



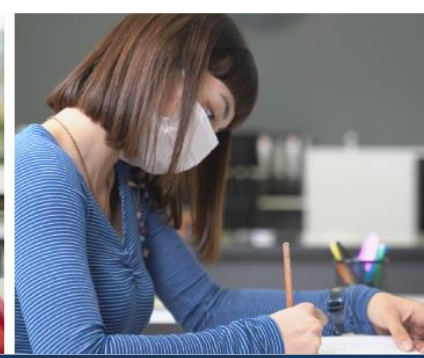
NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**



#StayStrongNC

StrongSchoolsNC **Public Health Toolkit (K-12)**

June 10, 2020



Introduction



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NC Department of Health
and Human Services

COVID-19: Transmission

How COVID-19 Spreads

How does it spread?

- Through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes.
- Between people who are in close contact with one another (6 feet).

When does it spread?

People are most contagious when they have symptoms. Symptoms include fever, cough and shortness of breath.

Can you get it from touching contaminated objects?

Possibly. If you touch a surface with the virus on it, then touch your mouth, nose or eyes (but not likely to be main way the virus spreads).

[@NCDHHS](#)

[#COVID19NC](#)

Children and COVID-19



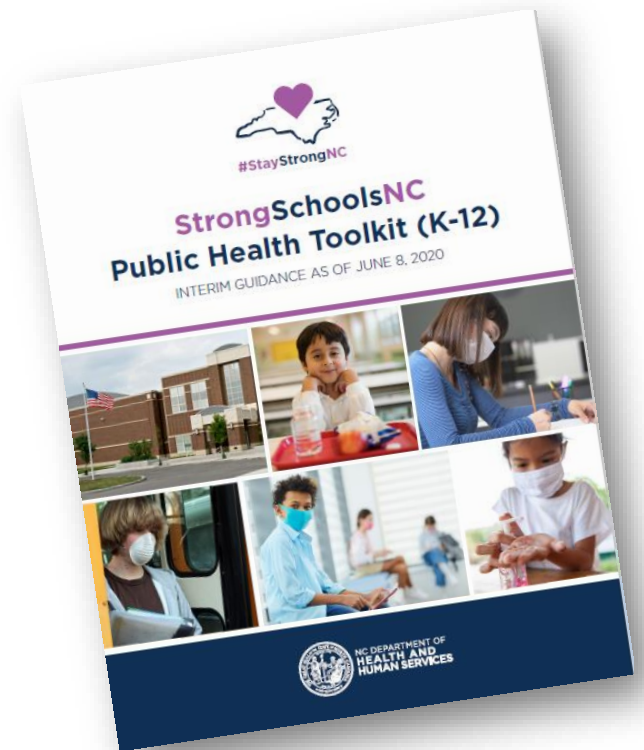
People with COVID-19 report a wide range of symptoms – from no symptoms and mild to severe illness

- People are most contagious when they have symptoms, although people with no or mild symptoms can spread the virus
- Children overall have more mild illness than adults
- Data so far indicates that, unlike with flu and other respiratory illnesses, children may not be a major factor in spread

StrongSchoolsNC Public Health Toolkit (K – 12)

NCDHHS Public Health Guidance goes hand-in-hand with DPI operational guidance for use by:

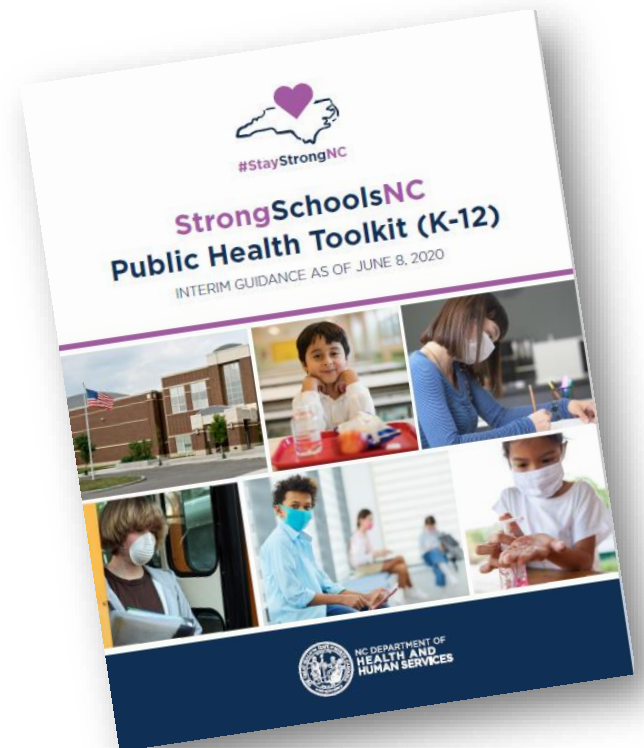
- **Students, families, and staff** to know what to expect
- **Local education leaders** to know how to plan



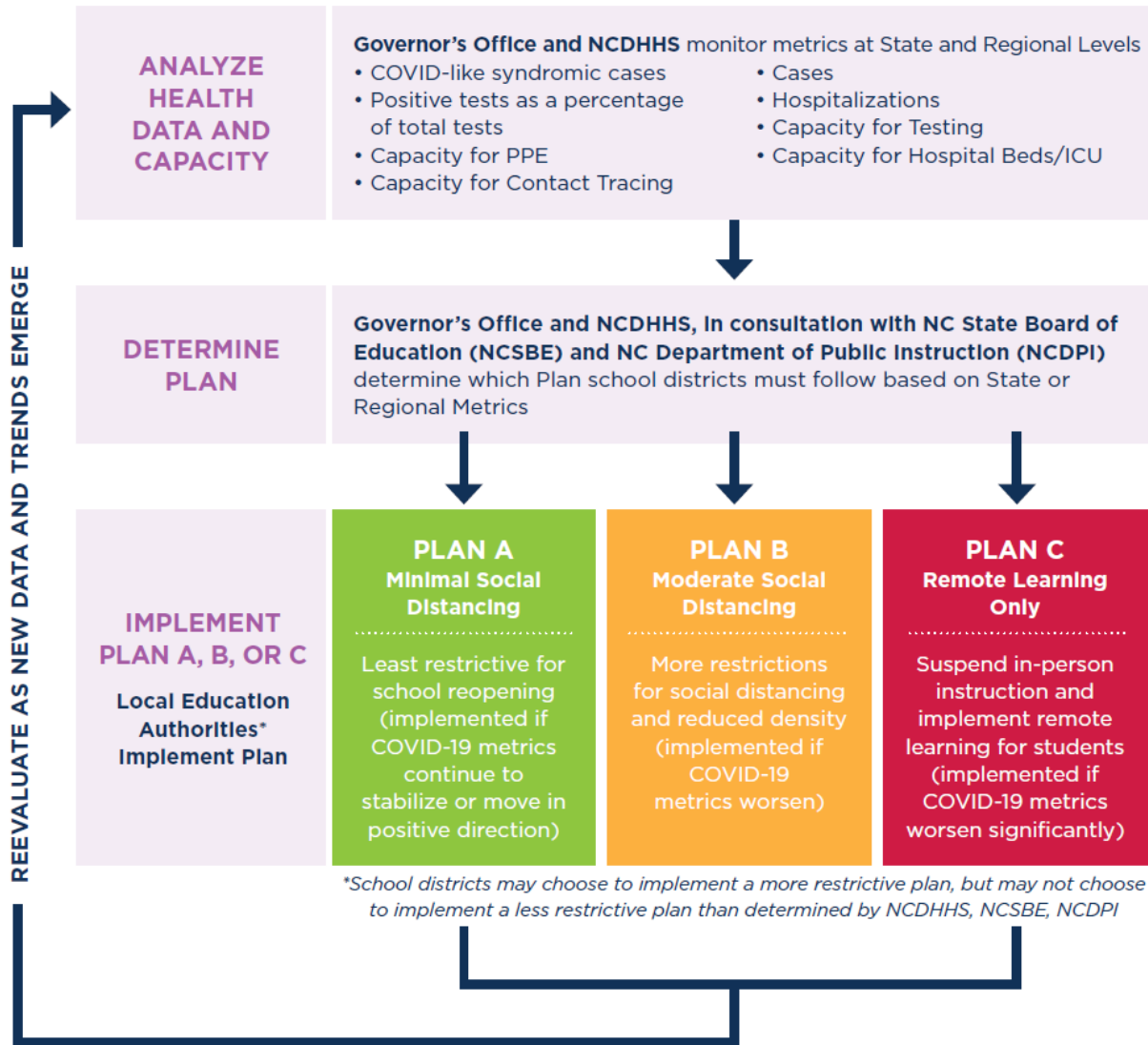
StrongSchoolsNC Public Health Toolkit (K – 12)

Public Health Guidance outlines:

- **Requirements:** baseline actions to mitigate risk of the spread of COVID-19, supporting the safety of students, staff, and families
- **Recommendations:** example strategies to minimize spread of COVID-19 – may work better in some schools than others



Reopening K-12 Schools Decision Tree



Public Health Guidance



Social Distancing and Minimizing Exposure



Cloth Face Coverings



Protecting Vulnerable Populations

Social Distancing



Under Plan B Only:

- 6 feet of social distancing **required** at all times in schools and on school transportation
- Limit density of people in school facilities and transportation vehicles to no greater than 50% maximum occupancy to ensure social distancing of at least 6 feet apart between people.

K-12 School Guidance



Cleaning and Hygiene



Monitoring for Symptoms



Handling Suspected, Presumptive or Confirmed Positive Cases of COVID-19



Communication and Combating Misinformation

Monitoring for Symptoms – Screening

- **Screening for key COVID-19 symptoms required**
 - **Fever**
 - **Chills**
 - **Shortness of Breath**
 - **Difficulty Breathing**
 - **New Cough**
 - **New Loss of Taste or Smell**
- **Daily temperature screening required**



Monitoring for Symptoms – Transportation

- Symptom screening or parent attestation required prior to boarding transportation
- If not fully screened prior to boarding transportation, must be screened at school entry



K-12 SCHOOLS SYMPTOM SCREENING:
Parent/Guardian Attestation

Child's First Name: _____ Child's Last Name: _____
Parent/Guardian First Name: _____ Parent/Guardian Last Name: _____

1. Has your child had close contact (within 6 feet for at least 15 minutes) in the last 14 days with someone diagnosed with COVID-19, or has any health department or health care provider been in contact with you and advised you to quarantine?
 Yes > The child should not be at school. The child can return 14 days after the last time he or she had close contact with someone with COVID-19, or as listed below.
 No > The child can be at school if the child is not experiencing symptoms.

2. Does your child have any of these symptoms?
 Fever
 Chills
 Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 New cough
 New loss of taste or smell
If a child has any of these symptoms, they should stay home, stay away from other people, and you should call the child's health care provider.

3. Since they were last at school, has your child been diagnosed with COVID-19?
 Yes *If a child is diagnosed with COVID-19 based on a test, their symptoms, or does not get a COVID-19 test but has had symptoms, they should not be at school and should stay at home until they meet the criteria below.*
 No

A child can return to school when a family member can ensure that they can answer YES to ALL three questions:
 Has it been at least 10 days since the child first had symptoms?
 Has it been at least 3 days since the child had a fever (without using fever-reducing medicine)?
 Has it been at least 3 days since the child's symptoms have improved, including cough and shortness of breath?

If a child has had a negative COVID-19 test, they can return to school once there is no fever without the use of fever-reducing medicines and they have felt well for 24 hours.
If a child has been diagnosed with COVID-19 but does not have symptoms, they should remain out of school until 10 days have passed since the date of their first positive COVID-19 diagnostic test, assuming they have not subsequently developed symptoms since their positive test.
If a child has been determined to have been in close contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19, they should remain out of school for 14 days since the last known contact, unless they test positive. In which case, criteria above would apply. They must complete the full 14 days of quarantine even if they test negative.

I attest that the following information is true to the best of my knowledge as of:

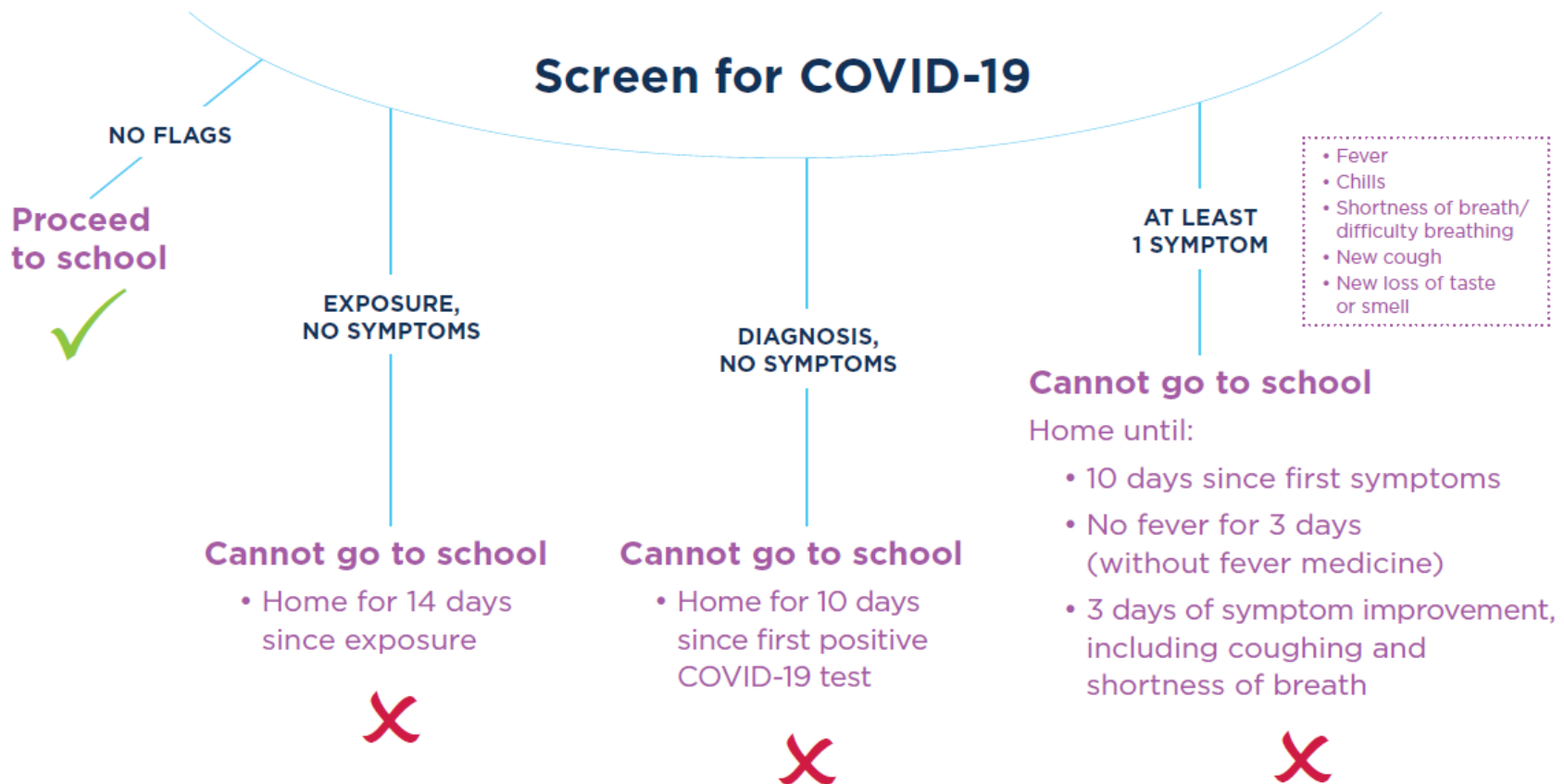
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MONTH DAY YEAR TIME

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Handling Suspected, Presumptive or Confirmed Cases of COVID-19 Flow Chart and Protocol



Screening Flow Chart



K-12 School Guidance



Water and Ventilation Systems



Transportation



Coping and Resilience



Additional Considerations

What's Coming Soon?

- **Spanish translation of StrongSchoolsNC Public Health Toolkit (K-12)**
- **Infection Control Supplies/PPE Process**
- **FAQs Document**
- **Family Document on What to Expect**
- **Exposure, Cleaning and Closure Protocols**



**Have questions about
this guidance? Reach out to
StrongSchoolsNC@dhhs.nc.gov
(in English or Spanish).**

Thank you!