Return to Learn: guidance following a positive COVID-19 Symptom Screen (R1)
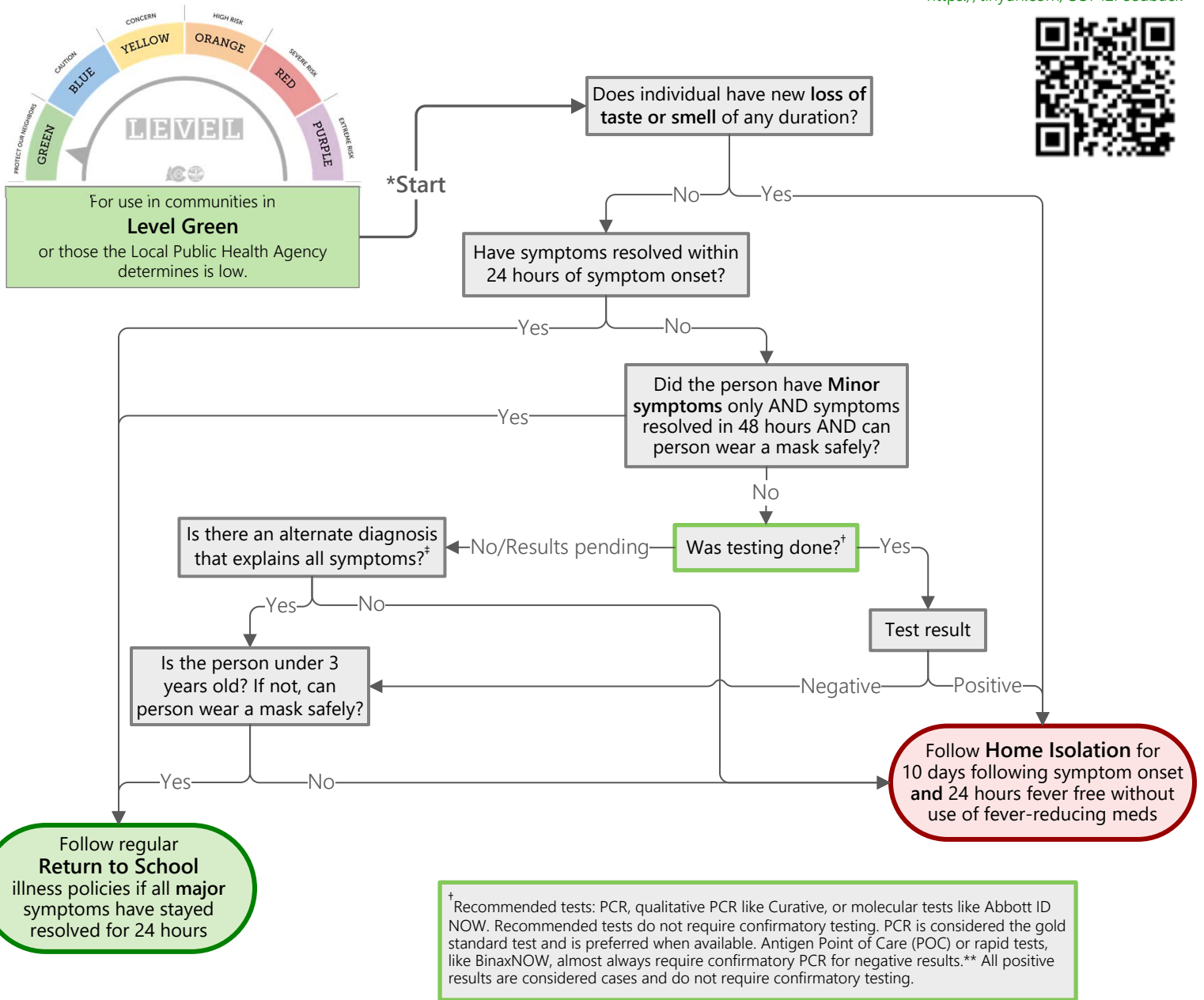
STOP

This decision tool is NOT intended for cases or close contacts of COVID-19.

A confirmed COVID-19 case or close contact should follow public health isolation or quarantine instructions for return to school/work. *No test result can end an individual's isolation or quarantine period early.*

*All students/staff with symptoms of COVID-19 should be tested as soon as possible.

To request assistance or provide feedback:
https://tinyurl.com/COP12Feedback

LEVEL — PROTECT OUR NEIGHBORS / GREEN / CAUTION BLUE / CONCERN YELLOW / HIGH RISK ORANGE / SEVERE RISK RED / EXTREME RISK PURPLE

For use in communities in Level Green or those the Local Public Health Agency determines is low.

*Start

Does individual have new **loss of taste or smell** of any duration?
— No → / — Yes →

Have symptoms resolved within 24 hours of symptom onset?
— Yes → / — No →

Did the person have **Minor symptoms** only AND symptoms resolved in 48 hours AND can person wear a mask safely?
— Yes → / — No ↓

Was testing done?[†]
— No/Results pending → / — Yes →

Test result
— Negative / — Positive

Is there an alternate diagnosis that explains all symptoms?[‡]
— Yes / — No

Is the person under 3 years old? If not, can person wear a mask safely?
— Yes / — No

Follow regular Return to School illness policies if all **major** symptoms have stayed resolved for 24 hours

Follow Home Isolation for 10 days following symptom onset **and** 24 hours fever free without use of fever-reducing meds

[†] Recommended tests: PCR, qualitative PCR like Curative, or molecular tests like Abbott ID NOW. Recommended tests do not require confirmatory testing. PCR is considered the gold standard test and is preferred when available. Antigen Point of Care (POC) or rapid tests, like BinaxNOW, almost always require confirmatory PCR for negative results.** All positive results are considered cases and do not require confirmatory testing.

Critical Symptom	Major Symptoms		Minor Symptoms	
▪ Loss of taste or smell	▪ Feeling feverish, having chills, temperature of 100.4° F or greater ▪ New or worsening cough ▪ Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing		▪ Sore throat ▪ Runny nose or congestion ▪ Muscle or body aches	▪ Headache ▪ Fatigue ▪ Nausea, vomiting ▪ Diarrhea

If **all of the following conditions are met, confirmation of a negative antigen test with PCR is not needed (in all other circumstances, a negative must be confirmed with PCR.)
- No known exposure to a person with known or suspected COVID-19 (or part of an outbreak)
- No travel to an area with high incidence of COVID-19
- Lives/works/attends school in a community with 2-week incidence <50 cases per 100,000 (this information can be located at https://covid19.colorado.gov/data under Incidence and Epi Curves
- Experiencing minow symptoms only (sore throat, runny nose or congestion, muscle or body aches, headache, fatigue, nausea, vomiing, diarrhea)

[‡] In the setting of medium or high transmission, the following are examples of alternate diagnoses that should be considered if the COVID-19 PCR is negative.
- Positive laboratory test: influenza, streptococcal pharyngitis ("strep throat"), bacterial infection
- Clinical diagnoses: worsening of known illness (such as asthma or seasonal allergies) with clear link to underlying disease

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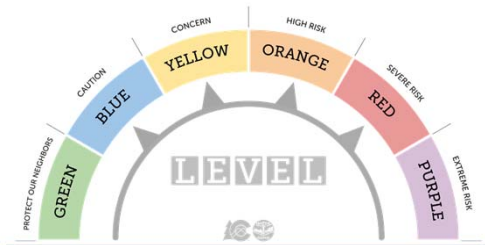# Return to Learn: guidance following a positive COVID-19 Symptom Screen (R2)

STOP

This decision tool is NOT intended for cases or close contacts of COVID-19.
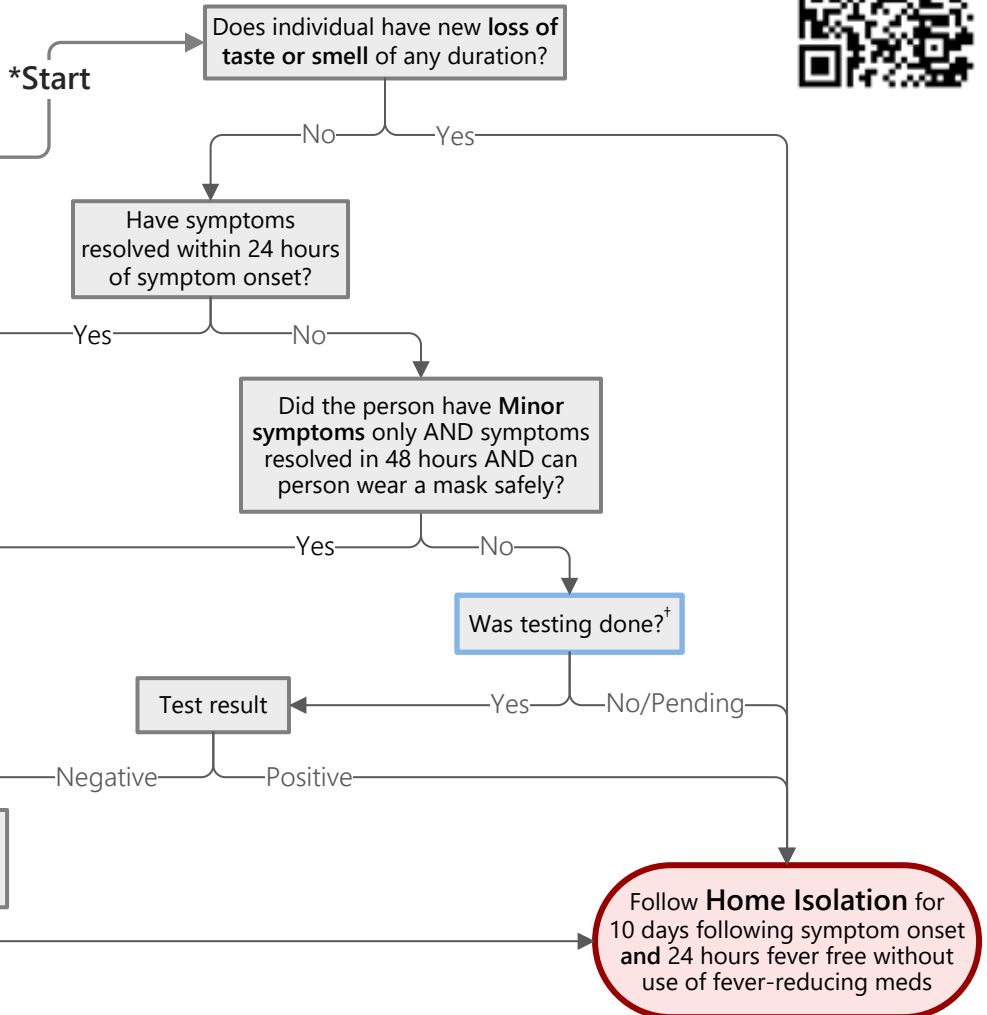
A confirmed COVID-19 case or close contact should follow public health isolation or quarantine instructions for return to school/work. *No test result can end an individual's isolation or quarantine period early.*

*All students/staff with symptoms of COVID-19 should be tested as soon as possible.

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CONCERN
CAUTION
HIGH RISK
YELLOW
ORANGE
BLUE
SEVERE RISK
RED
PROTECT OUR NEIGHBORS
GREEN
PURPLE
EXTREME RISK
LEVEL

For use in communities in
Levels Blue, Yellow, Orange and Red

*Start

Does individual have new **loss of taste or smell** of any duration?
— No
— Yes

Have symptoms resolved within 24 hours of symptom onset?
— Yes
— No

Did the person have **Minor symptoms** only AND symptoms resolved in 48 hours AND can person wear a mask safely?
— Yes
— No

Was testing done?†
— Yes
— No/Pending

Test result
— Negative
— Positive

Is the person under 3 years old? If not, can person wear a mask safely?
— Yes
— No

Follow **Home Isolation** for 10 days following symptom onset **and** 24 hours fever free without use of fever-reducing meds

Follow regular **Return to School** illness policies if all **major** symptoms have stayed resolved for 24 hours

† Recommended tests: PCR, qualitative PCR like Curative, or molecular tests like Abbott ID NOW. Recommended tests do not require confirmatory testing. PCR is considered the gold standard test and is preferred when available. Antigen Point of Care (POC) or rapid tests, like BinaxNOW, almost always require confirmatory PCR for negative results.** All positive results are considered cases and do not require confirmatory testing.

Critical Symptom	Major Symptoms	Minor Symptoms	
▪ Loss of taste or smell	▪ Feeling feverish, having chills, temperature of 100.4°F or greater ▪ New or worsening cough ▪ Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing	▪ Sore throat ▪ Runny nose or congestion ▪ Muscle or body aches ▪ Headache	▪ Fatigue ▪ Nausea, vomiting ▪ Diarrhea

If **all of the following conditions are met, confirmation of a negative antigen test with PCR is not needed (in all other circumstances, a negative must be confirmed with PCR.)
▪ No known exposure to a person with known or suspected COVID-19 (or part of an outbreak)
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▪ Experiencing minow symptoms only (sore throat, runny nose or congestion, muscle or body aches, headache, fatigue, nausea, vomiing, diarrhea)

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Return to Learn: guidance following a positive COVID-19 Symptom Screen (R3)
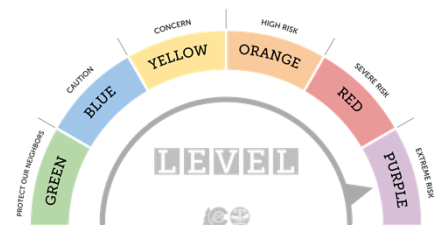
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A confirmed COVID-19 case or close contact should follow public health isolation or quarantine instructions for return to school/work. *No test result can end an individual's isolation or quarantine period early.*
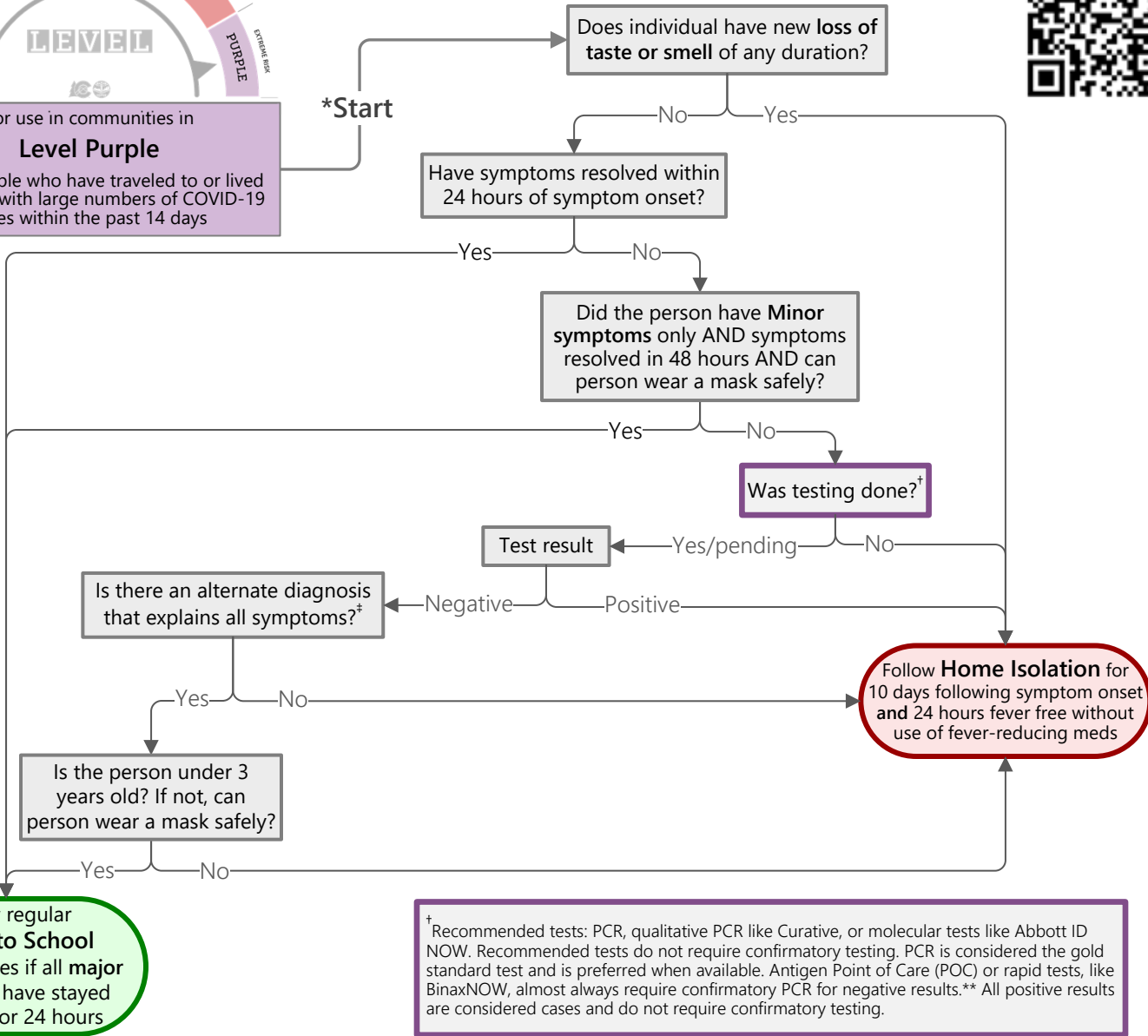
*All students/staff with symptoms of COVID-19 should be tested as soon as possible.

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LEVEL

GREEN · BLUE · YELLOW · ORANGE · RED · PURPLE
PROTECT OUR NEIGHBORS · CAUTION · CONCERN · HIGH RISK · SEVERE RISK · EXTREME RISK

For use in communities in **Level Purple** or for people who have traveled to or lived in an area with large numbers of COVID-19 cases within the past 14 days

*Start

Does individual have new **loss of taste or smell** of any duration? — No / Yes

Have symptoms resolved within 24 hours of symptom onset? — Yes / No

Did the person have **Minor symptoms** only AND symptoms resolved in 48 hours AND can person wear a mask safely? — Yes / No

Was testing done?† — Yes/pending / No

Test result — Negative / Positive

Is there an alternate diagnosis that explains all symptoms?‡ — Yes / No

Is the person under 3 years old? If not, can person wear a mask safely? — Yes / No

Follow Home Isolation for 10 days following symptom onset **and** 24 hours fever free without use of fever-reducing meds

Follow regular **Return to School** illness policies if all **major** symptoms have stayed resolved for 24 hours

†Recommended tests: PCR, qualitative PCR like Curative, or molecular tests like Abbott ID NOW. Recommended tests do not require confirmatory testing. PCR is considered the gold standard test and is preferred when available. Antigen Point of Care (POC) or rapid tests, like BinaxNOW, almost always require confirmatory PCR for negative results.** All positive results are considered cases and do not require confirmatory testing.

Critical Symptom
- Loss of taste or smell

Major Symptoms
- Feeling feverish, having chills, temperature of 100.4°F or greater
- New or worsening cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing

Minor Symptoms
- Sore throat
- Runny nose or congestion
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- Fatigue
- Nausea, vomiting
- Diarrhea

If **all of the following conditions are met, confirmation of a negative antigen test with PCR is not needed (in all other circumstances, a negative must be confirmed with PCR.)
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