When can CHILDREN with COVID-19 Symptoms Return to School/Child Care?

If child's symptoms are related to other causes that are not new (for example, allergies, menstrual cramps, anxiety, etc.):

Your child may return to school/child care when feeling well and able to pass the COVID-19 School and Child Care Screening tool.

If child has ONE of the following:

- Sore throat or difficulty swallowing
- Runny or stuffy/congested nose
- Headache that's unusual or long-lasting
- Nausea, vomiting, and/or diarrhea
- Extreme tiredness that is unusual or muscle aches

Next steps are:

- Contact school/child care
- Child should isolate (stay home) for 24 hours
- After 24 hours, if the symptom is improving, your child can return to school/child care when they feel well

> If the symptom persists or worsens, continue to stay home and contact your child's health care provider for advice, including if a COVID-19 test is recommended.

If child has ONE or more of the following:

- Fever and/or chills
- Cough or barking cough (croup)
- Shortness of breath
- Decrease or loss of taste or smell

OR

If child has TWO or more of the following:

- Sore throat or difficulty swallowing
- Runny or stuffy/congested nose
- Headache that's unusual or long-lasting
- Nausea, vomiting, and/or diarrhea
- Extreme tiredness that is unusual or muscle aches

Next steps are:

- Contact school/child care
- Child should isolate (stay home)
- A COVID-19 test is recommended
- If you have questions, contact your doctor or a health care provider

---

If a COVID-19 test is recommended but child does not get tested:

Your child can return to school/child care after they ISOLATE FOR 10 DAYS and are able to pass the COVID-19 School and Child Care Screening Tool .

- If a health care provider has diagnosed your child with a condition that isn't related to COVID-19, they can return to school 24 hours after their symptoms improve

---

If child tested negative for COVID-19:

Your child can return to school/child care if ALL the following apply:
- Child does not have a fever AND
- It has been at least 24 hours since child's symptoms started improving AND
- Child was not in close physical contact with someone who currently has COVID-19

Documented proof of the negative test result is not required to return to school/child care

If child tested positive for COVID-19:

Your child can return to school/child care following the guidance from public health

---

What about siblings or other household members?

Siblings and other other household members may attend school/child care as long as they are able to pass the COVID-19 School and Child Care Screening tool. They should be monitored for symptoms and isolate if they begin to show symptoms.

* Based on your child's case, you may get additional guidance from public health.

For more information, visit wdgpublichealth.ca

PublicHealth
WELLINGTON-DUFFERIN-GUELPH
Stay Well.