



Updated January 10, 2022

(Clarifies close contact definition, isolation and quarantine guidance, and fully vaccinated definition)

**PIMA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
SANITARY MEASURE 2021-01
(*Slowing the Spread of COVID-19 in Schools*)**

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization officially declared a pandemic due to COVID-19 on March 11, 2020; and

WHEREAS, prompt detection of cases and their close contacts, followed by rapid implementation of infection control measures, is necessary to control the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Pima County Health Department has identified an accelerated transmission of COVID-19 throughout Pima County, including the increasing presence of the much more transmissible Delta and Omicron variants; and

WHEREAS, any surge in cases will disproportionately impact unvaccinated people; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) Emergency Measure 2020-03, administrators of schools must submit a report to the local health department within 24 hours of the identification of an outbreak of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to A.R.S. § 36-624, a county health department may adopt quarantine and sanitary measures to prevent the spread of an infectious or contagious disease within its jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to A.R.S. § 36-630, any person who violates such a measure is guilty of a class 3 misdemeanor;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:

1. All schools within the jurisdiction of Pima County must report all positive cases of COVID- 19 to the Pima County Health Department.
2. Once identified, all known or suspected cases must be sent home as soon as possible.

3. Within 24 hours of confirmation of a case by the Pima County Health Department, schools must provide the names and contact information for individuals who were within six feet if unmasked, or three feet if masked, for more than 15 minutes of the confirmed case during a 24-hour period (“close contacts”).

4. Individuals who are confirmed cases must isolate for five days; release from isolation may occur on day six as long as the individual’s symptoms are improving, they are without fever for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication, and they continue masking around others for an additional five days. If symptoms have not improved or resolved, then isolation should be extended beyond five days.

5. Students in K-12 schools that are close contacts and have not completed the primary COVID-19 vaccine series, or are unvaccinated, must remain at home and be excluded from school and extra-curricular activities for five days. On day five after their exposure to someone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19, the close contact should test for COVID-19, if testing is available. Individuals who have tested positive in the last 90 days are exempt from testing. Those who remain asymptomatic may return on day six, but must mask around others for an additional five days. K-12 students have an alternative to at-home quarantine through participating in PCHD’s Test Mask Stay (TMS) program. A student’s ability to participate relies on their school’s participation and guardian consent.

6. Students in K-12 schools that are close contacts that have been boosted, or completed the primary series of the COVID-19 vaccine may return to school immediately if asymptomatic. The close contact should test for COVID-19 on day five after their exposure to someone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19, if testing is available, as well as continue to mask for a minimum of 10 days.

ORDERED ON THIS 10th DAY OF JANUARY, 2022



BY THERESA CULLEN, M.D.
DIRECTOR, PIMA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT