COVID-19 Close Contacts in Childcare/School Settings

**CDC Definition of a close contact:** A close contact is defined as someone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for a total of 15 minutes or more starting from 2 days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic patients, 2 days prior to positive specimen collection) until the time the patient is isolated.

Close contacts must be quarantined for 14 days from their last exposure to a confirmed case of COVID-19, unless both the case and their close contacts were wearing a mask at all times; this would exempt them from quarantine. Symptomatic close contacts should be referred to a health care provider for testing. Asymptomatic close contacts should be tested, ideally 7 – 10 days after last exposure to a confirmed case of COVID-19.

The following list of potential close contacts to a confirmed case of COVID-19 is not all inclusive. Additional individuals may be considered close contacts depending on the setting, type of contact, or situation.

**Childcare:**
- Children/staff in the same room/cohort as a confirmed case of COVID-19.
- If a case in a staff member or child “floats” between rooms, then children/staff in each room will be considered close contacts unless the investigation indicates contact is less than 15 minutes or greater than six feet.

**Elementary School:**
- Children sitting in desks in front of, behind, or next to the confirmed case.
- Children sitting at the same table as the confirmed case.
- If children are cohorted or in pods, then the entire cohort or pod.
- Children eating lunch at the same table as the confirmed case.
- Children participating in extracurricular activities with the confirmed case.
- Children participating in close contact sports or physical education with the confirmed case.
- Children participating in choir or band with the confirmed case.
- Staff who are in close contact, as defined by CDC, with a confirmed case.
- If children routinely mix/interact with each other in the classroom setting, then the entire classroom will be considered close contacts.

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• Children sitting next to, in front of or behind a case on a bus.
• Children carpooling to school with a case.
• Family members living in the same household as a case.
• If unable to identify close contacts of a case in a classroom or other (gym, dining hall, sporting venues, etc.) setting, School should send out alerts to others in the same classroom to watch for symptoms and contact a health care provider if symptoms develop.

Middle/High School:
• Children sitting in desks in front of, behind, or next to the confirmed case.
• Children sitting at the same table as the confirmed case.
• Children eating lunch at the same table as the confirmed case.
• Children participating in extracurricular activities with the confirmed case.
• Children participating in close contact sports or physical education with the confirmed case.
• Children participating in choir or band with the confirmed case.
• Staff who are in close contact, as defined by CDC, with a confirmed case.
• Close friends of a confirmed case.
• Children sitting next to, in front of or behind a case on a bus.
• Children carpooling to school with a case.
• Family members living in the same household as a case.
• If unable to identify close contacts of a case in a classroom or other (gym, dining hall, sporting venues, etc.) setting, School should send out alerts to others in the same classroom to watch for symptoms and contact a health care provider if symptoms develop.

University:
• Roommates of a confirmed case.
• Students sitting within six feet of a case in a classroom or other setting.
• Students participating in extracurricular activities with the confirmed case.
• Students participating in close contact sports or physical education with the confirmed case.
• Students participating in choir or band with the confirmed case.
• Staff who are in close contact, as defined by CDC, with a confirmed case.
• Close friends of a confirmed case.
• Co-workers who are in close contact, as defined by CDC, with a confirmed case.
• Family members living in the same household as a case.
• If unable to identify close contacts of a case in a classroom or other (gym, dining hall, sporting venues, etc.) setting, University should send out alerts to others in the same household to watch for symptoms and contact a health care provider if symptoms develop.
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