



2700 KEARNS BOULEVARD
PARK CITY, UT 84060

OFFICE: (435) 645-5600
FAX: (435) 645-5609

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The Utah Dept. of Health, under the direction of Governor Herbert, has approved the [revised Low Risk Test and Return guidance](#). The medical experts on the advisory group indicate that this aligns with the best medical practice of adjusting the intensity of intervention based on risk and consequences of overprescribing an intervention. Key points aligned with this practice are:

- Masks are effective at preventing transmission in classroom settings
- This only applies to mask on mask exposure
- Only applies to exposures that occurred in school
- % of individuals who will develop symptoms do so on:
 - Day 7 -75%,
 - Day 9 - 90%
 - Day 11- 95%
 - Testing picks up positive cases two days before symptoms onset; therefore, testing on day 7 means there is less than a 10% chance that an individual will contract after day 7
- This is for individual exposures, and does not pertain to the threshold recommendations for classroom or school virtual learning

The COVID-19 School Manual will be updated to reflect this change but the **change takes effect immediately**.

We hope this updated guidance will both be an incentive for improved classroom mask wearing behaviors and expedite students getting back into school safely.

Yours for excellence in education,

Jill Gildea, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Inspiring and supporting all students equitably to achieve academic and social potential