

COVID-19 Surge Considerations for Schools

As we continue to navigate varying rates of COVID-19 in Maine, it is recommended that you monitor the following CDC sites for surveillance of COVID-19 data for your school and community. It is also recommended that school/school districts implement extra mitigation strategies as numbers increase in your school/school district and community. If you have questions or concerns call your School Nurse Regional Liaison or reach out to the hotline at (207) 624-6717

1. Absenteeism numbers for your school/district.
2. Percent of vaccinated student and staff
3. [Vaccination Rates by County](#) Please check with your School Nurse for the most up to date numbers
4. Positive COVID cases in your school

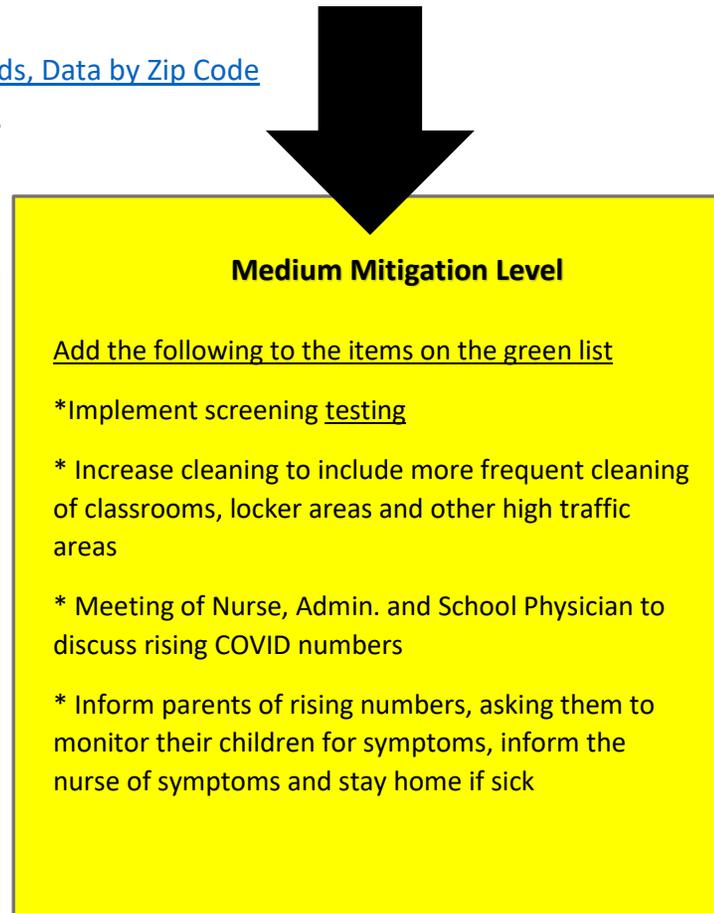
Also monitor

5. [CDC COVID-19 Data Tracker, Trends, Data by Zip Code](#)
6. [Wastewater testing Sites in Maine](#)



Lowest Mitigation Level

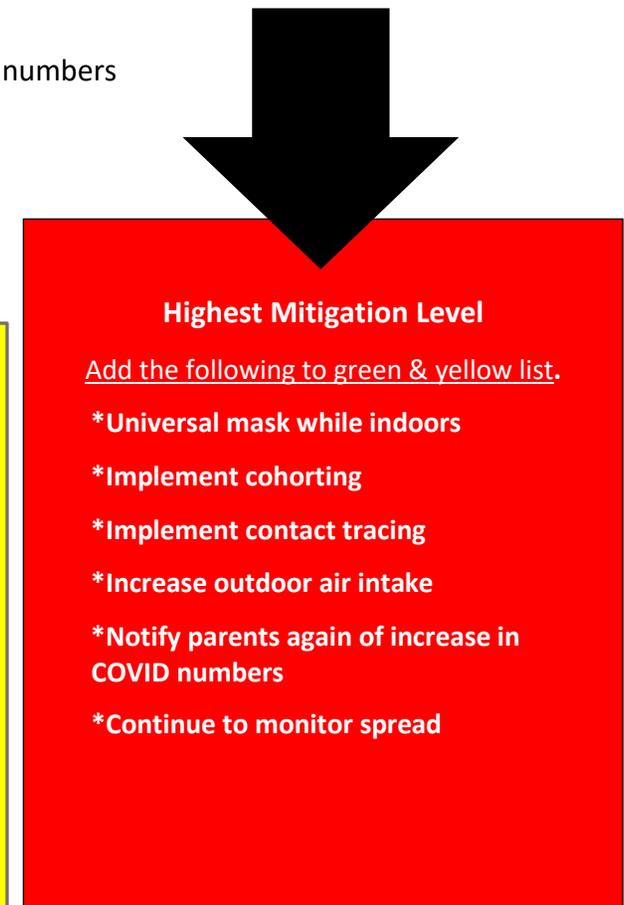
- *Promote good hand hygiene
- *Promote regular cleaning of high traffic areas
- *Continue to promote vaccinations for students /staff
- *Encourage people to stay home when sick
- *Optimize ventilation



Medium Mitigation Level

Add the following to the items on the green list

- *Implement screening testing
- * Increase cleaning to include more frequent cleaning of classrooms, locker areas and other high traffic areas
- * Meeting of Nurse, Admin. and School Physician to discuss rising COVID numbers
- * Inform parents of rising numbers, asking them to monitor their children for symptoms, inform the nurse of symptoms and stay home if sick



Highest Mitigation Level

Add the following to green & yellow list.

- ***Universal mask while indoors**
- ***Implement cohorting**
- ***Implement contact tracing**
- ***Increase outdoor air intake**
- ***Notify parents again of increase in COVID numbers**
- ***Continue to monitor spread**

Identifying Your School's Risk Status

You are at Low Risk if all of the following apply:

- School vaccination rate $\geq 80\%$
- Positive cases in school low
- Positive cases in community low- green
- Absenteeism is stable or less than 15%

Low
Risk



- School vaccination rate is $\geq 80\%$
- Positive cases in school low
- Positive cases in community is low- green
- Absenteeism rate increasing but less than 15%



You are at Moderate Risk if all of the following apply:

- School vaccination rate is below 80%
- Number of positive cases in school is moderate
- Positive cases in community is moderate- yellow
- Absenteeism rate increasing but less than 15%

Moderate
Risk



- School vaccination rate is below 80%
- Number of positive cases in school is moderate and increasing
- Positive cases in community is moderate- yellow
- Absenteeism is increasing and approaching 15%
- Wastewater data increasing



- You are at HIGH Risk if all the following apply:

- School vaccination rate below 80%
- Number of positive cases in the school is high
- Positive cases in community high- orange or red level
- Absenteeism is 15%
- Wastewater data shows increasing rates

High
Risk

Guidance for School Nurses

Things that can be let go during a pandemic or crisis.

