



# COVID-19 School Exclusion Recommendations

Exclusion From and Return to School Recommendations			
<p><b>COVID-19 Symptoms</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Two</b> of the following symptoms: fever (measured or subjective), chills, fatigue, myalgia, headache, sore throat, congestion, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea OR</li> <li><b>One</b> of the following symptoms: cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, or new loss of taste or smell</li> </ul>	<p>Individual should be tested for COVID-19.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If test result is negative <b>OR</b> doctor’s note with differential diagnosis, return to school after 24 hours afebrile <b>and</b> improved respiratory symptoms</li> <li>If test result is positive or individual is unable/refuses to get tested, may return to school after:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 24 hours with no fever <b>and</b></li> <li>➤ Improvement in symptoms <b>and</b></li> <li>➤ 10 days since symptoms first appeared</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p style="color: orange; font-style: italic;">Montgomery County Office of Public Health only recognizes negative results from tests that have been performed under the supervision of a healthcare provider. Negative results from over the counter at home COVID-19 tests will not be accepted in order to return to school.</p>		
<p><b>Positive COVID-19 PCR or Antigen (Point of Care) Test</b></p>	<p><b>WITH SYMPTOMS</b></p> <p>May return to school after:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>24 hours with no fever <b>and</b></li> <li>improvement in symptoms <b>and</b></li> <li>10 days since symptoms first appeared</li> </ul>	<p><b>WITHOUT SYMPTOMS</b></p> <p>May return to school after:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10 days after specimen was collected</li> </ul> <p>If symptoms develop during the 10 days, follow return to school guidance for positive PCR or Antigen test <u>with</u> symptoms</p>	
<p><b>Close Contact to Positive*</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Within 6ft for 15 minutes or more</li> <li>Household contact</li> </ul> <p><small>*If testing resources are sufficient, close contacts should be tested regardless of symptoms. If an individual is tested, regardless of the reason, they should stay home and isolate until the results are back.</small></p>	<p><b>WITH SYMPTOMS</b></p> <p>Individual should be tested for COVID-19</p> <p>May return to school after:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>24 hours with no fever <b>and</b></li> <li>improvement in symptoms <b>and</b></li> <li>10 days since symptoms first appeared</li> </ul>	<p><b>WITHOUT SYMPTOMS</b></p> <p>Quarantine can end 10 days after exposure without testing <b>or</b> after 7 days with a negative PCR or antigen test (must be collected on day 5 or thereafter)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Household contacts may require further investigation, by either OPH or school officials, to determine dates of quarantine</li> </ul> <p style="color: orange; font-style: italic;"><b>The most protective recommended quarantine remains 14 days post exposure.</b></p> <p>It is recommended that symptom monitoring continue until day 14. If symptoms develop during the 14 days, follow return to school guidance for Close Contact <u>with</u> symptoms</p>	<p><b>COVID VACCINATION</b></p> <p>People who are vaccinated against COVID-19 do NOT need to quarantine after an exposure to another person with COVID-19 if they meet ALL of the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>They are fully vaccinated (i.e. ≥2 weeks following receipt of the second dose in a 2-dose series, or ≥2 weeks following receipt of one dose of a single-dose vaccine) <b>AND</b></li> <li>They have remained asymptomatic since the current COVID-19 exposure.</li> </ul> <p style="color: orange; font-style: italic;"><b>The date of vaccination is day 0 when determining if an individual is fully vaccinated (i.e., &gt; 2 weeks post vaccine dose).</b></p>
		<p><b>SARS COV-2 ANTIBODY TEST</b></p> <p>Persons who recently test positive for SARS-CoV-2 antibodies (documented test for IgM or IgG) DO NOT need to quarantine in low-risk situations if specific criteria is met and person exposed is asymptomatic. <b>Consultation with MCOPH is required.</b></p>	