

★ When can a staff member return from isolation (case)?

- Daycare staff members can return to work after a full 5 days have passed, if the case remains symptoms free and wears a mask day 6-10.
 - Ex - Became a case on January 3rd, without symptoms January 8th and will remain masked January 9th – 13th
- If the case still has any lingering symptoms and unable to wear a mask they will need to isolate at home.
 - Ex - Became a case on January 3rd and still has symptoms after day 5. They can return to work on January 14th.

★ When can a staff member return from quarantine (Exposed to a positive)?

- A staff member can return from quarantine after 5 full days have passed and the staff member remains symptom free. They also need to wear a mask for a full 10 days from exposure.
 - Ex - Became a contact exposed on January 3rd, without symptoms on January 8th and will remain masked January 9th-13th.
- A staff member who is symptomatic after 5 days or unable to wear a mask will need to quarantine for a full 10 days.
 - Ex - Became a contact on January 3rd and is having symptoms on January 5th (day 0). They will need to quarantine 10 full days from onset of symptoms, return on January 16th (day 11).

★ When would a staff member not need to quarantine (exposed to positive)?

- A staff member may not need to quarantine if they are remaining without symptoms and are [up to date](#) on their vaccinations. Meaning if they are eligible for the booster, they have received it. It is recommended that they test 5-7 days after exposure.
- Or if they have a positive PCR or antigen that has been documented 3 months prior to their exposure.

★ When can a child return from isolation (case/positive test)?

- A child can return from isolation if they remain without symptoms after 5 full days of testing positive. They must remain masked for a full 10 days after testing.
 - Ex - Child became a case on January 7th, January 12th if they remain without symptoms they can return and wear a mask January 13th-17th
- A child can return from isolation if their symptoms have resolved after 5 full days from when symptoms began. They must remain masked for a full 10 days after symptoms began.
 - Ex - A child became a case January 7th, their symptoms completely resolved on January 12th and can wear a mask correctly from January 13th-17th.
- A child that is less than 2 years of age or has lingering symptoms will need to complete a full 10 days since they should not be masked.
 - Ex - A child became a case January 7th, their symptoms are still present or cannot mask. They will need to complete a full 10 days and can return on January 18th.

★ When can a child return from quarantine (exposed to a positive)?

- A child can return after a full 5 days of exposure have passed and no symptoms have developed. They will also need to wear a mask for a full 10 days from the exposure.
 - Ex - Became a contact on January 10th, without symptoms on January 15th and can wear a mask January 16th-20th.
- A child who is unable to mask properly or consistently or is less than 2 years of age will need to quarantine a full 10 days.
 - Ex - Became a contact on January 10th can be released from quarantine on January 20th and can return on January 21st.



★ Is a negative test needed to return from isolation?

- No, a negative test is not required to return from isolation.

★ Is a negative test needed to return from quarantine?

- No, a test is only recommended 5-7 days after exposure.
 - Ex - If an individual was exposed on January 6th, they could test on January 11th.

★ What if a child's parent or guardian is positive and unable to isolate away from their child?

- If a child is unable to isolate away from their positive parent this will change their exposure date.
 - Ex - Exposure date is day 0. Parents release date from isolation is January 14th which is now the last day of exposure for child that was unable to isolate away from parent. Child could return on January 20th if they remain symptom free and are able to wear a mask. If they are unable to wear a mask they can return on January 25th. If the child develops symptoms – they then need to start ISOLATION (case). Symptom onset is day 0. See isolation guidance for return to facility guidance.

★ How can we improve social distancing at our facility?

- Social distancing can be hard to accomplish in childcare settings but there are steps that can be taken to improve these efforts.
 - Utilizing cohorts or pods. These are groups that remain together throughout the entire day. If possible, these groups should remain the same each day with the same staffing members. Limit the mixing of groups and stagger interactions where groups could have the potential to mix such as during playtime.
 - Stagger drop off and pick up times.
- **Mask should not be worn when sleeping but children can be separated during naptime.**
 - Place children head to toe for those on mats or in cribs
- **Physical guides or signs can help to visualize where social distancing is needed.**

