Frequently asked Questions

1. What are the options if an individual is identified as a close contact?

- i. Participate in the Test and Stay testing protocol to stay in school if my child was exposed at school and doesn't meet exemption criteria.
- ii. Quarantine at home for 7 days returning to school on day 8 with a negative PCR/Molecular test that was done on day 5 or after for out of school exposure or if not participating in Test and Stay.
- iii. Quarantine at home for 10 days returning to school on day 11 if you choose not to get tested

2. <u>If individuals are exposed to a COVID-19 positive individual outside of school, can they participate in Test and Stay?</u>

No. At this time, Test and Stay is intended for in-school close contacts only. Unvaccinated close contacts that were exposed to a COVID-19 positive individual in their household (such as siblings) or other non-school setting, must quarantine at home per DPH/DESE's Protocols for Responding to COVID-19 Scenarios - SY 2021-22 document.

3. When individuals participating in Test and Stay are not in school, are they required to quarantine?

In alignment with DPH guidance, individuals participating in Test and Stay should stay home and quarantine whenever they are not in school settings, for the duration of the Test and Stay period.

4. What does it mean to be fully vaccinated?

Fully vaccinated is defined as: a student, who has received two doses of the Pfizer Covid-19 vaccine more than <u>14-days</u> ago. If it has been less than 2 weeks or if you still need to get your second dose of a 2-dose vaccine, you are **NOT** fully protected.

5. Do fully vaccinated students need to quarantine if identified as a close contact to a Covid-19 positive individual?

If a student is fully vaccinated against Covid-19 AND symptom free, staff/students are not required to quarantine. Vaccinated students will be expected to provide proof of vaccination to the building school nurse.

6. What if I am exposed to Covid and I am fully vaccinated?

CDC recommendations: people without COVID-like symptoms should

- i. Get tested 5-7 days after <u>close contact</u> with someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19
- ii. wear a mask in public indoor settings for 14 days or until they receive a negative test result.
- iii. monitor for <u>symptoms of COVID-19</u> for 14 days following an exposure
- iv. isolate if test positive for COVID-19 or are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms.

DESE. (2021, August 20). Protocols . https://www.doe.mass.edu/covid19/on-desktop/protocols/

DESE. (2021, October 25). FAQ. https://www.doe.mass.edu/covid19/fag/default.html