COVID-19 Screening

- No symptoms OR Direct Exposure*
  - No signs of COVID-19 via temp checks, self-reporting, or signs/symptoms

Direct Exposure*, No Symptoms

- Came in close contact or interacted with a confirmed case of COVID-19 — experiencing no symptoms

Direct Exposure*, At Least 1 Symptom

- Came in close contact or interacted with a confirmed case of COVID-19 — experiencing at least 1 symptom

Diagnosis, No Symptoms

- Laboratory-confirmed case of COVID-19 but experiencing no symptoms (asymptomatic)

Diagnosis with Symptoms

- Laboratory-confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19

Students/Staff Response

- Proceed to School/Work
  - Implement recommendations outlined in “Georgia’s Path to Recovery for K-12 Schools”

Can Return to School/Work after:

- Impacted students or staff have completed all requirements in the DPH’s “Return to School Guidance”
- If this person is tested for COVID-19 during the 14 day quarantine period, a negative test result would not change or decrease the time a person is monitored, but a positive test would move the person into one of the below categories, based on whether they are still asymptomatic or have developed symptoms.

Can Return to School/Work after:

- At least 24 hours have passed since recovery defined as resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications AND improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath);
  - At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared

Diagnosis, No Symptoms

- Laboratory-confirmed case of COVID-19 but experiencing no symptoms (asymptomatic)

Can Return to School/Work after:

- At least 10 days have passed since the positive laboratory test and the person remains asymptomatic.
  - Asymptomatic persons who test positive and later develop symptoms should follow the guidance for symptomatic persons below.

Can Return to School after:

- At least 24 hours have passed since recovery defined as resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications AND improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath);
  - At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared

District/School Response

- Implement Preventive Practices
  - Implement recommendations outlined in “Georgia’s Path to Recovery for K-12 Schools”

Implement Enhanced Mitigation Measures

- Implement recommendations outlined in “Georgia’s Path to Recovery for K-12 Schools”

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- Implement recommendations outlined in “Georgia’s Path to Recovery for K-12 Schools”

Targeted Closure

- Close off affected areas (i.e. classrooms, offices, etc.) and if possible, wait 24 hours before deep cleaning and disinfecting

Short-term Closure

- Close for facility-wide deep cleaning

Long-term Closure

- Close building(s) for at least 14 days

Implement Enhanced Mitigation Measures

- Implement recommendations outlined in “Georgia’s Path to Recovery for K-12 Schools”

**Direct exposure – students or staff who have been exposed to a person with known or suspected COVID-19 without appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE). Cloth face coverings are not considered PPE.**

DPH DOES NOT recommend using a test-based strategy for returning to school for children or adults (2 negative tests at least 24 hours apart) after COVID-19 infection. * CDC has reported prolonged PCR positive test results without evidence of infectiousness. Although persons may have PCR-positive tests for up to 6 weeks, it remains unknown whether these PCR-positive results represent the presence of infectious virus. At this time, PCR positive specimens capable of producing disease have not been isolated more than 9 days after onset of illness.

More information about the science behind the symptom-based strategy for discontinuing isolation can be found [here](#).

Updated to align with DPH’s ‘Return to School’ guidance (reissued 7/22/2020)