Department of Elementary & Secondary Education and Department of Public Health

Frequently Asked Questions, Week of December 6, 2021

1. When do children need to undergo testing following vaccination if they develop symptoms including fever, headache, fatigue, chills, and body aches, which are common after COVID-19 vaccination?

Provided that temperature is below 100.0°F degrees and there are no known exposures to COVID-19, mild-to-moderate symptoms including fever, headache, fatigue, chills, and body aches that begin after vaccination and fully resolve within 48 hours after vaccination do not require SARS-CoV-2 testing prior to return to school. For mild symptoms that occur during this time frame at school, rapid antigen testing is still encouraged.

2. What happens if the 7th day of Test and Stay falls over an extended break (e.g., long weekend, vacation, holiday break)?

The duration of the Test and Stay program is 7 days from the date of exposure. Some of these days could be non-school days (i.e., weekends or holidays). Testing is only required on school days unless the individual participates in school-sponsored sports or extracurricular activities that fall on a non-school day. If the 7th day falls over an extended break (e.g., long weekend, vacation, holiday break), the individual must be tested on the morning of their return to school so long as the first day back is within 10 days of the date of exposure. If the first day back to school following an extended break is day 11 or later from the date of exposure, the individual does not need to be tested upon return to school provided that they have not experienced any symptoms, as aligned to Protocol B-3.