



HUDSON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Contact Tracing

As noted in the New York State Department of Education's guidance to schools for reopening, [Recovering, Rebuilding, and Renewing: The Spirit of New York's Schools](#), "Contact tracing is a public health function performed by local public health departments to trace all persons who had contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19. This allows public health officials to put in place isolation or other measures to limit the spread of the virus. Schools must cooperate with state and local health department contact tracing. Schools can assist public health departments in knowing who may have had contact at school with a confirmed case by:

- keeping accurate attendance records of students and staff members;
- ensuring student schedules are up to date;
- keeping a log of any visitors which includes date, time and where in the school they visited; and
- Assist local health departments in tracing all contacts of the individual at school in accordance with the protocol, training, and tools provided through the New York State Contact Tracing Program.

Confidentiality must be maintained as required by federal and state laws and regulations. School staff should not try to determine who is to be excluded from school based on contact without guidance and direction from the local department of health."

In the event an individual is identified as a confirmed case within a school, the local health department will determine a starting date for which the school will need to provide contact tracing information. This date will be 48 hours prior to the individual becoming symptomatic. To this end, the school district will need to keep records that will be made available to the local health department for those who may have been in close contact with the confirmed case. The COVID-19 School Resource Person will assist the local health department with questions and information related to identifying close contacts. Any close contacts will be identified by the local health department. Once close contacts are identified, information will be sent by the local health department to NYSCommCare, as part of the NYS Contact Tracing Program. Close contacts should utilize the NYS Contact Tracing Tool for People Being Tested for COVID-19 worksheet to assist with this process.

If a student or staff member is identified by the local health department as a contact, they will be contacted by a NYSCommCare and be instructed to quarantine for 14 days. NYSCommCare will communicate with close contacts daily for quarantine surveillance. Any contact identified by the local health department may not return to school until such a time as they are released from mandatory quarantine by the NYSCommCare or the local health department.

TRAVEL ADVISORY

Any staff or students who travel out of state to any location listed on the [Governor's Travel Advisory](#) list, will be required to quarantine for 14 days after returning to New York State. Persons who travel to any states listed on the Travel Advisory list should self-report their travel to the COVID-19 School Resource Person for instructions. Persons who travel via airplane and are required to complete a survey upon arrival in NYS, should still self-report their travel to the COVID-19 School Resource Person. If a location has been removed from the travel advisory



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list while a person is serving their related 14 day mandatory quarantine, that person must still complete the full 14 days of mandatory quarantine before returning to school.

In the event that someone within a household travels to a state on the travel advisory list and returns to New York State, but the student or staff member does not travel, that student or staff member may be allowed to return to school *without* a 14 day mandatory quarantine. In the event that person in a household who has traveled becomes a positive case, the local health department will identify all household members as close contacts and quarantine all members of the household for 14 days.

SCHOOL CLOSURE

School closure decisions will occur in consultation with the local health department. This may involve the closure of a classroom or entire facility depending on the quantity of suspected and/or confirmed cases. There may be no need to close a school building if the local health department determines that the identified close contacts are excluded from school and the facility may continue normal operations. Full closure of a school facility may be necessary in some situations and will be implemented on a case-by-case basis.