



DEPARTMENT OF  
**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

Promoting and protecting health, well-being, self-sufficiency, and safety of all in Marin County.

May 12, 2022



Marin County COVID-19 Update | School Community

Dear Marin School Community:

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Due to a new, more contagious subvariant (BA.2) Marin County is now experiencing a [second Omicron wave](#). Community transmission rates in Marin are now classified as high (defined as a rate > 200 cases per 100,000 residents per week.) This increases the likelihood that in any given indoor gathering, including school settings, others may be infected. Fortunately, high rates of vaccination continue to protect our community from severe disease and hospitalizations.

According to the CDC, Marin's COVID-19 Community Level is [medium](#). The Community Level considers both COVID transmission rates and impact on hospitals. For communities in the medium level, the CDC and Marin County Public Health recommend taking additional personal protective measures:

- Take a same-day antigen test prior to attending a gathering or large event. If you test positive, stay home and [isolate](#).
- [Get tested](#) if you have symptoms. Due to potential [false negative tests](#) when testing early, symptomatic individuals with an initial negative home antigen test result should test again 2 days later or confirm with a [molecular test](#) (e.g. PCR).
- Follow Marin County Public Health [Isolation and Quarantine Guidance](#).
- If you are [at high risk for severe illness](#), you should wear a mask indoors and take other precautions. Marin County Public Health recommends wearing a mask at schools indoors when community transmission is high.
- Stay [up to date](#) with COVID-19 vaccines. If you are 60 or older and/or [at high risk for severe illness](#), consider a [second booster](#).

Due to high case rates and increased participation in events and gatherings, parents and guardians should recognize that school attendance may represent a COVID-19 exposure and monitor for [COVID-19 symptoms daily](#). Students should stay home from school if they are symptomatic and test for COVID (including allergy symptoms, e.g., watery eyes, runny nose, or itchy throat).

Visit <https://coronavirus.marinhhs.org/schools> for more information, including [Marin County Schools SMARTER Plan](#) and MCPH Guidance for School End-of-Year Activities ([English](#) | [Spanish](#)).

Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership to keep schools open and to create safer environments where students can thrive.

Sincerely,

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Health Officer

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