

Table 3. Recommended Implementation of Mitigation Strategies, Testing, and Safe K-12 School Learning Modes by Level of Community Transmission for Schools that Implement Expanded Screening Testing

Low Transmission ¹ Blue	Moderate Transmission Yellow	Substantial Transmission Orange	High Transmission Red
<p>All schools implement 5 key mitigation strategies: Universal and correct use of masks required; physical distancing; handwashing and respiratory etiquette; cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities; contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine. Diagnostic testing²: Symptomatic students, teachers, and staff and close contacts referred for diagnostic testing</p>			
<p>Screening Test³</p>			
<p>Routine screening testing of teachers and staff offered once per week</p>			
<p>No screening testing for students</p>	<p>Routine screening testing of students offered once per week⁴</p>		
<p>School Status</p>			
<p>K-12 schools open for full in-person instruction Physical distancing of 6 feet or more to the greatest extent possible⁵</p>		<p>K-12 schools in hybrid learning mode or reduced attendance⁶ Physical distancing of 6 feet or more is required</p>	
<p>Sports and extracurricular activities occur; physical distancing of 6 feet or more to the greatest extent possible⁷</p>	<p>Sports and extracurricular activities occur with physical distancing of 6 feet or more required</p>	<p>Sports and extracurricular activities occur only if they can be held outdoors, with physical distancing of 6 feet or more</p>	<p>Sports and extracurricular activities are virtual only</p>

¹Levels of community transmission defined as total new cases per 100,000 persons in the past 7 days (low, 0-9; moderate, 10-49; substantial, 50-99; high, ≥100) and percentage of positive tests in the past 7 days (low, <5%; moderate, 5-7.9%; substantial, 8-9.9%; high, ≥10%).

²Diagnostic testing for SARS-CoV-2 is intended to identify occurrence of SARS-CoV-2 infection at the individual level and is performed when there is a reason to suspect that an individual may be infected, such as having symptoms or suspected recent exposure.

³Screening testing is intended to identify infected asymptomatic individuals who may be contagious so that measures can be taken to prevent further transmission.

⁴Schools may consider testing a random sample of at least 10% of students or may conduct pooled testing of cohorts/pods for screening testing in areas of moderate and substantial community transmission.

⁵If physical distancing of at least 6 feet among all students, teachers, and staff within a class, cohort, or pod is not possible at all times, schools should ensure physical distancing between classes, cohorts, and pods.

⁶Hybrid learning or reduced attendance is intended to maximize physical distance between students. Schools may consider hybrid learning models or instructional modes where substantial percentages of students are in virtual only instruction. At all levels of community transmission, schools should provide families the option to participate in virtual learning if a student or family member is at risk of severe illness from COVID-19.

⁷School officials should implement limits on spectators and attendees for sports, extracurricular activities, and school events as consistent with recommendations for masking and physical distancing for each phase.