



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

# DCPS COVID Case Response Protocols

## #RecoverStrong Telephone Townhall

### September 2021

Si necesita servicios de interpretación en español, por favor use este enlace: [tinyurl.com/DCPSEspanol](https://tinyurl.com/DCPSEspanol)

## Thank You for Joining Us

DCPS is prioritizing the health and safety of all our students!



**Lewis D. Ferebee**  
Chancellor  
DC Public Schools



**Bren Elliot**  
School Improvement & Supports  
DC Public Schools



**Jessica Jennings**  
Communications  
DC Public Schools



**Corie Colgan**  
Teaching and Learning  
DC Public Schools

# Our Doors are Open!

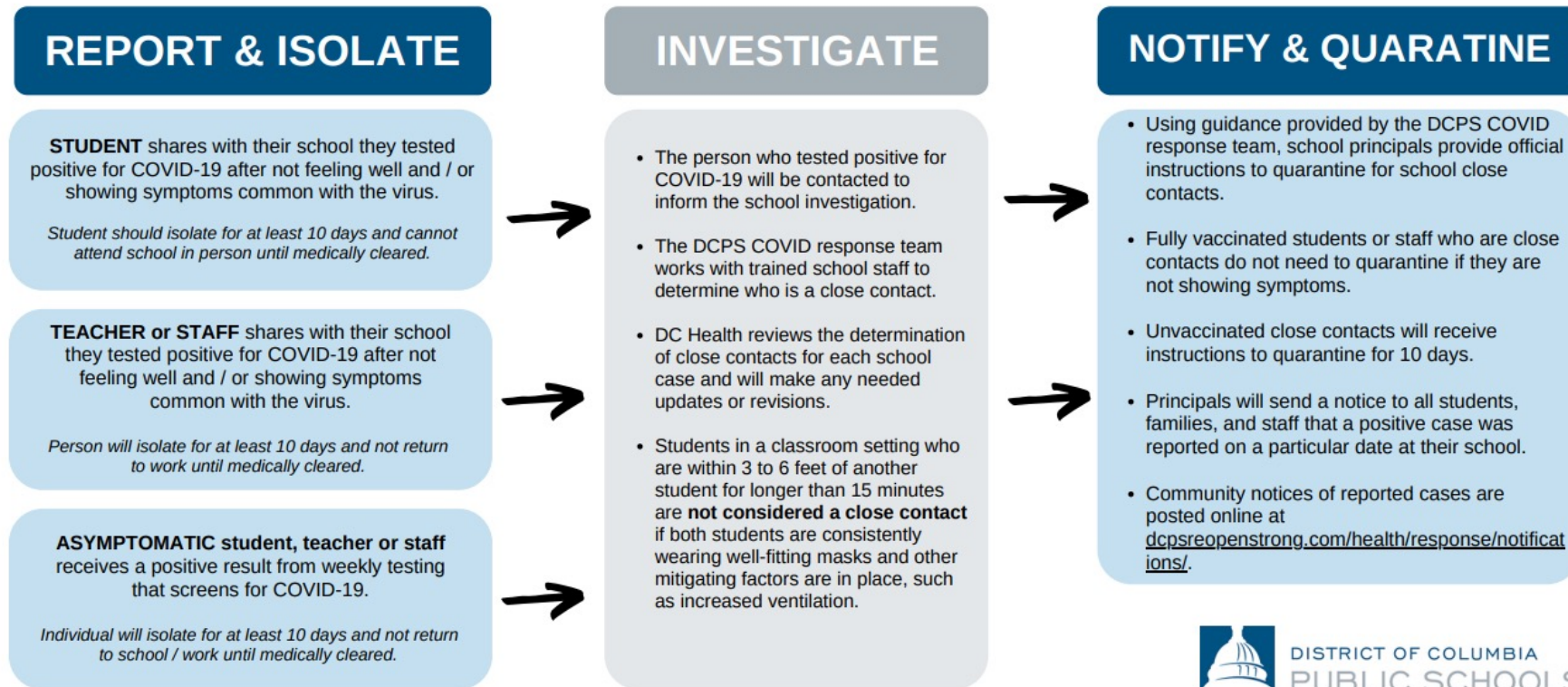




# COVID-19 Response Protocol – At a Glance

## HOW COVID-19 CASES AT SCHOOL ARE REPORTED

Learn more at [dcpsreopenstrong.com/health/response/](https://dcpsreopenstrong.com/health/response/)



# COVID-19 Response Protocol – Report and Isolate

## REPORT & ISOLATE

**STUDENT** shares with their school they tested positive for COVID-19 after not feeling well and / or showing symptoms common with the virus.

*Student should isolate for at least 10 days and cannot attend school in person until medically cleared.*



**TEACHER or STAFF** shares with their school they tested positive for COVID-19 after not feeling well and / or showing symptoms common with the virus.

*Person will isolate for at least 10 days and not return to work until medically cleared.*



**ASYMPTOMATIC student, teacher or staff** receives a positive result from weekly testing that screens for COVID-19.

*Individual will isolate for at least 10 days and not return to school / work until medically cleared.*



## REPORT CASES

Anyone who tests positive for COVID-19 cannot attend school in person for at least **10 days**. Please call your school to notify immediately if your child tests positive or is a close contact of a case outside of school.

# COVID-19 Response Protocol – Investigate

## INVESTIGATE

- The person who tested positive for COVID-19 will be contacted to inform the school investigation.
- The DCPS COVID response team works with trained school staff to determine who is a close contact.
- DC Health reviews the determination of close contacts for each school case and will make any needed updates or revisions.
- Students in a classroom setting who are within 3 to 6 feet of another student for longer than 15 minutes are **not considered a close contact** if both students are consistently wearing well-fitting masks and other mitigating factors are in place, such as increased ventilation.



**ANSWER THE CALL**

The DC Contact Trace Force will never ask you for your:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Help DC contain the virus	<input type="checkbox"/> Immigration status
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stay anonymous	<input type="checkbox"/> Social security number
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Protect your friends, family, coworkers, and neighbors	<input type="checkbox"/> Bank account details or credit card numbers

**CORONAVIRUS.DC.GOV**

**DC HEALTH**  
GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

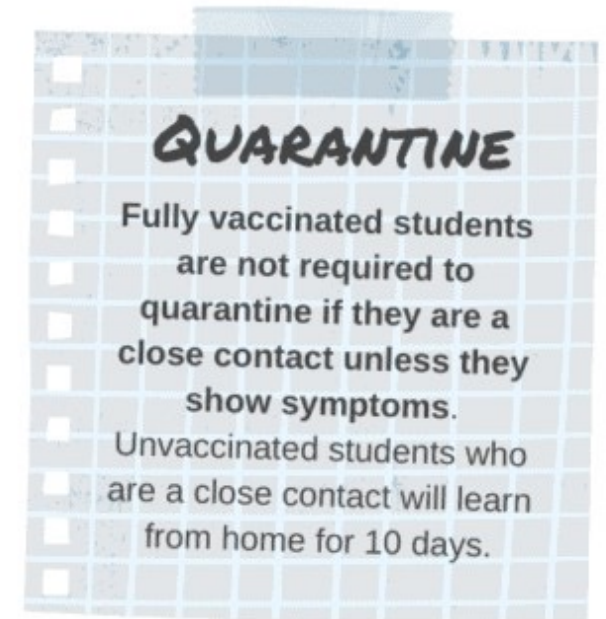
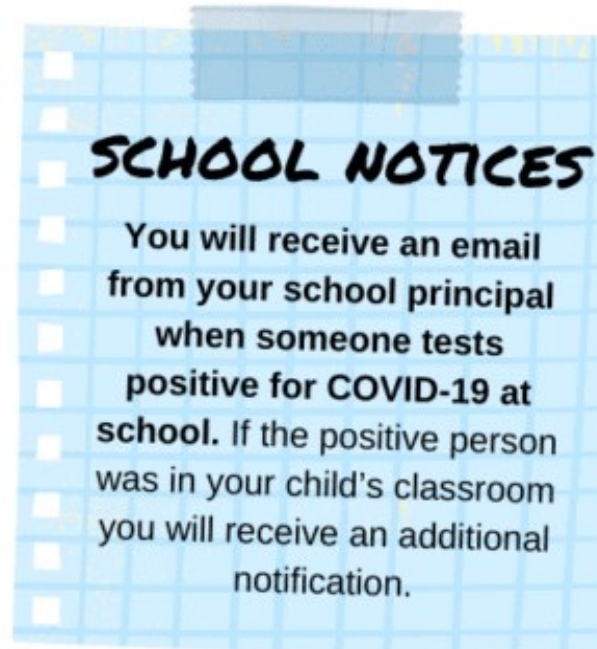
GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
**DC MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR**



# COVID-19 Response Protocol – Notify and Quarantine

## NOTIFY & QUARANTINE

- Using guidance provided by the DCPS COVID response team, school principals provide official instructions to quarantine for school close contacts.
- Fully vaccinated students or staff who are close contacts do not need to quarantine if they are not showing symptoms.
- Unvaccinated close contacts will receive instructions to quarantine for 10 days.
- Principals will send a notice to all students, families, and staff that a positive case was reported on a particular date at their school.
- Community notices of reported cases are posted online at [dcpsreopenstrong.com/health/response/notifications/](https://dcpsreopenstrong.com/health/response/notifications/).



## COVID Case Scenario 1 - Student COVID Case

### Scenario 1 Student Case

- Thomas attends DCPS Elementary School.
- On Monday, September 13 Thomas went to school and participated in the school's asymptomatic testing program.
- On Tuesday, the results of his test came back positive for COVID-19.

When his test results come in on Tuesday morning, Thomas is held in the Health Isolation Room until his parents come pick him up.



Close contacts are determined based on seating charts, school staff observations, and confirmed by the COVID response team.



By Tuesday night, close contacts will be notified to begin quarantining while the investigation concludes.



On Wednesday, written guidance is provided to all confirmed close contacts and the school community is notified about a positive case.



## COVID Case Scenario 2- Student COVID Case

### Scenario 2 Student Case

- 6th Grader Tamika began feeling tired and achy during school on Thursday. She stays home on Friday but doesn't feel better.
- On Saturday she takes a COVID-19 test. On Monday, she receives a positive test result, and notifies the school that afternoon.
- She sat next to Kelly, Chris, and Serena during 4th period math on Thursday, and the desks are closer than 3 feet apart.
- Kelly and Chris are not yet eligible to be vaccinated, but Serena is over 12 and vaccinated. *Serena does not have any COVID-related symptoms.*

On Monday, Kelly, Chris and Serena are notified that they are close contacts for this case at school.



For Kelly and Chris, they must quarantine for 10 days from the last day Tamika was in the building. If they take and receive a negative PCR test result on, or after day 5, they can come back on day 8.



On Tuesday, the school community is notified that someone last in the building the prior Thursday tested positive.



Serena does not need to quarantine, but she should take a PCR test between days 3 and 5 of being exposed to an infectious individual.

## COVID Case Scenario 3- Teacher COVID Case

### Scenario 3 Teacher Case

- Mr. Perry teaches history at DCPS High School.
- He is vaccinated but begins having COVID-like symptoms on Wednesday.
- He stays home on Thursday and decides to take a COVID-19 test; he receives a positive test result on Saturday.
- He was closer than 6 feet apart to one other staff member, who is identified as a close contact. He was not less than 6 feet to any student.

The staff member close contact will be instructed to quarantine if they are not fully vaccinated.



The school will receive a community notice and an additional email will be sent to the classroom. It will not say whether the positive individual was a student or a teacher.



Mr. Perry will return to the classroom after 10 days, provided he has been symptom free for at least 24 hours.



As he feels well enough, Mr. Perry will teach virtually with a classroom attendant supervising the students.

## Supporting Learning During a Quarantine

- If a student is required to quarantine, they will have access to asynchronous instruction through their Canvas courses.
- Teachers will post assignments and resources and check in with students.
- If 25% or more of a class is on quarantine, teachers will use the combined instructional model to teach both the students at home and in the classroom.
- In this case, students learning at home will be provided with a schedule of when they should tune in, through Teams, for live instruction, in addition to the asynchronous work in Canvas.
- Contact your school if you need a computer or internet access.



***To learn more about using Canvas and other DCPS technology, visit***

***<https://dcpsreopstrong.com/resources/technology/>***



## Attendance Reporting During a Quarantine



- For students who are required to quarantine but not at the direction of DCPS (e.g., because a family member tested positive for COVID-19 and they were contacted by a contact tracer), the parent/guardian must provide written documentation of the quarantine.
- The written note must include the date of COVID-19 exposure; the length of time the student has been directed to quarantine by a medical professional or contact tracer; and the name, organization, and contact information of the medical professional or contract tracer.

**Please note,** students required to quarantine at the direction of DCPS (e.g., because a teacher tested positive for COVID-19) do not need to provide documentation.




## As a Reminder- Take the Shot!

MAYOR MURIEL BOWSER PRESENTS

# TAKE THE SHOT, DC

## YOUTH VACCINE GIVEAWAY

All District youth aged 12-17 who get vaccinated will be eligible to win:

-  A \$25,000 college scholarship (2 winners each week)
-  iPad and headphones (8 winners each week)
-  All DC youth aged 12-17\* who receive their **first shot** at three Take The Shot, DC Giveaway Sites can receive a \$51 gift card or free AirPods (while supplies last!)

*During September, 40 eligible students ages 12-17 will be selected as winners.*

Parents/guardians will also get one **\$51 VISA gift card** per child who receives their **first shot** at these sites.

### TAKE THE SHOT, DC - YOUTH VACCINE GIVEAWAY SITES AUGUST 31 - SEPTEMBER 30

<p><b>Brookland Middle School</b> 1150 Michigan Avenue, NE Tues. - Thurs.   4pm - 8pm Sat.   10am - 4pm</p>	<p><b>Sousa Middle School</b> 3650 Ely Place, SE Tues. - Thurs.   4pm - 8pm Sat.   10am - 4pm</p>	<p><b>Johnson Middle School</b> 1400 Bruce Place, SE Tues. - Thurs.   4pm - 8pm Sat.   10am - 4pm</p>
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\*Students ages 18-21 who are currently enrolled in a DC school seeking a high school diploma can receive a gift card or AirPods (if available)

#DCHOPE #TakeTheShotDC  
Learn more: [takethestotDC.com](https://takethestotDC.com)

DME OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY MAYOR FOR EDUCATION | DC HEALTH GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA | GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR

- DC has 3 youth vax incentive sites.
- Youth who get their first shot at one of these locations before 9/30 can receive AirPods or a \$51 gift card.
- Parents also receive a \$51 gift card.
- All students are automatically entered into a sweepstakes drawing. Prizes awarded in September and October.
- Visit <https://coronavirus.dc.gov/incen tives> to learn more.