SUMMARY GUIDANCE FOR HAWAI‘I K-12 SCHOOLS

STRATEGIES TO REDUCE THE SPREAD OF COVID-19 IN SCHOOLS

Core essential strategies for every school

- Get vaccinated – vaccination is the most important strategy to protect students and staff
  - Everyone who is able to should get up-to-date on COVID-19 vaccinations and boosters as soon as possible
  - The vaccines are free, safe, and help protect people from getting very sick or dying from COVID-19
- Stay home when sick, except to get medical care
- Wear a mask when indoors and in certain outdoor settings (i.e. crowded, sustained close contact)
  - Everyone aged 2 and older should wear a properly fitted mask covering their nose and mouth
- Wash hands often and cover coughs and sneezes

Additional strategies that when used in combination, can maintain safe learning environments

- Ohana bubbles or cohorting to keep students and staff together in small groups
- Improving ventilation by opening windows and doors, using fans and ventilation systems, and moving activities outdoors when able
- Physical distancing of at least 3 feet when possible
- Screening testing to identify people with COVID-19 who do not have symptoms or before symptoms develop
- Cleaning at least once a day and disinfecting when a sick person or someone who tested positive for COVID-19 has been in the space within the last 24 hours

For more information, visit HawaiiCOVID19.com.

Additional Resources:
- Guidance for Schools - health.hawaii.gov/coronavirusdisease2019/resources/school-guidance/
- Multilingual Resources - HawaiiCOVID19.com/translations/

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Whether you are vaccinated or not, if you have symptoms of COVID-19 or tested positive for COVID-19:

• Do NOT go to school and notify the school
• Stay at home (isolation) except to get medical care until:
  - At least 5 full days have passed since symptoms first appeared or if no symptoms, since test was taken; AND
  - At least 24 hours have passed since last fever without use of fever-reducing medicine; AND
  - Symptoms, if any, have improved.
• When you return to school after isolation, wear a well-fitting mask around others at all times for 5 days

*If you are unable or unwilling to wear a mask and have tested positive, you should remain in isolation for 10 days, regardless of vaccination status.

Instructions for Potentially Exposed Individuals and Close Contacts

Schools are no longer required to identify and notify people who have been in close contact with a person with COVID-19 in school if universal masking is implemented indoors. Schools should provide a group notification if there was 15 minutes or more of exposure to a person with COVID-19 in a K-12 setting such as a class, sports team or lunchroom.

K-12 SCHOOLS WITH UNIVERSAL INDOOR MASKING POLICIES

• You will be notified if you were potentially exposed to someone with COVID-19, but you will not need to stay home regardless of vaccination status
• Get tested, if possible, at least 5 days after potential exposure to a person with COVID-19, even if you are not having symptoms.
• If symptoms develop, immediately self-isolate and get tested.

K-12 SCHOOLS WITH OPTIONAL INDOOR MASKING POLICIES

• If your school is not implementing indoor masking and you are notified that you are a close contact and are not up to date on your COVID-19 vaccinations, you should stay home for 5 days after your last contact with the person with COVID-19*, AND:
  • Get tested, if possible, at least 5 days after last contact with the person with COVID-19, even if not having symptoms.
  • If symptoms develop, immediately self-isolate and get tested.
  • You must wear a well-fitting mask around others indoors for 10 days.*

* If you are unable or unwilling to wear a mask and have been exposed to a person with COVID-19 you should remain in quarantine for 10 days, regardless of vaccination status.

NOTE: UP-TO-DATE depends on your age and time since last vaccination:

• Age 5-17 years: at least 2 weeks after receiving the 2nd dose of vaccine
• Age 18 years and older:
  - at least 2 weeks but no more than 5 months after receiving the 2nd dose in a 2-dose series; OR
  - at least 2 weeks but no more than 2 months after receiving a single-dose vaccine; OR
  - receipt of the primary vaccine series AND a booster dose

CLOSE CONTACTS OUTSIDE OF THE K-12 SCHOOL SETTING

If you are up to date on your COVID-19 vaccinations, you do not need to quarantine.
If you are not up to date on your COVID-19 vaccinations, you should:

• Stay home for 5 days after you last contact with the person with COVID-19*, AND:
• Get tested, if possible, at least 5 days after last contact with the person with COVID-19, even if you are not having symptoms.
• If symptoms develop, immediately self-isolate and get tested
• You must wear a well-fitting mask around others indoors for 10 days.*

*Individuals who have ongoing close contact with a person with COVID-19 because they live in the same house must stay home in quarantine for 5 days after the person with COVID-19 is released from isolation.

CONTACTS OF A CLOSE CONTACT

People who were not in close contact with the person with COVID-19 infection do not need to stay at home or get tested.

For more information, visit HawaiiCOVID19.com.