Return to School and Child Care Protocol for Individuals with COVID-19 Symptoms

IMPORTANT: Halton Region Public Health recommends that any individual with COVID-19 symptoms complete the Ontario COVID-19 School and Child Care Screening and follow the direction provided from the results. If referred for testing, the individual must remain in self-isolation and cannot attend child care or school in person. Siblings (and household members) can attend work or school provided they have no symptoms. If symptoms develop, these household members should self-isolate and seek testing. (Note: the use of "individual" refers to a child, student or staff person).

Individual is tested for COVID-19* **Negative Test Result** Positive Test Result Report case to Public Health. The individual can return to school/child

care if:

- they pass the School and Child Care COVID-19 screening tool; and
- they do not have a fever (without using medication): and
- it has been at least 24 hours since their symptoms started improving; and
- there is no known high-risk exposure; and
- the individual is not advised by Halton Region Public Health or health care provider to self-isolate.

Documented proof of the negative test result is not required to return to school /child care.

*Note: Mild symptoms known to persist in young children (e.g. runny nose or mild cough that may persist following infections) may be ongoing at time of return to school/child care if other symptoms have resolved.

As per direction from Public Health, the individual to self-isolate for 10 days from symptom onset, or for 10 days from date of testing (if no symptoms).

Public Health will contact all positive cases and will instruct when it is safe to return to school/ child care.

* If awaiting test results for more than ten days since symptom onset, individual is to follow protocol for "Individual is NOT tested for COVID-19".

Can return to school/child care if health care provider says:

Visited health care provider

- symptoms are not due to COVID-19: and
- testing is not recommended; and
- they do not have a fever (without using medication); and
- it has been at least 24 hours since their symptoms started improving.

Note: child/staff may return to the child care centre after the appropriate exclusion period has been followed (refer to Child Care Health Resource Manual).

Did not seek medical attention

Individual is NOT tested for COVID-19

The individual can return to school/ child care if:

- they pass the Ontario COVID-19 School and Child Care Screening; and
- they do not have a fever (without using medication); and
- it has been at least 24 hours since their symptoms started improving.





