

As recently [announced](#) by Mayor de Blasio, Chancellor Porter and Health Commissioner Chokshi, under certain circumstances, entire classrooms may no longer be required to close when there is a confirmed COVID-19 case. As a reminder, programs should immediately report positive COVID-19 cases among their staff and students to the Situation Room for confirmation and guidance on next steps. See the [CDC guidance](#) below, regarding close-contact quarantine for unvaccinated students and children:

- In K–12 settings, unvaccinated students who are masked and at least three (3) feet apart will not have to quarantine, if they are identified as a close contact of a student case.
- In early childhood settings, unvaccinated children who are masked and at least six (6) feet apart will not have to quarantine, if they are identified as a close contact of a student case.

As previously shared, students and staff are expected to adhere to three (3) feet of physical distance, to the extent possible, as well as adhere to mask and face-covering guidelines. However, there may be circumstances in early childhood settings where children are more than six (6) feet from a positive COVID-19 case on a consistent basis. In those cases, the Situation Room will work with program leaders to confirm who is required to quarantine and who is not. Absent physical-distancing information, positive cases in early childhood classrooms will continue to result in full classroom quarantines. Confirmed cases among staff will also continue to result in full classroom quarantines. Additionally, close contacts who are asymptomatic and not vaccinated may return to the classroom on the eighth (8th) day of their quarantine period, if they can produce a negative test taken on or after the fifth (5th) day of their quarantine.

For additional information and Frequently Asked Questions, visit the [Situation Room Infohub page](#). You and your staff can contact the Situation Room at (212) 393-2780, or by emailing RTS@buildings.nyc.gov. *Your DOE credentials may be required to access the link(s) above. Note that not all content on the DOE InfoHub may be relevant to charter schools.*