

COVID-19 DECISION TOOL FOR PARENTS/CAREGIVERS

Please use this document if your child has failed their daily COVID-19 student screening at <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>

Call 911 if your child is struggling for each breath, can only speak in single words, has severe chest pain, is confused or unsure of where they are, or is losing consciousness.

NOTE: INDICATE WHICH SCENARIO THE STUDENT IS IN AND FOLLOW THE GUIDELINES ACCORDINGLY.

SCENARIOS

ONE Your child develops **NEW** symptoms of **fever/chills (>37.8C/100F), cough, difficulty breathing or loss of taste/smell.**

TWO Your child develops **TWO** of the following symptoms of **sore throat, stuffy/runny nose, headache, nausea/vomiting/diarrhea, muscle ache/fatigue.**

THREE Your child develops **ONE** of the following symptoms of **sore throat, stuffy/runny nose, headache, nausea/vomiting/diarrhea, or muscle ache/fatigue.**

FOUR Your child is a **CLOSE CONTACT*** of someone with COVID-19 (confirmed by Public Health).

FIVE Your child has **TRAVELLED OUTSIDE OF CANADA.**

SCENARIO ONE

Your child develops **NEW** symptoms of **fever/chills (>37.8C/100F), cough, difficulty breathing or loss of taste/smell.**



COURSE OF ACTION

Your child must stay home. If symptoms develop while at school, they will be sent home.

WHAT SHOULD I DO NEXT?

Parents/Guardians have three options:

1. Take your child for testing at an assessment center ([Middlesex-London](#), [Elgin-St. Thomas](#), [Oxford](#)) **OR**
2. Contact your health care provider for further assessment including if your child needs a COVID-19 test or other treatment **OR**
3. If your child will not be tested, they must isolate for 10 days after symptoms first appear

Note: If your child is getting tested or receives an alternative diagnosis, household members without symptoms should self-monitor and can go to school or work.

WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN TO SCHOOL, ACTIVITIES & WORK?

If your child has a POSITIVE COVID-19 Test:

Your local Public Health Unit will contact you with further direction.

- Your child must stay home and self-isolate for 10 days from the day the symptoms first appear. They may return to school after 10 days if they do not have a fever (without using medication), **AND** their symptoms have been improving for at least 24 hours.
- All members of your household need to self-isolate and follow public health advice.

If your child has a NEGATIVE COVID-19 test:

- Your child can go back to school if their symptoms have been improving for 24 hours, **AND** if they are not a close contact* of someone with COVID-19.
- Household members without symptoms should self-monitor and may go to school or work.

If your child is NOT tested for COVID-19 but has an alternative diagnosis unrelated to COVID-19:

- Your child can go back to school if their symptoms have been improving for 24 hours.
- Household members without symptoms, should self-monitor and may go to school or work.

If your child is NOT tested for COVID-19 and has no alternative diagnosis:

- Your child needs to self-isolate for 10 days from the day symptoms started. Your child may return to school after 10 days, if they do not have a fever (without using medication) **AND** their symptoms have been improving for 24 hours.
- All members of your household need to stay home and self-isolate for 14 days from when your child developed symptoms.

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SCENARIO FOUR

COURSE OF ACTION

Your child is a **CLOSE CONTACT*** of someone with COVID-19 (confirmed by Public Health).



Your child must not attend school and they are required to quarantine for 14 days.

WHAT SHOULD I DO NEXT?

- You can expect a call from their local public health unit to provide you with next steps and further information.

WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN TO SCHOOL, ACTIVITIES & WORK?

- Your child can return once the self-isolation period determined by public health has been completed **AND** they do not have any symptoms.
- If your child is tested and is negative, they must still complete their 14 day self-isolation before returning to school, activities and work.

SCENARIO FIVE

COURSE OF ACTION

Your child has **TRAVELLED OUTSIDE OF CANADA.**



Your child must not attend school and they are required to self-isolate for 14 days.

WHAT SHOULD I DO NEXT?

- The 14 day quarantine begins on the day your child returns to Canada.
- If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19 while quarantining after travel, testing should be done at an assessment center ([Middlesex-London](#), [Elgin-St. Thomas](#), [Oxford](#)) or consult with health care provider if you think symptoms are not due to COVID-19.
- Your child must self-isolate from household members that did not travel. If they do not, other household members must also self-isolate.

WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN TO SCHOOL, ACTIVITIES & WORK?

- Your child can return once the 14-day self-isolation has been completed **AND** they do not have any symptoms.

* A close contact is someone who has spent greater than 15 consecutive minutes within 6 feet of someone else who tested positive for COVID-19, regardless of whether either party was wearing a mask.

***The isolation period is 10 days for people who already have symptoms. The self-isolation period is 14 days for people who do not have symptoms but have been a close contact.