

Archdiocese of San Antonio Catholic Schools

Protocols for 2021-2022 School Year

Revised September 9, 2021

FOR INTERNAL USE ONLY

UNITED AS CHURCH

| ENCOUNTERING CHRIST

| SENT BY THE SPIRIT



COVID-19 Symptoms

In evaluating whether an individual has symptoms consistent with COVID-19, consider the following question:

Any of the following symptoms indicate a possible COVID-19 infection:

- **Temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher;**
- **Sore throat;**
- **New uncontrolled cough that causes difficulty breathing (or, for students with a chronic allergic/asthmatic cough, a change in their cough from baseline);**
- **Diarrhea, vomiting, or abdominal pain; or**
- **New onset of severe headache, especially with a fever.**



TEST CONFIRMED COVID-19 CASE

Test-confirmed COVID-19

*ANY INDIVIDUAL
(teachers, staff, students,
volunteers or other campus visitors)*

May return to school when **ALL THREE** of the following criteria are met:

- At least one day (**24 hours**) have passed since recovery (resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications);

AND

- The individual has improvement in symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath);

AND

- At least ten days have passed since symptoms first appeared.



CLOSE CONTACT DEFINITION

This document refers to “close contact” with an individual who is test-confirmed to have COVID-19. The definition of close contact is evolving with our understanding of COVID-19. As our goal is to keep as many students in school as possible, each case of close contact should be carefully considered to minimize the number of students who need to quarantine.

In general, close contact is defined as:

- A. Being directly exposed to infectious secretions (e.g., being coughed on)
OR
- B. Being within 6 feet of an individual with a test-confirmed case of COVID-19 for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period. However, additional factors like mask protocols, ventilation, presence of dividers, and case symptomology may affect this determination.

Either (a) or (b) defines close contact if it occurred during the infectious period of the case, defined as two days prior to symptom onset to 10 days after symptom onset. In the case of asymptomatic individuals who are test-confirmed with COVID-19, the infectious period is defined as two days prior to the confirming test and continuing for 10 days following the confirming test.

Considerations

1. Were the infected individual and/or the exposed student(s) consistently wearing masks?
 - If yes, they do not need to quarantine but should be monitored for symptoms.
2. Did the infected individual and the exposed student(s) eat lunch together?
 - If yes, the exposed students should quarantine.
3. Did the students have their masks off during recess or PE?
 - If masks were off at these times it is important to assess who was around the students during these periods of the day. If students were in close contact with an infected person for 15 minutes or more, they should quarantine.



CLOSE CONTACT QUARANTINE PROCOTOL

ANY INDIVIDUAL (teachers, staff, students, volunteers or other campus visitors)

Who have had close contact with someone who is test-confirmed to have COVID-19

(direct exposure OR being 6 feet for 15+ minutes in the time the infected individual was infectious; see p.4 for full definition)



MUST stay at home through the 10-day incubation period, *(beginning on the date symptoms first appeared or for asymptomatic individuals on the day of the positive COVID test)*

As an alternative, the quarantine period can end after Day 7 with a lab-confirmed negative COVID-19 test taken on Day 7 and if no symptoms were reported during daily monitoring.

Catholic schools should screen individuals after the incubation period has concluded, and if the individual did not experience COVID-19 symptoms during that period, the individual can be allowed back on campus.



*If individual displayed symptoms of COVID-19 during the incubation period, they may return to school when **all three** of the following criteria are met:*

- At least one day (**24 hours**) have passed since recovery (resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications)
- The individual has improvement in symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); and
- At least ten days have passed **since symptoms first appeared**.



CLOSE CONTACT Quarantine Guidance

For Vaccinated (*Students & Adults*) Exposed to a Positive Case

Vaccinated persons with an exposure to someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 are not required to quarantine ***if they meet all of the following criteria***:

1. Are fully vaccinated (i.e., ≥ 2 weeks following receipt of the second dose in a 2-dose series, or ≥ 2 weeks following receipt of one dose of a single-dose vaccine).
 2. Have remained asymptomatic since the current COVID-19 exposure
- Vaccinated individuals are **required** to produce their card or other proof of vaccination.
 - Vaccinated individuals are **required** to wear a mask for 14 days following an exposure to a positive case.

If a vaccinated individual **demonstrates symptoms** of COVID-19, he or she **must remain home** until producing a negative COVID test **at least 3 days** following the onset of symptoms.



CLOSE CONTACT Quarantine Guidance

For Individuals Previously Diagnosed with COVID-19 (within 3 months)

Individuals with an exposure to someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 are not required to quarantine ***if they meet all of the following criteria***:

1. Were previously diagnosed with COVID-19 within the last three months
 2. Have remained asymptomatic since the current COVID-19 exposure
- These individuals should produce evidence of a confirmed case of COVID-19 within the last three months. *(Note: The 3-month period would begin on the day of the positive COVID test or diagnosis from a doctor.)*
 - These individuals are **required** to wear a mask for 14 days following an exposure to a positive case.

If an individual who meets these qualifications **demonstrates symptoms** of COVID-19, he or she **must remain home** until producing a negative COVID test **at least 3 days** following the onset of symptoms.

[CDC Reference](#)



Individual with COVID Symptoms

Who have not had a confirmed case or known exposure (i.e. no known close contact)

If the individual has symptoms that could be COVID-19 and wants to return to school *before completing the stay at home period*, the individual must either:

(a) obtain a note from a medical doctor licensed in the state of Texas, note clearing the individual for return based on an alternative diagnosis (*such as strep throat, an ear infection, etc.; unless the allergy diagnosis is chronic, an individual experiencing allergy symptoms should follow part (b) below*).

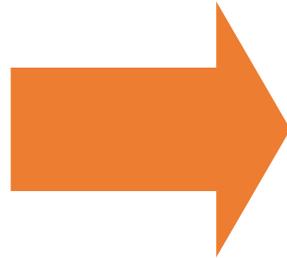
OR

(b) obtain a negative COVID test

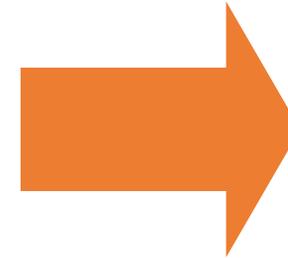


ISOLATION OF STUDENT WITH SYMPTOMS

Student
shows
symptoms of
COVID-19



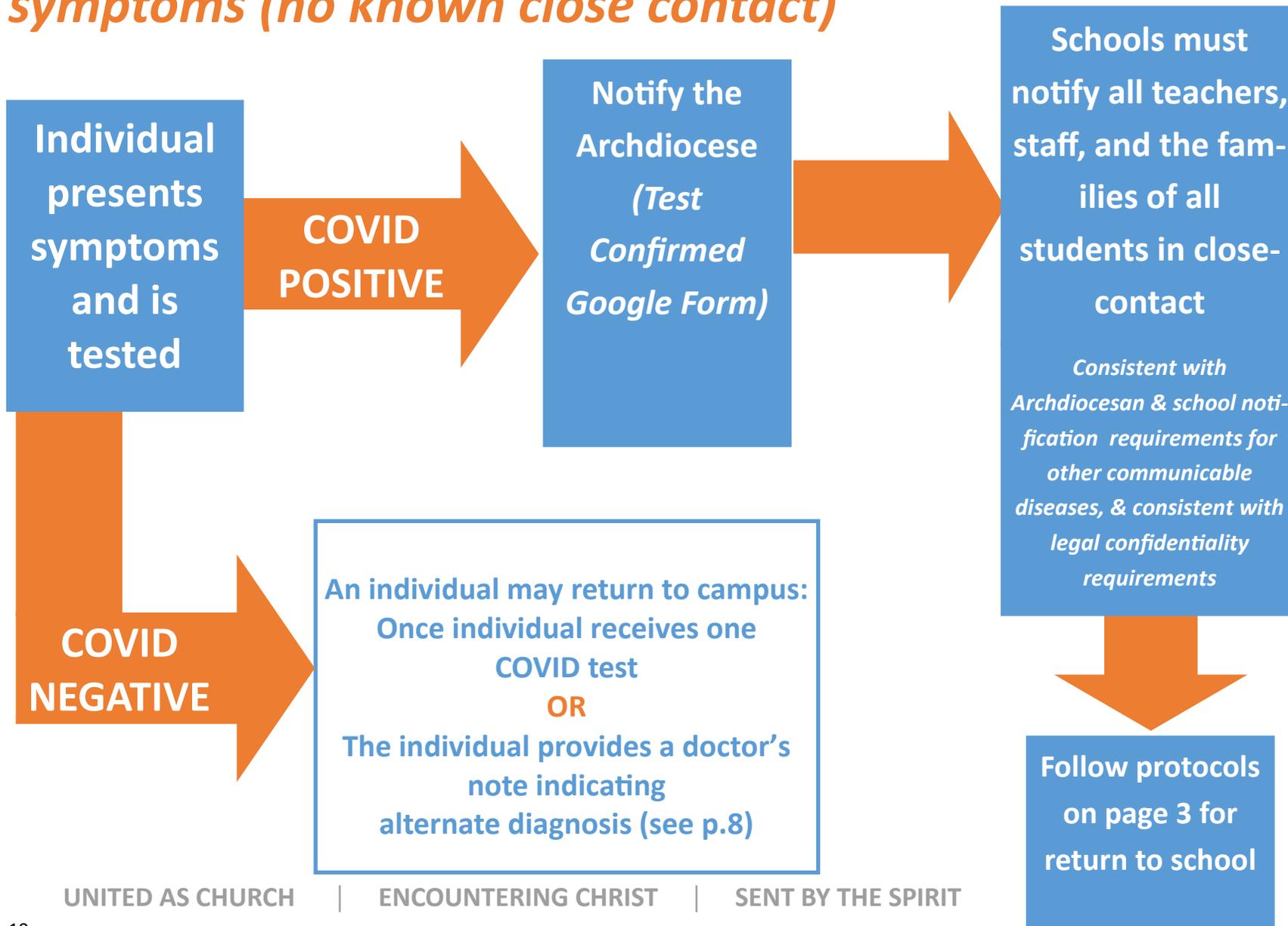
IMMEDIATELY
Isolate student
until the
student can be
picked up by a
parent or a
guardian



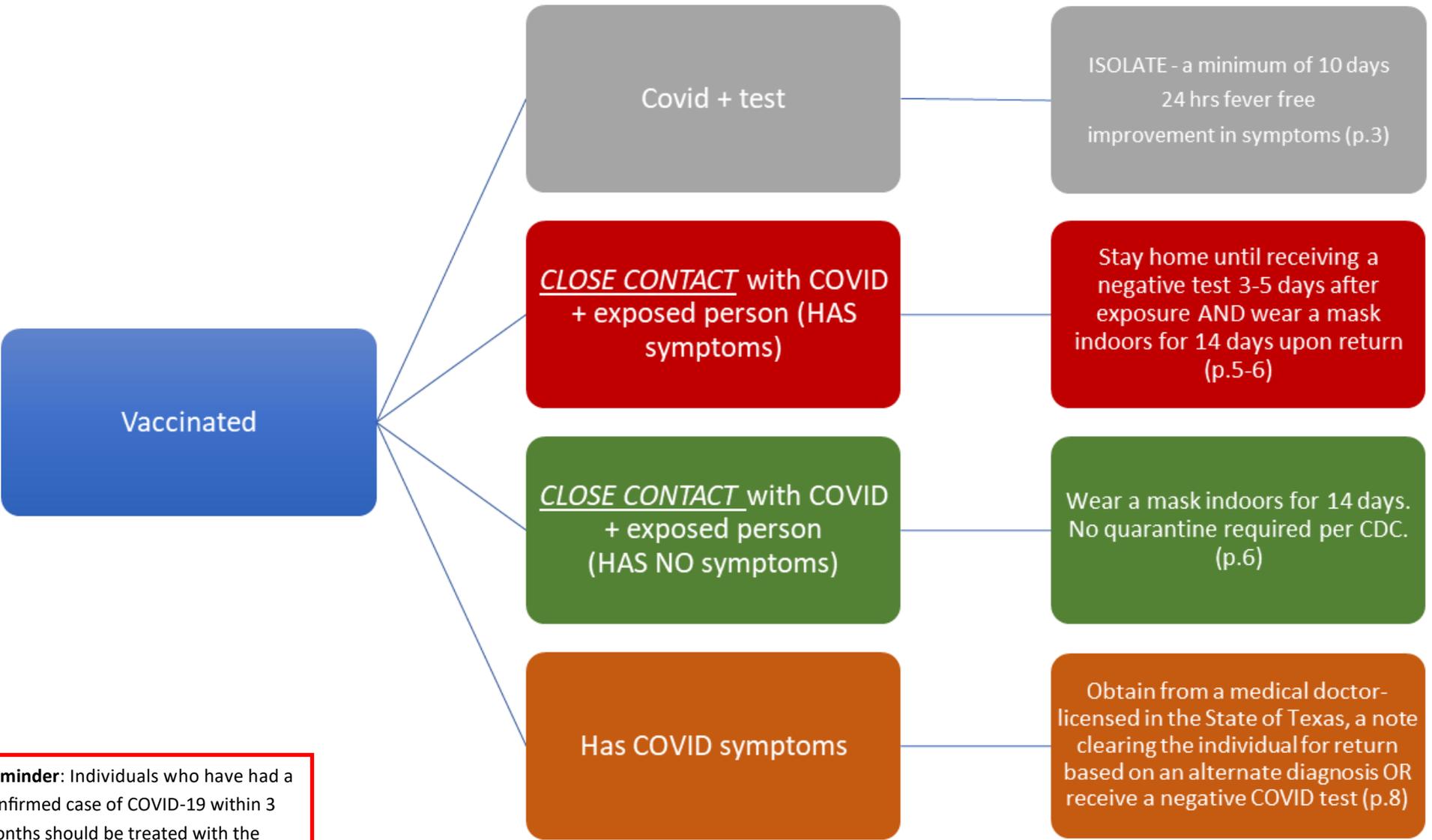
Clean the areas
used by the in-
dividual who
shows COVID-
19 symptoms
as soon as
possible



RESPOND: *Practices to Respond to an individual with symptoms (no known close contact)*



Flow Chart—Vaccinated Individuals



Reminder: Individuals who have had a confirmed case of COVID-19 within 3 months should be treated with the same protocols as vaccinated individuals. (p.7)



Flow Chart—Unvaccinated Individuals

