



Family Partnership Charter School COVID 19 and Communicable Diseases

[Managing Individuals with Symptoms](#) (found on the California Department of Public Health site)

Staying home when sick can lower the risk of spreading [communicable diseases](#). When a child arrives with symptoms of illness or develops symptoms at school or child care, a decision must be made as to whether the child can remain on site. Schools and child care should refer to [CDPH guidance](#) when determining whether to send the child home (i.e., temporarily exclude) or allow them to remain on site. Many factors should be considered when making this decision, including how to limit the spread of diseases to others, and how to limit educational, social, and other losses that might occur due to absence.

Recommended Actions:

1. For a suspected or confirmed COVID-19 infection, follow the recommendations provided in CDC [Preventing Spread of Respiratory Viruses When You're Sick](#).
2. Follow [guidance for when a child has symptoms of illness in a school or child care](#) to support decision-making.
3. Avoid policies that incentivize coming to school or child care while sick.
4. Share educational resources and health-related information (e.g., [AAP Healthy Children](#)) when appropriate.

Reporting Diseases and Responding to Outbreaks

Notify [local health departments](#) and other authorities about reportable communicable diseases as well as any suspected outbreaks in schools and child care. For additional information on communicable diseases, reference CDPH [Disease Information and Reports](#), [Infectious Disease Investigations](#), and [Tuberculosis Control](#) pages.

Recommended Actions:

1. Review reporting regulations.
 - Schools should review [Title 17, California Code of Regulations \(CCR\) §2500](#) and [§2508](#) for reporting requirements for school nurses and other healthcare providers. Note that CCR Title 17 §2500 has been temporarily modified by the [State Public Health Officer order of October 4, 2022](#).
 - Child care centers ([CCR Title 22 section 101212\(d\)](#)) and family child care homes ([CCR Title 22 section 102416.2\(c\)\(3\)](#)) should review Child Care Licensing requirements for outbreak reporting. The appropriate [regional office](#) (PDF) of the California Department of Social Services Community Care Licensing Division should be consulted for assistance.
 - Workplaces, schools and certain child care providers are subject to COVID-19 workplace outbreak reporting requirements set forth in [Cal/OSHA COVID-19 Non-Emergency Regulations FAQs](#).

2. Typically, local health departments will lead the response to reportable diseases and disease outbreaks and provide recommendations on next steps, including assessing possible exposures.
 - Exposure notifications and symptom monitoring should be guided by the local health department. School administrators and child care providers should support the local health department in contact tracing efforts.
 - Local health departments are encouraged to contact CDPH for outbreak consultation as needed. Additional information can be found in CDPH [Reportable Diseases and Conditions](#), [CDPH Communicable Disease Quicksheets](#) and [CDPH Norovirus Toolkits](#). For COVID-19, see CDPH [Workplace Outbreak Employer Guidance](#).

Local educational agencies are encouraged to consult with local health officials to include communicable disease information in their school emergency operations plans. For additional information and recommendations, refer to CDC guidance on [Planning for Outbreaks, Epidemics, and Pandemics](#).

Additional Considerations

1. Children with disabilities or other health care needs: When implementing this guidance, schools should carefully consider how to address legal requirements related to the provision of free appropriate public education when identifying infection control strategies. School administrators and child care providers must also comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and provide reasonable accommodation to children with disabilities. Requirements can also be found in [Individuals with Disabilities Education Act \(IDEA\)](#) and [Protecting Students With Disabilities \(ed.gov\)](#).
 - Other recommendations can be found in [American Academy of Pediatrics \(AAP\)](#) guidance. Note that although the AAP guidance was developed to manage COVID-19, many considerations are broadly applicable to other communicable diseases in schools and child care.
2. Higher risk activities: Certain activities that involve close physical contact and/or increased and forceful exhalation can pose increased risk for getting and spreading communicable diseases, particularly if conducted indoors, in poorly ventilated settings, and/or without the use of masks. Accordingly, school administrators and child care providers may consider implementing additional measures to mitigate transmission in these settings, especially during disease outbreaks or increased rates of community transmission of certain diseases. Consultation with local health departments is recommended.
3. In-person learning: Broad disruptions to in-person learning, such as temporary closures of schools, classrooms, or child care settings due to a communicable disease outbreak should remain a last resort. Additionally, it should be considered only after all available resources have been exhausted and after consulting with local health department officials.