

Isolation Rooms in the School Setting

This guidance outlines recommendations for isolating students or staff who develop signs and/or symptoms of COVID-19 in the Maricopa County K-12 school setting. Students or staff who develop symptoms will need to be evaluated and isolated for a short period of time in a designated non-threatening isolation area within the line of sight of adults to help mitigate risk of transmission.

ISOLATION ROOM CHECKLIST:

- Dedicated space** for a single person room with space for sitting or lying down
 - If single person rooms are not available, space chairs/cots out as close to 6 feet away as possible; supplement with plexiglass barriers
- Door** that closes
- Limited amount of furniture** in room to minimize the number of surfaces requiring cleaning and disinfecting
- If possible: Access to a **dedicated bathroom**
- If possible: **Outside access door** for retrieval of staff/students without contaminating additional school areas
- If possible: **portable high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filtration systems** to help enhance air cleaning

USING THE ISOLATION ROOM:

- **Place** symptomatic staff/students in the isolation room with the door closed
- Isolated staff/students **should wear a medical face mask (preferred) or cloth face covering** to contain secretions while in isolation
 - Facemasks and cloth face coverings should not be placed on young children under age 2, anyone who has trouble breathing, or anyone who is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance
- Anyone entering the isolation room must **wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)** including medical face mask, goggles or face shield, and a gown if there is potential for respiratory droplet spread.
- **Immediately notify** the parents or guardians of a symptomatic student and ask them to pick up the student and take them home or to a healthcare facility, depending on the severity of their symptoms
 - If an ambulance must be called or a student must be taken to a hospital, **first alert the healthcare staff** that the student may have been exposed to someone with COVID-19
- When parent or guardian arrives at school, **parent/guardian should remain in their car** and school staff should escort the student through the outside access door, when possible, directly to the parent's car
- Once staff/student has vacated the isolation room, **wait 24 hours** before entering and cleaning if possible
- School staff who work in the isolation area should **follow Maricopa County Public Health's [Cleaning and Disinfection Guidelines](#)**