

What to do if your child has symptoms of COVID-19

If your child has COVID-19 symptoms, it is important that your family and the school all work together and follow Halton Region Public Health guidelines.

What should I do if my child experiences [symptoms](#) at home?

1. Keep your child home from school.
2. Your child should [self-isolate](#) as soon as possible.
3. Contact your child's health care provider to receive a medical assessment or make an appointment at a local [COVID-19 Assessment Centre](#) to be tested.
4. Contact the school to let them know your child has symptoms and is seeking medical attention.

What happens if my child experiences symptoms at school?

- A child with symptoms of COVID-19 will be immediately separated from others and supervised in a designated room.
- The parent/guardian of the child will be contacted to pick them up immediately and will be advised to seek medical assessment for their child.

What should my child do if they experience symptoms on the way to school?

Students travel to school in many ways, often by school bus, by foot or bike, or by car. If it is possible for the child to return home, they should do so immediately.

If they cannot return home (for example, they are on a school bus on the way to school), the child should immediately alert a school staff member upon arrival at school. School staff will bring your child to a designated isolation and the parent/guardian will be contacted.

Our health care provider assessed my child and they said a COVID-19 test is not necessary. Can my child return to school?

Yes, they can return provided their symptoms have resolved for at least 24 hours. If your child is experiencing any one symptom of COVID-19 (for example, runny nose or sore throat), they must stay home from school.

My child was tested for COVID-19 at an Assessment Centre and we are waiting for the results. What should I do now?

Stay home and self-isolate until you receive the test results.

My child's COVID-19 test results were negative. Can they return to school?

If your child has a negative test result and their symptoms have resolved for at least 24 hours, you need to update their school. They can then return to school provided that:

- there is no known high-risk exposure; and
- they are not advised by Halton Region Public Health or a health care provider to self-isolate.

My child tested positive for COVID-19. When can they return to school?

If your child tests positive for COVID-19, your child is required to self-isolate for 14 days starting from the day on which your child first showed symptoms of COVID-19 or was tested for COVID-19 or was diagnosed with COVID-19, whichever is earliest.

Your child can stop isolating after 14 days if they no longer have a fever and their symptoms have improved. If they are still unwell after 14 days, contact your health care provider. If your child's illness is worsening (for example, they have difficulty breathing), seek immediate attention by calling 911.

Once your child has been symptom-free for 24 hours, and passes the COVID-19 screening tool, you need to contact Halton Region Public Health to authorize your child's return to school.

If my child has symptoms of COVID-19, do their siblings attending a school also need to self-isolate?

At this time, due to lower case counts in Halton Region, we are recommending that siblings (and other household contacts) of symptomatic children self-monitor while the symptomatic child is awaiting test results. This means that they can attend school or work as long as they do not have any symptoms. This recommendation may change if case counts start increasing in Halton Region.

Where can I learn more about COVID-19?

- Visit halton.ca/COVID19 for COVID-19 health advice, learn about the current situation in Halton and more.
- Visit Halton Region's [Reopening Schools webpage](#) for educational materials for parents, frequently asked questions and to learn how Halton Region Public Health is supporting schools.
- Call 311 for other questions related to COVID-19.