

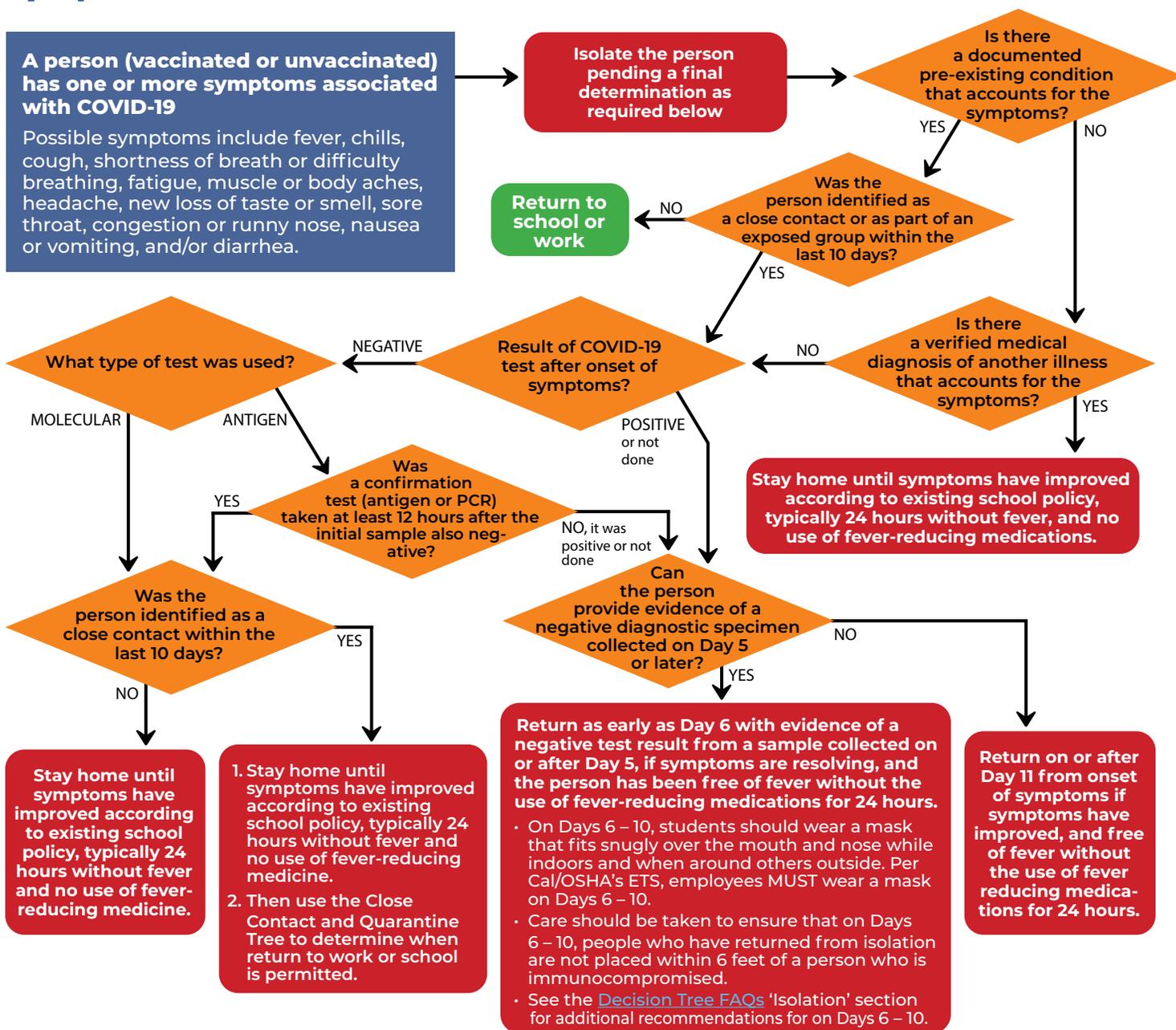
COVID-19 Decision Trees for K-12 Schools

Today's updates: The Close Contact and Quarantine Tree for Students (page 2) has been replaced. Exposed students who do not have symptoms may remain in school with testing on Day 3, 4, or 5, unless they develop symptoms or test positive. Page 3, which addressed quarantine requirements for students, has been deleted.

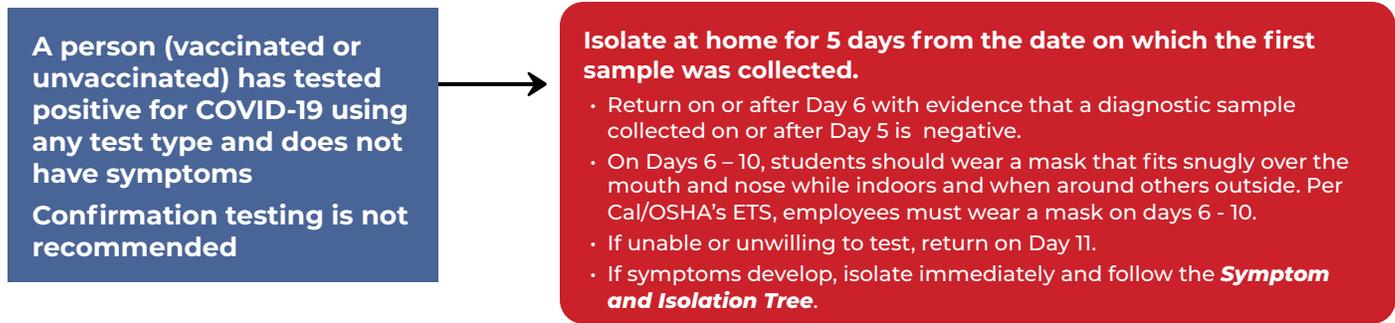
If the person...

- Has **symptoms**, use the **Symptom and Isolation Tree**
- Has **tested positive** and **does not have symptoms**, use the **Asymptomatic Positive Tree**
- Is identified as a **close contact** and **does not have symptoms**, use the **Close Contact and Quarantine Trees**

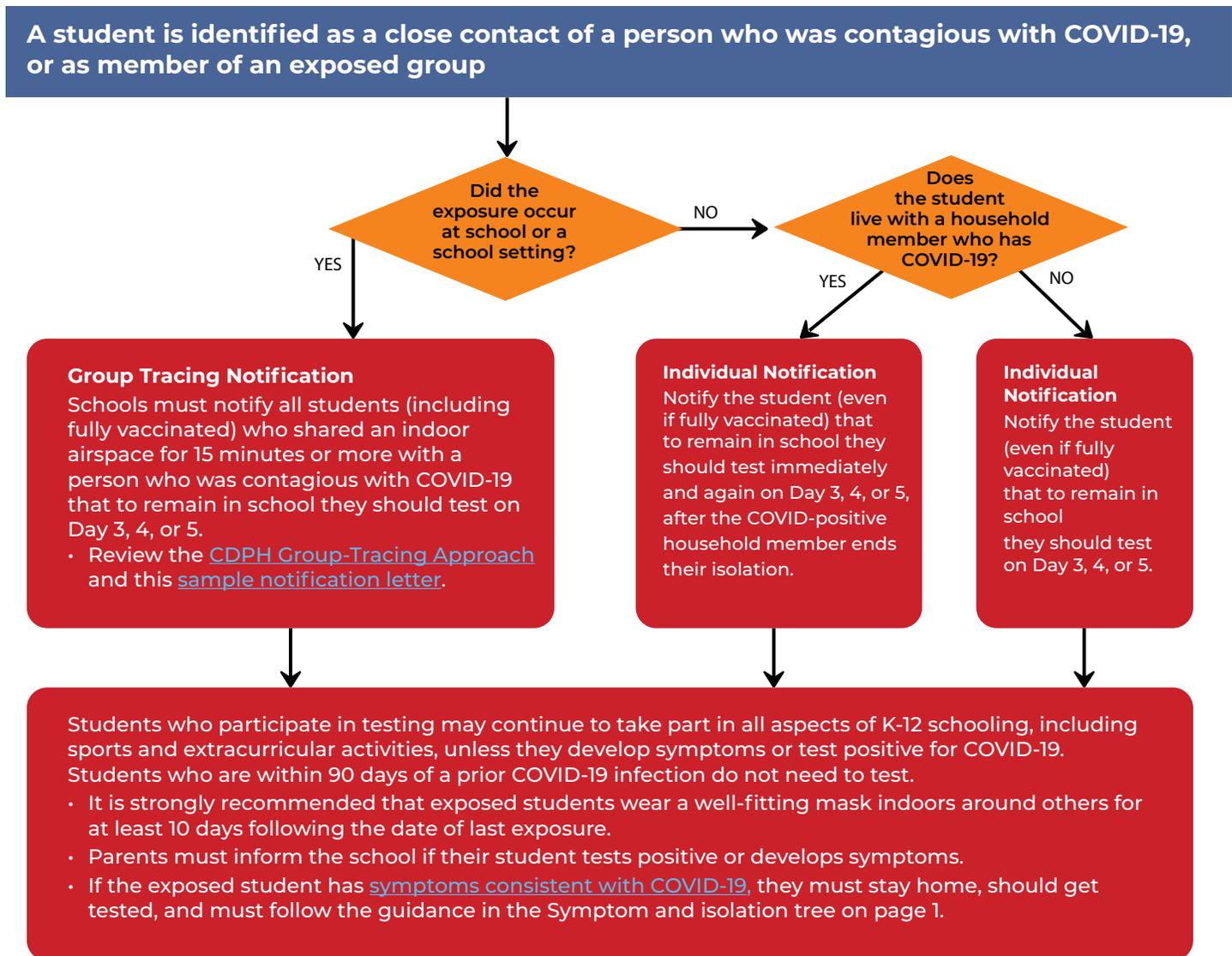
Symptom and Isolation Tree for Students and K-12 Workers



Asymptomatic Positive Tree for Students and K-12 Workers



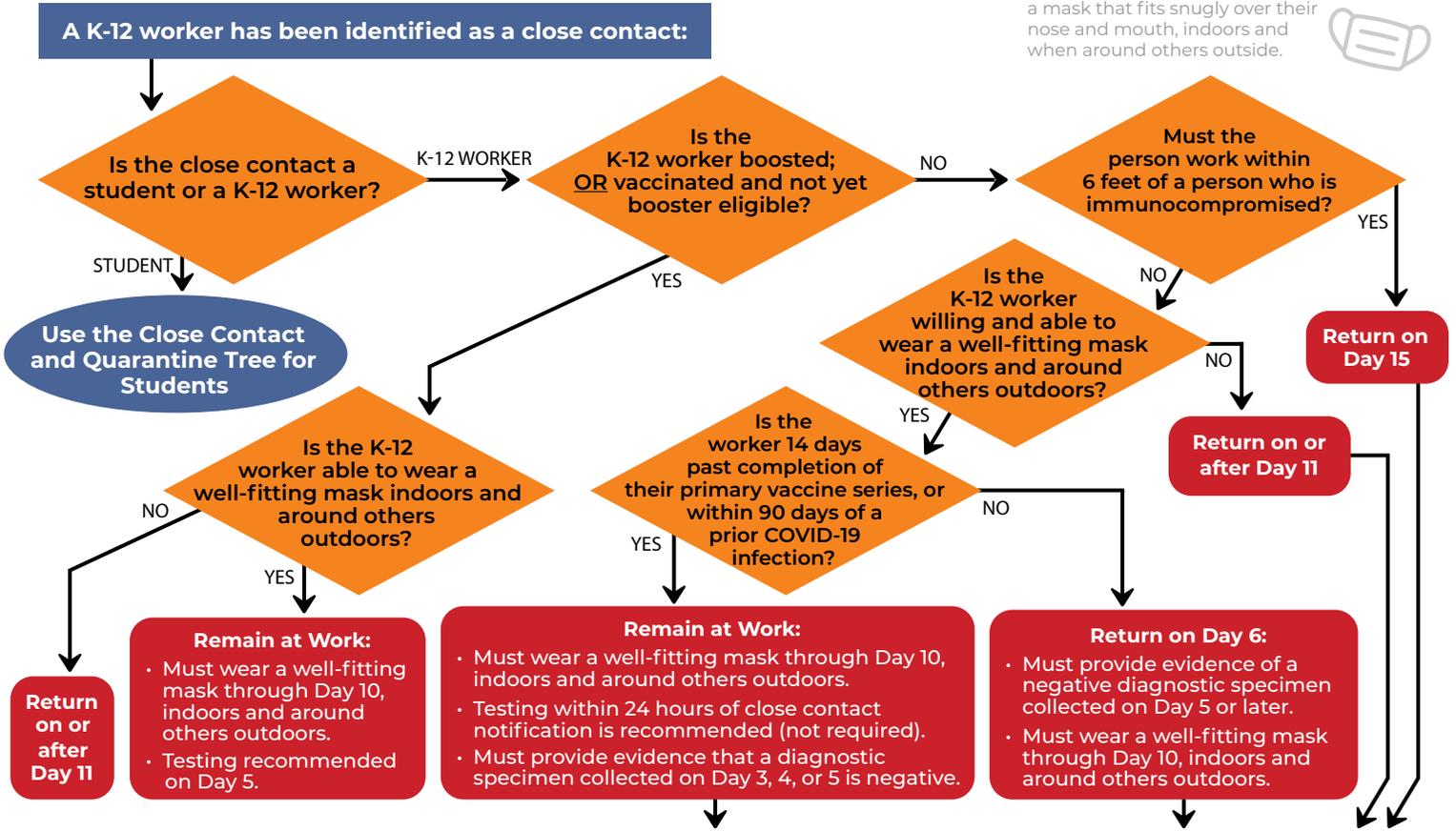
Close Contact and Exposure Tree for Students



Close Contact and Quarantine Tree for K-12 Workers

Note on employee masking through Day 10:

Cal/OSHA's emergency temporary standards require that employee close contacts who are eligible to return to work before Day 11, wear a mask that fits snugly over their nose and mouth, indoors and when around others outside.



Household Exposures: If the person lives with a COVID-positive household member, they must quarantine until their last contact with the positive household member(s) while they are contagious (in most cases this will be until the day the last COVID-positive household member is no longer required to isolate away from others). Day 1 is counted from this date. Then use the appropriate option for return from quarantine. If symptoms develop, use the **Symptom and Isolation Tree**. See the [Decision Tree FAQs](#) answers No. 6 and 7 for additional information and for instructions on how to isolate a positive individual in a room away from others in the home.

Test Types By Situation

Situation	Appropriate Test Types
Person with symptoms (For initial testing in response to symptoms.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Antigen testing is acceptable in response to an onset of symptoms, but if the person with symptoms receives a negative result from an antigen test, they must remain in isolation pending the outcome of a confirmatory test (antigen, PCR or other NAAT). The first antigen test must be administered after symptom onset. If negative, the confirmation test must be administered 12 hours or later after the initial antigen test. If the confirmatory test is also negative the person may return to school or work immediately. For people who are within 90 days of a prior infection and symptomatic antigen negative, please see FAQ No. 23 for instructions. PCR or other NAAT
Return from isolation before Day 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Antigen testing is recommended for people whose symptoms are resolving to determine if they can return to school or work on Day 6 - 10. Antigen tests are less likely to detect virus beyond a person's contagious period. PCR or other NAAT are acceptable.
Return from quarantine before Day 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Antigen PCR or other NAAT
Modified quarantine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Antigen is recommended because it returns a result quickly. PCR or other NAAT is acceptable.
Required screenings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Antigen is preferred because it returns a quick result. PCR or other NAAT

At-Home Testing

STUDENTS: Schools may accept the results of at-home testing for the same uses for which antigen tests are approved. Schools are encouraged to use a means described in the [Over-The-Counter Tests Guidance](#) to verify the results on tests administered at home. See the "What are best practices for verification of self-test results?" section for specific recommendations.

EMPLOYEES: Per Cal/OSHA, an employer may only accept the results of an at-home test when the administration is observed by the employer or a telehealth proctor.

STUDENTS and EMPLOYEES: When used for a person who has symptoms, the County of San Diego requires that a negative antigen test be confirmed by a follow-up test (antigen, PCR or other NAAT) administered the following day, and that the person isolate pending the result of that test.