



PUBLIC HEALTH AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

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What happens when a positive or suspected case of COVID-19 is identified at my child's school?

When a positive or suspected case of COVID-19 is identified:

- Public Health is notified of a suspected or positive case of COVID-19 by the school or the provincial information system that tracks cases
- Public Health calls the individual or family to determine when the individual was infectious with COVID-19 (infectious period)
- Public Health works with the school to identify:
 - If the individual attended school during their infectious period
 - If there are high risk contacts of the individual during their infectious period
 - High risk contacts (called a "cohort") could be students or staff
- School dismisses impacted cohort and directs to isolate

Communication during the process:

- School sends a message via School Day/email to impacted cohort letting them know that a case of COVID-19 has been identified and next steps
- School distributes Public Health letters to the impacted cohort with exposure dates, how to get tested, when to return to school, and further information
 - Members of the school community who are not considered high risk contacts are not notified in order to protect the privacy of those impacted
- Depending on Public Health capacity, the high risk contacts will receive either a phone call or a text message to investigate exposure and advise on isolation, monitoring, and testing
- Public Health texts/calls to check for symptoms and explain next steps
- Public Health texts/calls to communicate the end of the isolation/monitoring period and that individuals in the dismissed cohort may return to school

Overview of process: A COVID-19 case is identified at a school

