

Know when to self-monitor, self-isolate or send your child to school

Parents have questions about COVID-19, and what they should be doing to protect their families and their community. Knowing when your child should go to school, stay home or get tested isn't always clear. To start, students should complete the [Ontario School Screening tool](#) before each school day and follow its instructions.

Below are some examples of possible situations to help guide parents' decision making.

What if...

Your child has symptoms of COVID-19, IS NOT a close contact of a case of COVID-19 in the past 14 days and HAS NOT travelled in the past 14 days:

- Complete the [Ontario School Screening tool](#) and follow its instructions.
- If the [Ontario School Screening tool](#) says your child **DOES NOT NEED TO GET TESTED**, they should [self-isolate](#) at home. After 24 hours:
 - If your child's symptom is improving, your child can return to school if they feel well enough.
 - If your child's symptom is persisting, worsening, or they are developing new symptoms, your child should continue to stay home and talk with a doctor/health care provider for more advice, including about getting tested.
 - Your child's siblings and other family members can still go to school or work. They should [self-monitor](#).
- If the [Ontario School Screening tool](#) says **YOUR CHILD SHOULD BE TESTED**, arrange to get them tested.
 - Your child's siblings and other family members can still go to school or work while your child is waiting for test results, and if your child tests negative for COVID-19. They should [self-monitor](#).
 - Your child can return to school if their test is negative, and their symptoms have been improving for at least 24 hours.
- If the [Ontario School Screening tool](#) says **YOUR CHILD SHOULD BE TESTED, AND THEY DO NOT GET TESTED**, your child will have to self-isolate at home for 10 days from when their symptoms started, unless all the following apply:
 - a doctor diagnosed your child with another illness
 - your child does not have a fever (without using medication)
 - it has been at least 24 hours since your child's symptoms started improving (if you had symptoms)
 - Your child's siblings and other family members can still go to school or work. They should [self-monitor](#).

Your child has symptoms of COVID-19, IS a close contact of a case of COVID-19 in the past 14 days or HAS travelled in the past 14 days:

- **Your child must [self-isolate](#) at home and should be tested.** All other household members need to [self-isolate](#) while waiting for your child's test results
 - If your child tests negative, your child will need to continue [to self-isolate](#) for 14 days from their last contact with a case or return from travel. Household members can return to work or school, as long as they did not have close contact with a case of COVID-19 in the past 14 days and have not travelled in the past 14 days.
- **If your child does not get tested,** they must [self-isolate](#) for 10 days from when they first developed symptoms, or 14 days from their last contact with a case or return from travel, whichever is longest.
 - Your child's siblings and family will all need to [self-isolate](#) for 14 days. If any of them develop symptoms, they should contact Public Health who will provide further guidance around [self-isolation](#) and return to work or school.

Your child tests positive for COVID-19:

- Your child will need to [self-isolate](#) for 10 days from when their symptoms began. They can return to school when cleared by Public Health.
- Your child's siblings and family will all need to [self-isolate](#) for 14 days. If any of them develop symptoms, they should contact Public Health who will provide further guidance around [self-isolation](#) and return to work or school.

Your child was in close contact with someone who has COVID-19 or was directed by Public Health to [self-isolate](#) (e.g. in the same cohort as a case at school):

- Your child must [self-isolate](#) at home for 14 days, and monitor for symptoms.
- Your child's siblings and other family members can still go to work or school. They should [self-monitor](#).
- But, if your child develops symptoms, your child should be tested and your child's siblings and family will need to [self-isolate](#). Public Health will provide further direction.
 - If your child tests negative, your child will need to continue to [self-isolate](#) for 14 days from their last contact with a case or as directed by Public Health. Household members can return to work or school, as long as they did not have close contact with a case of COVID-19 in the past 14 days and have not travelled in the past 14 days

A household member of your child (but not your child) was in close contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19:

- The household member must [self-isolate](#) at home for 14 days, and arrange to get tested.
- Your child can still go to school. They should [self-monitor](#).
- If the household member develops symptoms of COVID-19 while they are [self-isolating](#), then your child, your child's siblings and other family members will also have to [self-isolate](#) until the household member's COVID-19 test results are confirmed.

A household member of your child (but not your child) has travelled outside of Canada in the last 14 days:

- The household member must [self-isolate](#) at home for 14 days.
- Your child can go to school as long as they also did not travel and do not have symptoms. They should [self-monitor](#).
- If the household member develops symptoms of COVID-19 while they are [self-isolating](#), they should get tested. Your child, your child's siblings and other family members will also have to [self-isolate](#) until the household member's COVID-19 test results are confirmed.