

# CDC / California K -12 Schools Guidance Crosswalk Overview

On February 12, 2021, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) under President Biden issued guidance on safely resuming in-person instruction in K-12 schools. The [CDC guidance](#) is a set of non-mandatory recommendations and **does not supersede existing state or local guidance.**

The CDC guidance is **highly aligned** with California’s approach. Where there are differences, California’s health and safety standards for school staff and students are **generally more cautious.**

## Community Transmission

California takes a more cautious approach with regard to first-time school openings when community transmission is relatively high. The following chart summarizes some of the key comparisons:

Community Transmission	CDC	California
ALL	"Schools that are already open . . . can remain open"	"Schools that are already open . . . can remain open"
0 - 1.3 cases per day	All schools may open	All schools may open
1.4 - 7 cases per day	All schools may open	All schools may open
7.1 - 14.1 cases per day	All schools may open	Only elementary schools may open
Greater than 14.1 cases per day	Only elementary schools may open	Elementary schools may open, unless greater than 25 cases per day

California’s community transmission thresholds are based on recent [studies](#) indicating minimal school-related transmission in communities with 15 – 29 cases per day, the [recommendation](#) from the Harvard Global Health Institute, and similar approaches taken by other states (e.g., [Oregon](#), [Colorado](#), [Washington](#)).

For more guidance and information about how the pandemic is affecting Sonoma County Schools or to access family resources for distance learning, please visit [scoe.org/covid](https://scoe.org/covid).

*This document is a summary of the [CDC - California K-12 Schools Guidance Crosswalk](#) created by the State of California. For more information on the State's efforts visit [schools.covid19.ca.gov](https://schools.covid19.ca.gov).*