# Science Demonstrates Little to No Transmission in Schools

## Safety of In-Person Learning

#### **O**<u>Centers for Disease Control</u>

- OBetween March and December, minimal transmission in school
- Zero impact on community infection rates
- Community infection rates equal in those offering live and virtual instruction

### O<u>Children's Hospital of</u> <u>Pennsylvania</u>

- OIn-person learning reduces risk of children catching COVID
- O"Schools may be islands of safety" Dr. Susan Coffin

Scant spread in schools with basic mitigation



CENTERS FOR DISEASE" CONTROL AND PREVENTION

## **Wisconsin School Study**

- 13 weeks 191 cases
- Very low spread in school despite high community spread
  - 7 cases of in-school transmission to students (of 5000 students)
  - *0 cases* of in-school transmission to staff (of 700 staff)

## European and many US schools use 3 feet

O <u>Minimal transmission of SARS-CoV-2 from paediatric COVID-19 cases in</u> primary schools, Norway, August to November 2020

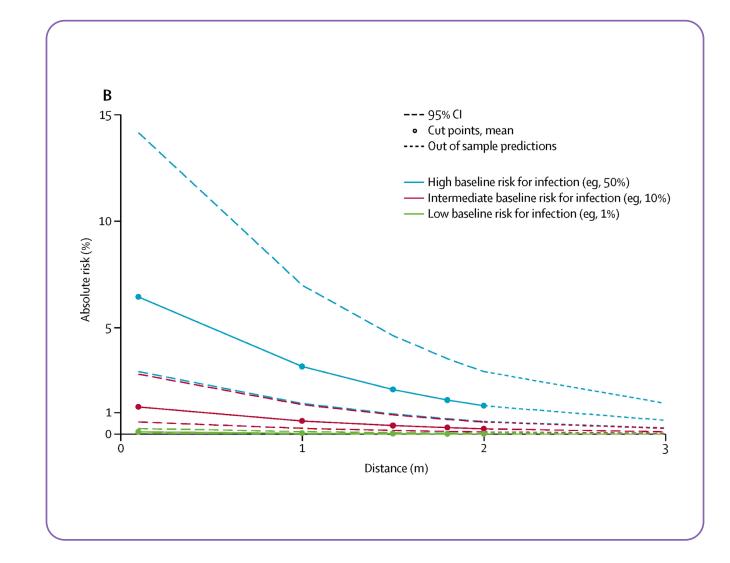
Age group	Contact tracings	Index cases	Index likely infected in household	Asymptomatic index cases	Included contacts		Primary cases <sup>a</sup>	
(years)			nouschold		Children	Adult	Children	Adults
5-10	8	8 <sup>c</sup>	7 <sup>d</sup>	6	148	45	1	0
11–13	5	5	5	3	86	13	1	1

# **Interpersonal Distance**

The science of 3 feet

## <u>Change in</u> <u>absoluite</u> <u>risk with</u> <u>increasing</u> <u>distance</u>





### Exposure Risk Based on Masking and Distance

EK DISPOSABLE MASK FABRIC MASK

#### 1-foot distance

No mask	100%
Source masked	
	0.6%
	<0.5%

Target masked	
	38%
	39%

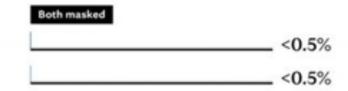
Both masked	
	<0.5%
	<0.5%

#### 3-foot distance

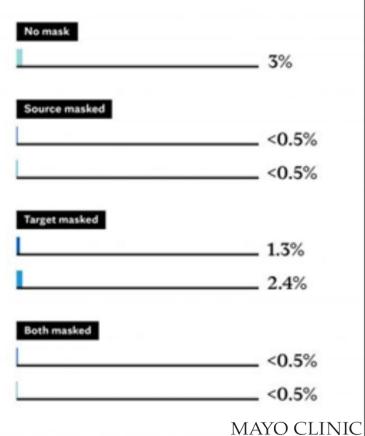


	<0.5%

Target masked	
	7.5%
	6.3%



#### 6-foot distance



πh

Source = person with active COVID-19



Ventilation & Filtration

### <u>Harvard Healthy</u> <u>Buildings</u>

- Four to six air exchanges per hour in classrooms
- Any combination of ventilation and filtration

# GSA Ventilation

Room Name	Floor Area sq. ft.	Clg. Ht.	Room Vol. cu. ft.	Unit Number	Rated CFM	Calculated ACH
Conference	260	10.5	2,730	AC-1	1,150	4.57
Head's Office	240	10.5	2,520			
Lobby/ Reception	417	11	4,587	AC-2	985	9.08
Workroom/ Corridor	415	10.5	4,358	AC-2		
Server Room	n/a			AC-3		
Piano	255	10	2,550	AC-4	1,150	4.97
Strings	316	10	3,160	AC-4		
Art	610	13	7,930	AC-5	1,150	6.9
Science	734	14	10,276	AC-6	1,150	8.94
4th Grade Classroom	570	13	7,410	AC-7	985	7.52
3rd Grade Classroom	570	13	7,410	AC-8	985	7.52
2nd Grade Classroom	570	13	7,410	AC-9	985	7.52
1st Grade Classroom	570	13	7,410	AC-11	985	7.52
Kinder Classroom	570	13	7,410	AC-10	985	7.52
Multi-Use Building	1,246	16.25	20,248	AC-12	2,400	8.44
Coach's Office	n/a			AC-13		
Middle School Classroom	368	10	3,680		1,755	6.29
Middle School Classroom	368	10	3,680	AC-14		
Middle School Classroom	368	10	3,680			
Middle School Office	275	10	2,750	AC-15	670	4.1
Elevator Equipment Room	n/a			AC-16		

## **Bottom line**

In-Person Learning is low risk to students and teachers
Three and 6 feet of distance are similar in risk
Continue other safety precautions
Strong evidence to continue universal masking
Excellent GSA ventilation is further enhanced beyond best practices (4-6 exchanges/hour) by cracking windows or doors