

To the students' parents
To students
To teachers
To DSGA
To janitors/school collaborators
To the administrative staff

**SUBJECT LINE : INTEGRATION TO CIRCULARS n. 29 and n. 54 - OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS
IN THE SCHOOL FIELD OF SUSPECTED AND CONFIRMED CASES OF COVID-19**

We hereby inform you the procedures related to the school environment in light of the **Presidential Ordinance of the Tuscany Region n.47 of 13/4/2021 "OPERATIONAL INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING THE SCHOOL MANAGEMENT WHEN IT COMES TO SUSPECTED AND CONFIRMED CASES OF COVID -19, OF CLOSE CONTACTS OF CASES AND METHODS OF READMISSION TO SCHOOL OR TO EDUCATIONAL SERVICES** “related to the Prime Ministerial Decree of 13 October 2020 and to the Ordinance of the Tuscany region n.92 of 15 October 2020, in accordance with circulars nos. 29-31-54

**WE REMIND YOU THE ALREADY IN PLACE PROCEDURE WITH REGARDS TO
SUSPICIOUS SYMPTOMS AT SCHOOL, which must be strictly followed:**

- **The student informs the teacher of the discomfort**
- **The teacher informs the Covid referent teacher of the plexus**
- **The Covid referent gets the student out of the classroom and gets him settled in the Covid classroom**
- **The Covid referent / or another member of the school staff CALLS IMMEDIATELY A PARENT informing him/her about the child's symptoms**

The student's return to school with symptoms attributable to Covid will follow the procedure indicated in MANAGEMENT OF CASES SHOWING SYMPTOMS attributable to COVID, which occurred both at school and at home.

Among the main innovations we highlight:

1. definition of "close contact" for teachers; we report it below:

CLOSE CONTACTS (Subjects with quarantine obligation)

Close contact means:

- someone who has had direct contact with a symptomatic positive person in the previous 48 hours (14 days in the case of the presence of a viral variant) from the onset of symptoms
- the one who has had direct contact with an asymptomatic positive subject from the date of execution of the swab.

The assessments regarding the quarantine are carried out exclusively by the Prevention Department based on the information acquired in the context of the contact tracing and communicated simultaneously to the positive case and to the PDF / GP.

2. the way long-term positive cases are treated

LONG-TERM POSITIVE (with or without variant)

As stated in point F7 of the attached Ordinance. There is a different treatment between students and school collaborators who are still positive after 21 days. In fact, students will be able to interrupt isolation after 21 days from the onset of symptoms and be readmitted to school accompanied by the end of isolation certificate drawn up by the Prevention Department. Conversely, in the case of school collaborators, the return to work can "*only occur if the worker is negative to a molecular test.*", In accordance with: Indications for the readmission to service of workers after absence due to Covid-19; Ministry of Health of 12.04.2021

Given the complexity of the situation due to the persistence of the state of emergency, we reserve the right to send new communications on the case updates; in the meantime, for a better usability of the ordinance in question, we will try to summarize the various cases, in accordance with the provisions of the Tuscany Region, which is attached to this circular, inviting you to a timely reading, also in view of the expected return in presence higher (70/75%) than what is foreseen by the current planning (50%); please refer to the synoptic tables, present in the Ordinance referred to in the subject line, regarding the measures that close contacts, in cases of Covid infection, must observe.

The Headteacher

ATTACHED: MANAGEMENT OF THE VARIOUS SITUATIONS

MANAGEMENT OF CASES SHOWING SYMPTOMS attributable to COVID, presented both at school and at home:

Pending the swab result, the student / members of the school staff must remain isolated at home and there is no restriction for cohabitants, except for the students's brothers / sisters or for the children of the school worker who attend nurseries or kindergarten.

Students' parents or school employees book the execution of the semi-rapid antigen test on the regional portal <https://prenotatampone.sanita.toscana.it>. This request has priority since it is a student / school worker. To carry out the test, you must always show up with your health card.

If the swab is negative, no further diagnostic tests are foreseen. **The return to school is compulsory - and regardless of the days of absence- , after clinical recovery and with the PDF / GP / Doctor certificate that certifies the conclusion of the path and the swab is negative.**

If the molecular swab is positive at low charge, the Prevention Department arranges the isolation for the subject, and the same Department immediately prescribes and books a new molecular swab (as a confirmation) within the 24 hours of the notification of the result of the first swab. The subject remains at home while awaiting the result of the confirmatory swab.

Measures to be implemented in case of a positive outcome. The Prevention Department starts the foreseen procedures (contact tracing, isolation prescription, quarantine prescription, active surveillance) and communicates to the school / educational service the presence of a positive case.

Case classification

Symptomatic cases: symptomatic or pseudo-asymptomatic subjects tested positive for the molecular or semi-rapid antigenic swab can return to school / educational service **after an isolation period of at least 10 days from the onset of symptoms, accompanied by a molecular swab with negative outcome performed no earlier than the 10th day and after at least 3 days without symptoms** (not considering anosmia and ageusia / dysgeusia which may have prolonged persistence over time). In practice, the three conditions are needed at the same time: **1- at least 10 days of isolation from the onset of symptoms; 2- at least three days without symptoms** (ie for a period of 10 days, the 8th, 9th and 10th days must be without symptoms); **3- negative result of a molecular swab performed at least 10 days after the onset of symptoms, if the last 3 days showed no symptoms.**

If the molecular swab is positive, the Prevention Department prescribes a new swab to be performed about 7 days after the previous one.

If the molecular swab is negative, the Prevention Department draws up and promptly transmits the **Healing Certificate to the patient, to be presented for readmission to school.**

Asymptomatic cases: asymptomatic subjects tested positive to the molecular or semi-rapid antigenic swab may re-join to the community after an isolation period of at least 10 days from the date of

execution of the positive swab, accompanied by a molecular swab with negative result performed not before the 10th day.

In practice, two conditions are needed at the same time: 1- at least 10 days of isolation from the date of execution of the 1st swab; 2- negative result of a molecular swab performed at least after 10 days from the date of execution of the 1st swab.

If the molecular healing swab is positive, the Prevention Department prescribes a new swab to be performed about 7 days after the previous one.

If the molecular healing swab is negative, the Prevention Department draws up and promptly transmits the Healing Certificate to the patient, to be presented for readmission to school.

Long-term positive cases (with or without variant):

Subjects who, although no longer presenting symptoms, continue to test positive to SARS-CoV-2, in case of absence of symptoms for at least a week, will be able to stop isolation after 21 days from the onset of symptoms. In these conditions, the Prevention Department, after verifying the aforementioned absence of symptoms for at least a week through the results of health surveillance, draws up the end of isolation Certificate which represents a valid title for readmission at school having taken note of any evaluation carried out in agreement with clinical experts and microbiologists / virologists, and which takes into account the immune status of the persons concerned (in immunodepressed patients the period of contagiousness can be prolonged).

For school employees, as for all other workers, **it is required** by national regulations (DPCM 02/03/2021 and subsequent amendments), until otherwise provided, **that the return to work can only take place if the worker is negative to a molecular test.**

Refuse to perform the swab

In case that the pupil's parents or the school worker, with suspected symptoms of COVID-19, refuse to perform the molecular swab / antigen test prescribed by the PDF / GP / Doctor, it will not be possible to issue the medical certification for the return to school and consequently the school cannot readmit the pupil or the school operator back to attendance.

Contacts and cohabitants waiting for the swab result

If the swab has been requested due to the presence of suspicious symptoms, pending the result of the swab, the pupil or the school worker must remain isolated at home, while there is no restriction for school contacts and cohabitants, except for the pupil's siblings or for school worker's children who attend the nursery or kindergarten and who cannot attend until the swab is negative. **In this case, the return to school of the pupil's brothers / sisters waiting for the swab takes place without any certification with the prior communication of the reason for the family's absence to the school following the procedures laid down by the Headmaster.**

CLINICAL SITUATIONS - COVID UNSUSPECTED. These are all situations that do not present suspected symptoms of COVID-19. In these cases, the family warns the school of absence due to a disease not suspected of COVID-19. The PDF / GP / Doctor does not prescribe the execution of the swab and the readmission takes place taking into account the legislation in force in the Tuscany Region: (medical certification for readmission to school in case of absences longer than 5 days - therefore the return to the 6th

day; with 5 days of absence occurs without medical certification - for the calculation of the days of absence the initial and final holidays are not counted.

If the pupil returns after an absence of up to 5 days without counting the final and initial holidays of the absence, the medical certificate is not necessary and the readmission takes place without the presentation of any type of medical documentation or declaration of the parents, including self-certifications or internal forms of the school.

Absences not due to illness (for example holidays, family reasons, specialist visits, vaccinations, waiting for the result of a relative's swab, etc.) **must be communicated in advance**, in this case for returning to the community it is not needed any certification to go back to school. **It is obvious that in the absence of prior communication, readmission takes place with the medical certificate if the absence is longer than 5 days.**