COVID-19 Symptom Decision Tree

At school, student or staff member develops any one of the following signs or symptoms:

- Fever with or without chills/rigors (fever defined as \( T > 100.0 \) that does not resolve within 30 min. without medication)
- Cough*
- Shortness of breath
- Nasal congestion/rhinorrhea (runny nose)*
- Sore throat
- Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea*
- Fatigue*
- New loss of taste/smell
- Headache*
- Muscle or body aches*
- Poor feeding or poor appetite*

Disregard this symptom if school personnel already aware of a chronic, pre-existing condition that causes the symptom. The nature of the presenting symptom (e.g., duration, intensity) must be consistent with the underlying chronic condition.

**ACTION:** Apply appropriate PPE; isolate student/staff member until sent home; recommend they reach health care provider for instructions.

Note: Other infections can cause same symptoms (e.g., flu, strep, etc.) but these do not rule out COVID-19 as co-occurring

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**STUDENT / STAFF TO STAY HOME UNTIL...**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>With PCR COVID-19 viral test (Not antibody test; not antigen test)</th>
<th>Without PCR Covid-19 viral test</th>
<th>Note from healthcare provider re: chronic illness</th>
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</table>
| **Positive** | **Isolate the case. May return when:**
(a) 24 hours without fever (no meds) and (b) symptoms are improving AND (c) at least 10 days from symptom onset or test date. | **A signed note from a licensed MD/DO/NP/PA (who manages that condition) must:** confirm the chronic diagnosis (i.e., cites labs, date-of-record when diagnosed); include provider's contact information; explain how symptoms are unrelated to COVID-19; and be accompanied by signed consent for school to interact with MD/DO/NP/PA. |
| **Negative** | **Retested or Not Retested**
*Proof of negative test not required | **May return to school immediately**
Consider individualized student health plan to prevent any future unnecessary dismissals. |

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<tr>
<th>Proof of negative test required.</th>
<th>May return 72 hours after symptoms resolved OR 10 days if symptoms are improving.</th>
<th>Consider notification to school community of a known case.</th>
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If school becomes aware of one case in one cohort (shared bus, classroom, lab, team, etc.), then have district’s/school’s liaison contact the Public Health Department at 888-950-9905 to report the case and for further direction on quarantine. For questions on exposure, symptoms, or other related questions, please call the Epidemiology School Line at 619-692-8636 and leave a message.