

OCS Covid-19 FAQs

Updated 9/3/21

1. What do the Covid 19 test results mean?

This information is taken directly from the CA.gov California Corona Virus Covid 19 Testing Task Force found [here](#).

A **positive** test means that you have COVID-19, and you should:

- Stay home
- Get rest and stay hydrated
- Stay in touch with your doctor
- Separate yourself from other people as much as your living situation permits
- Wear a face covering as much as you can indoors to reduce transmission to household members.

A **negative** test only means that you probably did not have COVID-19 at the time you were tested.

- This does not mean you will not get sick in a few days or that you will not be able to infect others.
- Please reach out to your health care provider if you have questions or think you may need to be retested.

A **presumptive positive** means that the test was not able to confirm with adequate certainty that your sample had COVID-19 present, and you should:

- Get retested as soon as possible
- Stay home while you wait for your new test results
- Separate yourself from other people as much as your living situation permits._

When we get a **presumptive positive test result**, we advise the person and close contacts to quarantine while we wait for the results of the retest. If the results of the retest are negative, the person and close contacts can end their quarantine immediately. If the retest is positive, the quarantine holds.

2. What is different if a student is vaccinated?

As of September 8th, 2021, any student who is vaccinated does not need to quarantine due to close contact as long as they are not experiencing any Covid symptoms. If a class is quarantined, the vaccinated students will come to campus with their teacher and participate in instruction in person but on their

device as the teacher still needs to teach the entire class. They will have recess, snack, and lunch times and be able to socialize with their peers in person.

We remind parents to upload their child's vaccination verification (QR code or card) to Fever Free as this is where OCS monitors vaccination status for Covid. If a class is quarantined, vaccinated students will come to campus and we'll be able to see that they are fully vaccinated in Fever Free.

3. Does my child's previous positive Covid test change quarantine status?

Yes, according to health department guidelines, if someone has had a laboratory confirmed case of Covid 19 in the past 90 days, they do not need to quarantine after exposure or close contact as long as they have no symptoms.

4. How is Aftercare being affected by Covid 19?:

We moved aftercare outside after our first week based on multiple classes having to quarantine due to possible exposure during aftercare. We shared this change with the community, but we were not clear on what it meant. It means that the children being outside only reduces the risk of spread, but it does not change the definition of close contact. For COVID-19, a close contact is anyone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for a total of 15 minutes or more. The 15 minutes is over a 24 hour period and does not need to be consecutive. An infected person can spread COVID-19 starting from 48 hours (or 2 days) before the person has any symptoms or tests positive for COVID-19. We have specifically asked both the CA Public Health Department and the LA County Public Health Department if being outside changes quarantine for close contacts. They have repeatedly said that being outside does not affect quarantine guidelines for close contacts. Therefore, because the gap care and kindergarten aftercare students are in a relatively small area together, and because we do not require the students to stay in a certain area with a restricted group of students, we cannot with any confidence say whom a particular student was in close contact with during their aftercare time. This is especially true when we consider that the 15 minutes is not consecutive, but cumulative. If we are able to hire more after care staff so we can further separate the groups, we will do so and thus minimize the number of students who need to quarantine if exposed. But at this time, we do not have adequate staffing to do this. Every school is facing a staffing shortage right now so we do not have a sense of when we might be able to hire more after care staff, however we will continue to do all we can to find qualified folks.

In short, why did students need to quarantine based on exposure during aftercare?

- Being outside doesn't mean no exposure, but does reduce risk.
- We can't do smaller groups until we have more staff.