

The science behind reopening schools safely

The California Department of Public Health's K-12 school guidance is built on science, so you can feel confident about kids returning to in-person learning.

Research tells us:

- Resuming in-person learning is essential to students' academic, emotional, and social development.
- COVID-19 spreading in schools is much less common than in other community settings.
- Vaccination is the best protection against COVID-19.
- Children are less likely to get COVID-19 than adults because they have fewer ACE-2 receptors, which are the doorways the virus uses to enter the body.

Seven safety layers to keep kids and schools safe

Masks

Masks keep the virus from spreading in the air between people. When your child wears a mask, it protects them and others at school.



Ventilation

Good airflow in classrooms and school buildings helps remove air that may contain the virus and bring in healthy air for your child.



Hand washing

Regular hand washing reduces the amount of germs on hands, preventing the spread of COVID-19 from touching surfaces or others.



Testing

COVID-19 testing can detect the virus before someone feels sick. Regular testing for unvaccinated students and teachers helps keep everyone safe.

Contact tracing

Letting people know they may have been exposed to COVID-19 prevents them from potentially spreading the disease at home or in the community.

Stay home when sick

If your child feels sick, keep them home to prevent infecting others. Ask the school if a COVID-19 test is required before coming back.

COVID-19 vaccine

The vaccine is the best protection against COVID-19. It's safe, effective, prevents serious illness and allows students to get back to the things they love most, like school sports and social events. Adults including students who are eligible should get the vaccine.

Parents can learn more about school safety measures at schools.covid19.ca.gov/pages/parent-page.

STAY INFORMED AND ENGAGED

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