

Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Schools

To reduce the risk of spread of COVID-19, students should not be in school if they feel unwell. Families need to closely monitor and self-screen their children before school using the **COVID-19 Daily Checklist**. Keep children home when they are unwell or have new or worsening symptoms and complete the 811 assessment. Talk to the school if your child has chronic symptoms for example seasonal allergies or migraines.

If your child becomes unwell or develops new or worsening health symptoms while at school, the following measures will take place:



Monitor your child until you arrive



Have them wash their hands



Give them a mask to wear



Escort them to an isolation room/area in the school



Call you to come pick them up

811

Advise you to complete the 811 online assessment: <https://when-to-call-about-covid19.novascotia.ca/en> or if unable to access the online tool, call 811

By contacting 811 you will be advised if your child needs to be tested for COVID-19. Household contacts, including siblings, do not need to stay home if they do not have any symptoms.



- If a test is **not required**, your child may return when they are feeling better with no fever medication for 24 hours (or only a mild clear runny nose). Repeat the assessment for any new or worsening symptoms



- If a COVID-19 test is **required**, your child will need to stay home until the test results come back.



- If the test is **positive**, public health will follow up and provide support and will advise when your child can return to school.



- If the test is **negative**, your child may return when they are feeling better for 24 hours with no fever (without medications) and no symptoms (or only a mild clear runny nose)



- If public health tells you that your child is considered a **close contact** of someone with COVID-19, they will need to stay home for 14 days. Household contacts of that child do not need to stay home unless they are also a close contact of someone with COVID-19.

We know that keeping children home is difficult for families. Taking a cautious approach is important to control the spread of COVID-19 and other viruses. This plan may change based on new information.

For any new or worsening symptoms complete the 811 assessment
<https://when-to-call-about-covid19.novascotia.ca/en>