



Pre K-12 Prevention and Mitigation Guidance For COVID-19 and Other Viruses Resource Guide for the 2022-2023 School Year

This Resource Guide outlines prevention and mitigation steps that pre K-12 school districts and schools can take to help prevent the spread of COVID-19, as well as flu and other viruses. This layered approach includes:

- Encouraging individuals to stay up to date on all vaccinations;
- Ensuring staff, students, and children stay home when sick;
- Optimizing and increasing ventilation inside schools and on busses;
- Implementing isolation as required and quarantine as recommended;
- Promoting good hygiene, such as proper handwashing, and covering coughs and sneezes;
- Routine cleaning and disinfection practice; and
- Taking extra steps to protect people who are immunocompromised or at increased risk.

In addition, schools may consider implementing some COVID-19 prevention strategies based on [COVID-19 Community Levels](#). Some strategies, like getting tested if you have symptoms of COVID-19 or are exposed to COVID-19, are recommended even when COVID-19 Community Levels are low. Extra steps, such as screening testing, can be layered on when COVID-19 Community Levels are high. Community Levels for Rhode Island counties are updated on Fridays and can be viewed on [RIDOH's COVID-19 Data Tracker Home Page](#).

The following two reference documents provide **guidance** for each of the preventative action areas listed above.

- The Center for Disease Control and Prevention's [Operational Guidance for K-12 Schools and Early Care and Education Programs to Support Safe In-Person Learning](#).
- RIDOH's Outbreak Response Protocols for Pre K-12 Schools (i.e., [The Playbook](#)).

Below are links to helpful resources and tools to support planning and implementation of COVID-19 and other illness mitigation in schools.

Vaccination

- [COVID-19 Vaccine Information for Rhode Island](#) [English] [Español] [Português]
- [COVID-19 Vaccination and Booster Schedule](#) [English] [Español] [Português]
- [COVID-19 Vaccination Schedule for People Who Are Moderately to Severely Immunocompromised](#) [English] [Español] [Português]
- [Factsheet: Getting Your Children Vaccinated for COVID-19 in Rhode Island](#) [English] [Español] [Português]
- [Factsheet: 10 REASONS Why It's Important for Kids Age 5-11 to Get Vaccinated Against COVID-19](#) [English] [Español] [Português]
- [Vaccinate Before You Graduate program](#). [English] [Español] [Português]
- To host a vaccination clinic at your school, email RIDOH's Office of Immunization at RIDOH.C19VaxClinics@health.ri.gov.

Testing

- [COVID-19 Testing in Rhode Island](#) [English] [Español] [Português]
- [Reporting Self Tests to RIDOH](#) [English] [Español] [Português]
- [Factsheet: COVID-19 Testing in Rhode Island](#) [English] [Español] [Português]
- [Letter: Testing Recommendation for Parents Following Exposure at School](#) [English] [Español] [Português]

Ventilation

- [RIDOH Guidance for Airflow, ventilation, and Air Filtration](#)
- [CDC Ventilation in Schools and Child Care Programs](#) [English] [Español]
- [MMWR Study: Ventilation Improvement Strategies Among K-12 Public Schools](#)

Cleaning, Disinfection, and Hand Hygiene

- [CDC Cleaning and Disinfecting your Facility](#) [English] [Español]
- [CDC new online training: Clean Hands and Spaces](#) [English] [Español]

Masking

- [CDC Masking Recommendations](#) [English]

Quarantine and Isolation

- [CDC Covid-19 Symptom Checker](#) [English] [Español]
- [CDC Quarantine and Isolation Calculator](#) [English] [Español]
- [CDC Isolation flowchart](#) [English]
- [RIDOH Pre K-12 Quarantine and Isolation Portal FAQs](#)
- [Letter: To Pre K-12 Families on Isolation Protocol](#) [English] [Español] [Português]

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