



COVID-19 SCHOOLS AND CHILD CARE

Lunch and Learn- Guidance Update, August 2021

The Schools and Child Care Task force supports the school and child care sectors to keep children healthy, safe, and ready to learn with equitable access to education outcomes by developing guidance and communications, identifying needs from the sectors, communicating with decision makers at all levels of government, collaborating with stakeholders, and brokering resources.

WA Department of Health Guidance

Child Care:

- [Child Care, Youth Development and Day Camps during COVID-19 \(wa.gov\)](#)

K-12 Guidance:

[K-12 Schools Requirements 2021-2022 \(wa.gov\)](#)

Child Care- Key Mitigations

- Physical Distancing
- Hand Hygiene
- PPE
- Cleaning and Disinfection
- Indoor Ventilation
- Cohorting
- Staying home when sick/isolation/quarantine
- Required vaccination for staff

21-22 School Year Guidance- Child Care

- **Last update July 6:**

- Technical revisions to align with the amended Secretary of Health's Mask Order and amended Governor's Proclamation 20-25 (previously Healthy Washington - Roadmap to Recovery).
- Specifically, this update clarifies that face coverings/masks are not required outdoors. People who are unvaccinated are encouraged to wear a mask in crowded outdoor settings such as sporting events, fairs, concerts and similar settings where it's hard to maintain physical distance.
- A more comprehensive update in consideration of CDC recommendations will be completed later this summer.



KEEP ME HOME IF...

I have a fever



A temperature of 100.4°F or higher, a cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills, muscle pain, headache, runny or stuffy nose, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, or other signs of new illness unrelated to a preexisting condition (such as seasonal allergies)*

I have diarrhea



- 2 loose/watery stools more than normal for child in 24 hours; OR
- Any blood or mucus in stool

I'm just not feeling very good



Unusually tired, low activity level, pale, lack of appetite, cranky, or crying more than normal

I'm vomiting



2 or more times in 24 hours

I have a rash, sores, lice, ringworm, or scabies



- Body rash (not related to allergic reaction, diapering, or heat)
- Oozing open sores or wounds
- Mouth sores with drooling
- Untreated head lice, ringworm or scabies

*Fever threshold has been lowered and new symptoms have been added to align with CDC recommendations during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Questions about when your child is well enough to return to child care? Refer to: Washington Administrative Code (WAC) for Child Care and Early Learning Programs 110-300-0205 for the complete illness exclusion requirements OR CDC guidance for **What to Do if You Are Sick with COVID-19** at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/>



Public Health 
Seattle & King County
Child Care Health Program

2008_10185m_COVID-19-keep-me-home-Poster.ai Updated August 2020

21-22 School Year Guidance: K-12

Last update August 10

- All staff and students must continue to wear masks, regardless of vaccination status.
- Physical Distancing to support provision of full time in-person instruction
- Layered mitigation strategies for the best outcome
- Updated quarantine protocols
- Expanded information on testing
- Extra and Co-curricular requirements published in “early August”

K-12 Key Mitigations

- Face Coverings
- Physical Distancing
 - Physical distancing should not prevent a school from offering full time-in person learning to all.
 - Maintain 3 or more feet to the degree possible and reasonable
- Ventilation
- Handwashing
- Cleaning and Disinfection
- Testing programs “not a requirement” but “Schools must ensure access to timely diagnostic testing among students with symptoms or who are close contacts of someone with COVID-19”
- Vaccination required for all school staff

COVID VACCINE: RESOURCES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

COVID-19 Vaccination for Children and Teens

Languages ▾

Who is eligible?

Everyone age 12 years and older is currently eligible for COVID-19 vaccination. At this time, COVID-19 vaccines are **not** authorized for children younger than 12 years old. Clinical trials are in process for young children.

COVID-19 vaccine options for teens

- Johnson & Johnson: age 18 years and older
- Moderna: age 18 years and older
- Pfizer: age 12 years and older

When you schedule your appointment, make sure that they offer vaccine that has been authorized for your age group.



What to bring to your vaccine appointment

- **Document to confirm age:** state, tribe, or federal-issued identification, birth certificate, school ID or school or medical paperwork with name and date of birth can be used.
- **Wear short sleeves** or loose-fitting sleeves that are easy to roll up so that you can get vaccinated in your upper arm.
- **Authorized adult consent:** If you are younger than 18 years old, you may need consent from an authorized adult to get the vaccine. You can consent for yourself if you are emancipated, married to an adult, or the vaccine site determines you are a mature minor. Not all vaccine sites are able to make mature minor determinations.

Authorized adults who may consent for minors include:

- Adult who has court permission to make health care decisions for you (legal guardian, custodian, out-of-home placement order)
- Parent
- Adult who has your parent's written permission to make health care decisions for you
- Adult relative responsible for your health care

◦ In some circumstances, a school nurse, school counselor, or home care

Flyer: COVID-19 Vaccination for Ages 12-17 (PDF)

- Arabic (Arabic)
- العربية (Arabic)
- 普通话 (Chinese, Sim.)
- 繁体字 (Chinese, Trad.)
- (Dart) (Dart)
- English
- (Farsi) (Farsi)
- Français (French)
- 日本語 (Japanese)
- ភាសាខ្មែរ (Khmer)
- 한국어 (Korean)
- ภาษามลายู (Marshallese)
- Afaan Oromoo (Oromo)
- Русский (Russian)
- Gagana fa'a Samoa (Samoa)
- af Soomaali (Somali)
- Español (Spanish)
- Filipino (Tagalog)
- (Tigrinya) (Tigrinya)
- ʻŌlelo Fakatonga (Tongan)
- Yaponchana (Ukrainian)
- Tiếng Việt (Vietnamese)

www.kingcounty.gov/vaccine/youth

GETTING VACCINATED: DO I NEED PARENT / ADULT CONSENT?

People 18 and under may need consent from an **authorized adult**.

If an authorized adult will **NOT** be with you when you get the vaccine, **ask what you need to bring to the appointment with you to be able to get the vaccine.**



Vaccines for children under age 12

- Vaccine will likely be approved for youth 5-11 by the end of this calendar year.
- Pfizer expected to submit data to the FDA for Emergency Use at the end of September.
- Process from there could take weeks to months.

What happens when there is a positive case at my school/childcare?

We all play an important role:

- Keep children home when they are sick/symptomatic.
- Keep children home when they have been exposed to someone with COVID-19.
- Attending school/childcare while symptomatic, or when someone should be quarantining, has been a key factor contributing to outbreaks.

It is vital that families notify schools/childcare when a child tests positive for COVID-19.

When you contact a school/childcare please be prepared with the following information:

- Test date
- Results date
- Symptom onset date
- Symptoms
- Close contacts you may already be aware of in the classroom/activity

Once a school/childcare is notified of a positive case:

- The administrator will:
 - Notify the family/staff member of the earliest date they can return to campus.
 - Determine if the positive individual was on campus during their infectious period and, if so, for how long.
 - Interview sources regarding the whereabouts of the positive individual while they were on campus:
 - Teachers, staff, coaches, bus drivers, parents/guardians.
 - Notify close contacts and inform them of the need to quarantine.
 - Depending on the number of positive cases or close contacts, they may decide to close a classroom for the quarantine period.

Once a school/childcare is notified of a positive case:

The school administrator will notify the local health jurisdiction of the positive case.

Reports are prioritized for follow-up by leads on the COVID-19 Community Response Team

Investigators reach out to administrators to conduct interviews and assess for risk of further transmission.

Key goals of carrying out an investigation:

- ❖ Determine if there has been an outbreak, and, if so, the status of that outbreak.
- ❖ Disrupt the chain of transmission where possible.
- ❖ Evaluate for further risk of transmission.
- ❖ Ensure that isolation and quarantine protocols are being followed.
- ❖ Encourage testing and vaccination.
- ❖ Ensure that there are infection prevention protocols in place and that they are being adhered to.
- ❖ Provide guidance and connection to resources.

COVID-19 Exposure Notification Letter

Dear Parent/Guardian,

You are receiving this notification because:

Your child has been identified as a close contact with a person who tested positive for COVID-19 at **[NAME OF CHILD CARE OR EARLY LEARNING PROGRAM]**. Close contact means being within 6 feet (2 meters) of someone with COVID-19 for a combined total of 15 minutes or more within a 24-hour period, or if someone with COVID-19 coughed on you, kissed you, or shared utensils with you.

Your child had close contact with someone who has COVID-19 on the following date(s): **[DATES HERE]**.

What should I do now?

Public Health - Seattle & King County recommends the following:

- Call your child's healthcare provider or go to a free testing site (www.kingcounty.gov/covid/sites) to have your child tested for COVID-19.
- **If your child has no symptoms, keep your child home ("in quarantine") and away from other people until (option below to be determined by child care):**

[]/[]/[] = 14 days from last exposure to a person with confirmed COVID-19].
This is the safest option.

[]/[]/[] = 10 days from last exposure to person with confirmed COVID-19]

[]/[]/[] = 7 days from last exposure to person with confirmed COVID-19] AND
if you receive a negative test result (get tested no sooner than day 5 after your last contact).

The purpose of quarantine is to wait and see if a person who has been exposed to someone with

COVID-19 Fact Sheet for Families

Dear Parent/Guardian,

You are receiving this Fact Sheet because:

There has been a confirmed case of COVID-19 at [NAME OF CHILD CARE or EARLY LEARNING PROGRAM]. After investigation, it has been determined that **your child is not a close contact** of the confirmed case. The purpose of this fact sheet is to notify you of the situation and remind everyone of prevention measures.

What is novel coronavirus (COVID-19)? Who is at risk for severe illness?

Novel coronavirus (COVID-19) is a new virus strain spreading from person-to-person. The virus usually causes mild illness, but it can sometimes cause severe illness and pneumonia. Among adults, the risk for severe illness from COVID-19 increases with age, with older adults at highest risk. People of any age with the following conditions are at increased risk of severe illness from COVID-19:

- Cancer
- Chronic kidney disease
- COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease)
- Immunocompromised state (weakened immune system) from solid organ transplant
- Obesity (body mass index [BMI] of 30 or higher)
- Serious heart conditions, such as heart failure, coronary artery disease, or cardiomyopathies
- Sickle cell disease
- Type 2 diabetes mellitus

More information about who is at increased risk for severe illness and other people who need to take extra precautions can be found on the [CDC website](#).

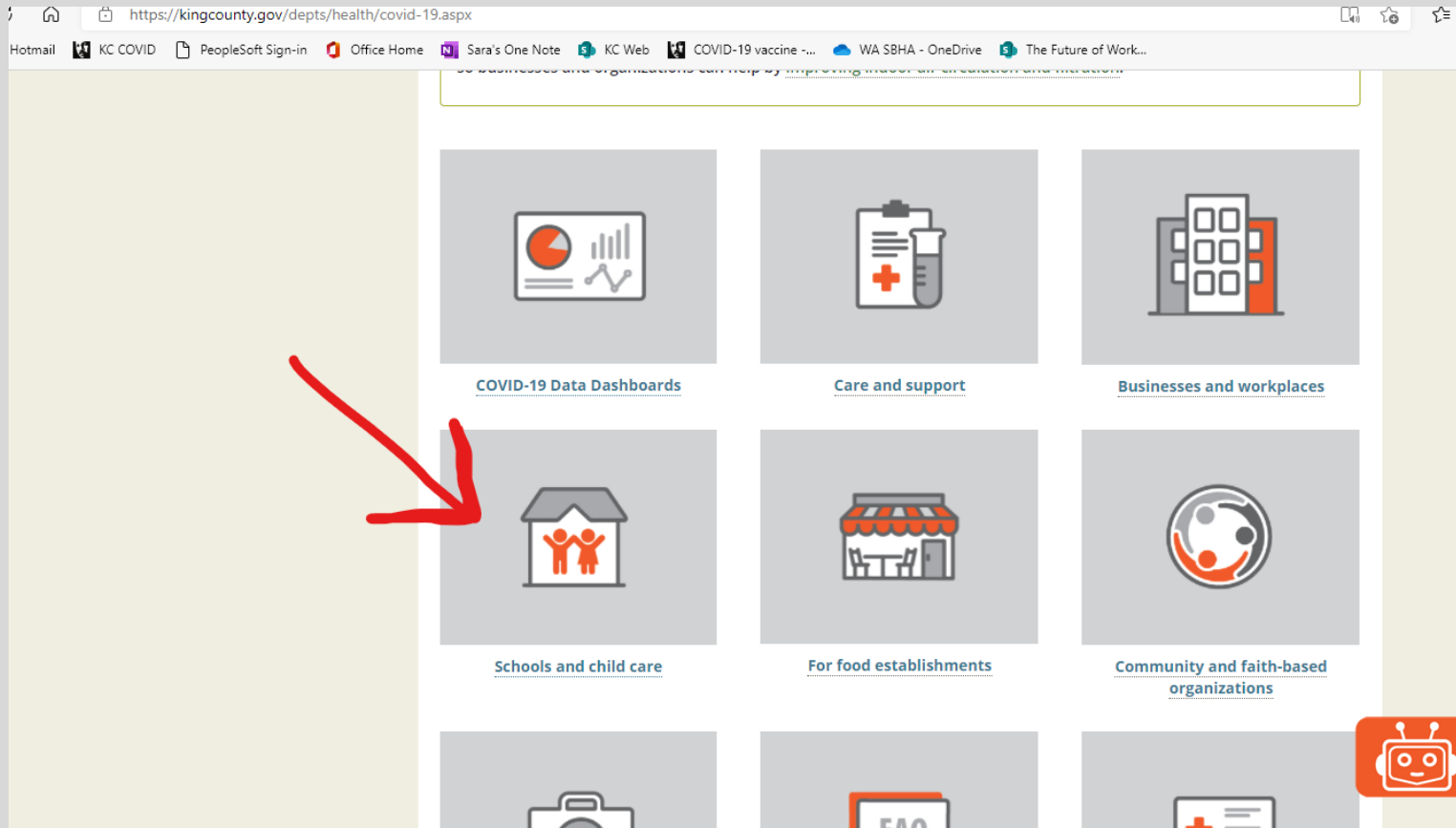
What will happen if there is an outbreak? Will my school or child care close?

The final decision on school closings lies with the districts themselves. School administrators consider several factors whenever a case occurs including:

- How many people were exposed?
- Were those exposed wearing masks?
- If vaccine eligible, were those exposed vaccinated?
- When and where did those exposures occur?
- How many people need to isolate or quarantine?
- Do classes, practices or other school activities need to be canceled due to this outbreak?

Resources and FAQ

kingcounty.gov/covid/schools



Resources and FAQ

- [COVID-19 resources for schools and child care facilities - King County](#)
 - FAQ
 - Guidance Document
 - Schools Toolkit
 - Child Care letters

Schoolresponse@kingcounty.gov