School and Child Care Protocols for Children, Student, or Staff with Symptoms of COVID-19

Updated
March 16, 2022

Note: With any symptom(s) of illness – **COVID-19 related or not** – sick individuals stay home and seek assessment from their regular health care provider if required.

Symptoms develop at home

Child/student/staff:

Follow directions outlined in the daily **COVID-19 school and child care screening tool**. Report absence to child care and/or school.

Symptoms develop at school or on bus (upon arrival)

Child/student:	Staff:
Alert school staff member designated to care for symptomatic children/students.	Notify school administration promptly. If required, supervision of children/students for ill staff must be arranged. Follow directions outlined in the daily COVID-19 school and child care screening tool.

Caring for a symptomatic individual at school

- Student goes to the isolation room as soon as possible. The isolation room should be a properly ventilated, enclosed space separate from other people. It must be equipped with medical masks, hand sanitizer, tissues, a lined garbage bin and PPE.
- □ Staff member caring for student must properly put on PPE (medical mask and eye protection as a minimum) before entering the room with the student. A gown should be worn if direct contact is likely.
- □ Student to wear mask. Medical mask is preferred, if well fitted.
- ☐ Staff member supervises student while maintaining physical distance when possible.
- ☐ Parent/guardian must be contacted for immediate student pick up.
- □ Siblings and other household members must be dismissed if they are not fully vaccinated, or if they are 18+ and have not received their booster dose. If they have tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 90 days, they do not have to be dismissed.
- □ Provide the **Student with Symptoms of COVID-19** letter to the child/student/staff or parent/guardian.
- ☐ Provide take home PCR self-collection kits or rapid antigen tests if available.
- PPE must be properly removed and thrown out or cleaned after use when caring for a symptomatic individual. The isolation room must be cleaned and disinfected after use.

Communication with parents/guardians regarding next steps

Instruct parent/guardian to follow directions outlined in the **Student with Symptoms of COVID-19** letter. They can also refer to the provincial **COVID-19 school and child care screening tool** and/or seek the advice of the child/student's health care provider.

