

School Protocol for Students/Staff with COVID-19 Symptoms

This document applies to all students/staff regardless of vaccination status. The purpose of this document is to help schools and parents/guardians understand the following:

- *What should the school do if a student/staff has COVID-19 symptoms at school or on the bus?*
- *What should a parent/guardian do if their child has COVID-19 symptoms while at home?*
- *Do siblings or other household members (e.g., teachers) of the student/staff who has symptoms need to go home too?*
- *Who should the school be contacting at public health if they need additional guidance or support?*

For non-COVID-19 related symptoms and illnesses, schools are also reminded of the [Childhood Illnesses Reference Guide for Schools and Child Care Centres](#) which provides information on common infectious diseases and to help with preventing further spread of illness in school.

School Protocol for Students/Staff with COVID-19 Symptoms

Student/Staff with COVID-19 symptoms (regardless of vaccination status)

Student or staff is at home

Parent/guardian or staff contacts school

Parent/guardian/staff follows direction provided by the [COVID-19 School & Child Care Screening tool](#)

Household members who are not fully vaccinated must stay home if anyone has COVID-19 symptoms or is waiting for test results after experiencing symptoms.

Stay home until the person with symptoms gets a negative COVID-19 test result, or is cleared by public health, or is diagnosed with another illness

Student or staff is at school or on bus (upon arrival)

Coordinate immediate student pick-up and student should isolate in a designated area (i.e. isolation room* with designated staff to care for student) until parent/guardian arrival. Symptomatic staff are to go home immediately.

Siblings and/or household members should be contacted and those who are not fully vaccinated are to be sent home and remain home until the person with symptoms gets a negative COVID-19 test result or is diagnosed with another illness from a healthcare provider.

Parent/guardian/staff follows direction provided in the [COVID-19 School & Child Care Screening tool](#) for information on testing and return to school. Anyone with COVID-19 symptoms identified in the screening tool should follow the [Return to School/Child Care Protocol for Children/Staff with COVID-19 Symptoms](#) for guidance.

*The **isolation room** should be an enclosed space separate from other people that is equipped with PPE, hand sanitizer, tissues, and a lined garbage bin. It should be cleaned and disinfected after use

Schools do not need to report all students/staff with symptoms to WDGPH (only report confirmed positive cases). If further guidance is required, school may contact Public Health at 1-800-265-7293 Ext. 7006

For non-COVID-19 related symptoms and illnesses, schools are also reminded of the [Childhood Illnesses Reference Guide for Schools and Child Care Centres](#) which provides information on common infectious diseases and to help with preventing further spread of illness in school. As per regular protocols, all sick individuals with any symptoms of illness should stay home and seek assessment from their regular health care provider if required.