may* be required to close based on the guidance from King County Public Health and Seattle Public Schools. Launch will notify families as we received information.



Appendix B

Launch COVID-19 Closure Matrix

COVID-19 Exposure Scenario Protocols

Families will be notified in the event of any positive COVID-19 cases within the center.

IF...	THEN...
1-2 staff member/student tests positive for COVID-19 within 10 days	Launch will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clean and sanitize program space(s) - Encourage families at that site to complete a COVID-19 test - Remain OPEN
Three staff members/student(s) in the same building test positive for COVID-19 within 7 days	Launch will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clean and sanitize program space(s) - Rapid Antigen tests available to staff and families - Monitor for symptoms - Remain OPEN - All Staff and Students will wear masks during the 10-day symptom watch
Full Outbreak of COVID-19 of approximately 5 (vaccinated or unvaccinated) or more cases within 7 days	Launch will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clean and sanitize program space(s) - CLOSE for 24-48 hours from the LAST day a COVID-19 positive staff member/student was present¹ - All staff & students must receive a NEGATIVE COVID-19 test prior to return and will be asked to continue testing daily - Rapid Antigen tests available to staff and families - All Staff and Students will wear masks during the 10-day symptom watch

¹ Our ability to reopen on this timeline will be based on level of staffing available.