



Weekly Update #17 – January 3rd to 7th, 2022



We hope all of our families have had a blessed and healthy Christmas season and a restful break. As 2022 begins, we want to wish all of you a happy and prosperous new year and pray for the good health of our school community and for all those who continue to serve on the frontlines for our protection and healing during this pandemic. We are grateful for your collective commitment to following the guidelines as laid out by Public Health to do what we can to promote our mutual health and safety. We look forward to seeing all our students on Wednesday!

Epiphany-January 6th



The Epiphany teaches us that Jesus' coming into the world was important to the whole world and that the Good News of Jesus Christ is meant for everyone! The word *epiphany* comes from the Greek *Epiphania*, meaning "revelation." It is celebrated on January 6th.

At The Epiphany we recall the visit of the Magi to the newborn Jesus: "And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and

stopped over the place where the child was. They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.” (Matthew 2:9–12)

Important Events:

Wednesday, January 5th, 2022 – Return to School

- As you are aware, the Chief Medical Officer of Health announced additional measure to be put into place to help curb the spread of COVID-19. There is a delay to return to instruction for all students until Wednesday, January 5th; there is no school on Monday, January 3rd or Tuesday, January 4th. Additional information is in the News Release: [Read the News Release here.](#)

Upcoming Dates:

- **January 6th - Epiphany Liturgy (virtual for students) @ 12:45 pm**

Upcoming Events and Important News:

UPDATED COVID-19 Safety Measures

As was the case in September, the Ministry of Education has directed all schools to implement daily confirmation of COVID-19 self-screening for all elementary students attending school in person. **This will be in place upon the return from Christmas Break until further notice** under the direction of the Ministry of Education.

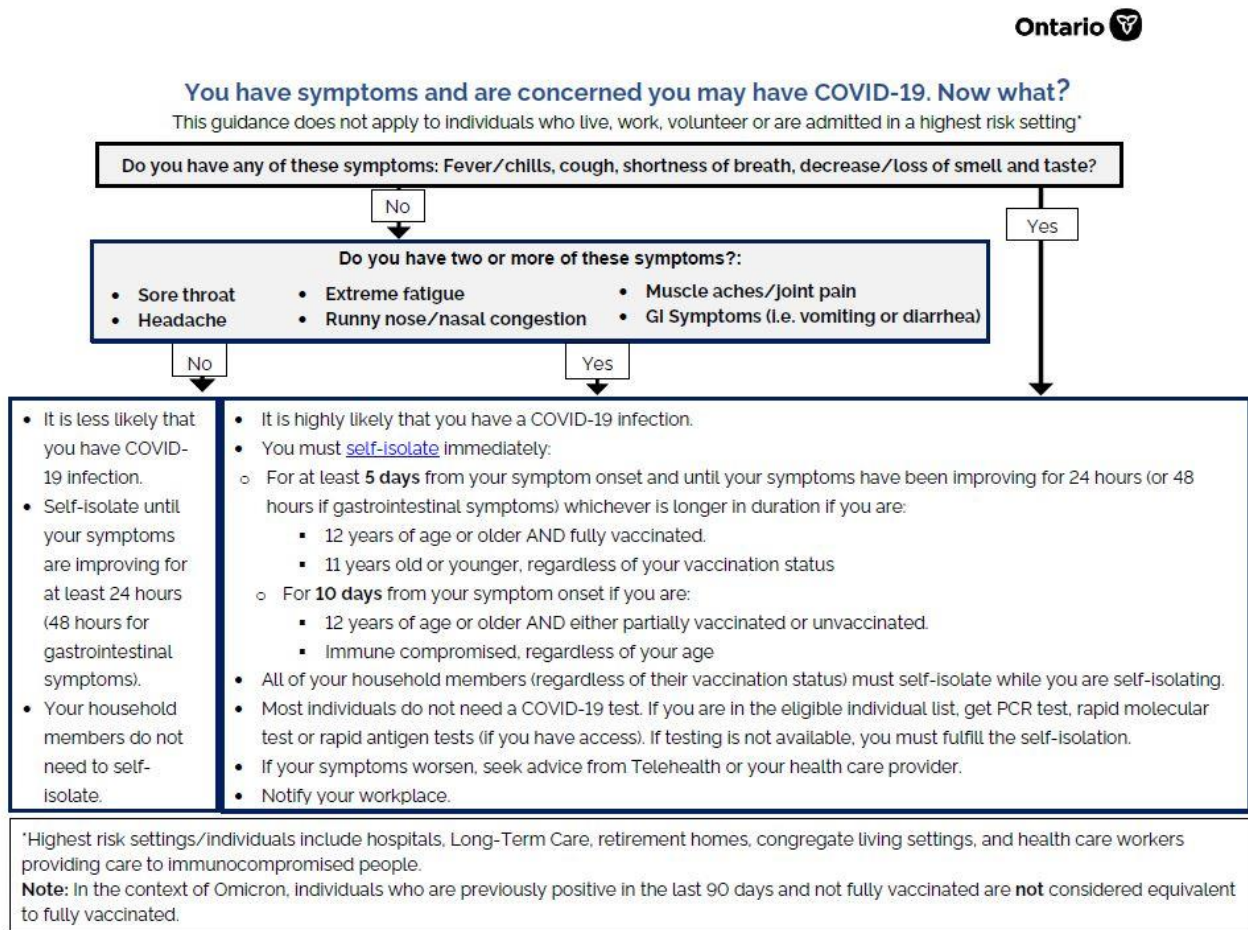
1. Parents and guardians are asked to complete the [COVID-19 School Screening Tool](#) for each child every day before leaving home for school.
2. Confirmation of the daily screening must be provided to the classroom teacher in one of the following formats:
 - Show printed copy of the screening tool indicating the current date and a “pass”;
OR
 - Complete *Confirmation of Daily COVID-19 Student Screening Log*, which your child(ren) bring back and forth to school each day. A link to the log sheet will be sent to parents in a separate email on Monday.
 - Show “pass” confirmation on a personal device;
 - For Wednesday, parents may also email results to classroom teacher. Once the log sheet has been provided for students in the agenda on Wednesday, parents can sign off each day going forward.

For the safety and well-being of all students and staff, parents and guardians **must perform daily screening** of their child(ren) for COVID-19 symptoms **BEFORE** leaving for school using the COVID-19 Self-Assessment.

- Check your child’s temperature to ensure they do not have a fever (temperature greater than 37.8C)
- **Monitor for signs and symptoms (including atypical symptoms) of COVID-19**
- Individuals experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19 as identified in the screening tool, must not attend school and should follow the guidance provided in the screening tool

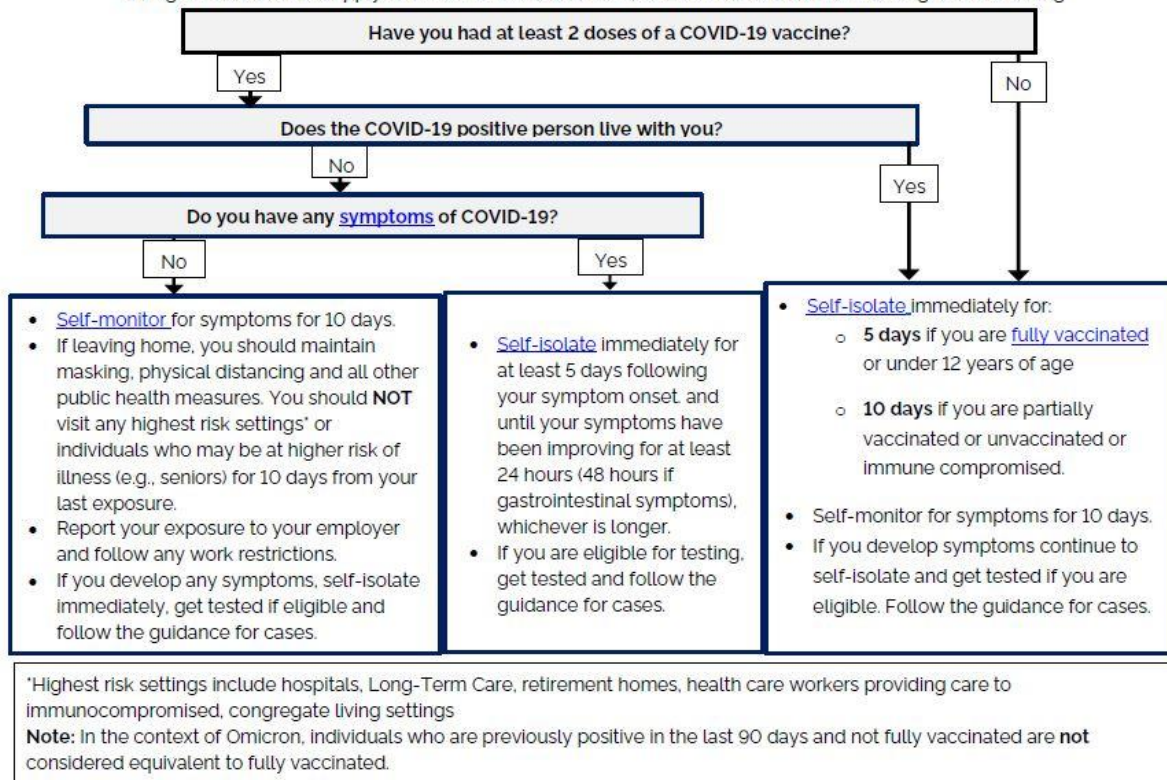
When Should I keep My Child Home?

The Ontario Ministry of Health has once again updated its guidelines around COVID-19, testing, and isolation requirements. Please follow the directions of the online [School Screening Tool](#) each and every day to determine whether or not you should bring your children to school. Public Health will no longer be administering PCR tests for people who are not considered “high-risk individuals”. If you or your child has cold-like symptoms, assume that you have COVID-19 and that your family must isolate. You can also use these two flowcharts whenever someone in your household exhibits cold-like symptoms or, comes into contact with a positive case of COVID-19:



You've been exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 on PCR, rapid molecular, or rapid antigen test. Now what?

This guidance does not apply to individuals who live, work, volunteer or are admitted in a highest risk setting*



Please note that isolation requirements have changed. Some individuals, as per the guidelines above, may only need to isolate for 5 days. Also, at this time, we have been told that Public Health will no longer be dismissing classes when there has been an exposure to a positive case. For more information about Omicron and testing guidance, please download the following document from the Ministry of Health: [Omicron-CCM-Testing-Guidance-V1.0-2021-12-30-FINAL-EN-AODADownload](#)

Pizza Day: At this time we are able to continue with our pizza days on Wednesdays. If you have ordered pizza your child will receive it on Wednesday. Our parent volunteers who assist in the pizza delivery will continue to strictly adhere to our visitor protocols.

Dressing for Winter Weather:

Please ensure your child is dressed each day to play outside at recess. Students are outside for all regular outside activities when it is warmer than -15°C. When temperatures range between -15°C to -20°C, students may remain outside for no longer than 20-minute intervals, once temperatures are colder than -20°C students must remain inside.



Inclement Weather: As winter weather is fast approaching, parents are reminded to visit the HCDSB website for important information and reminders regarding

our **Inclement Weather procedures and the Inclement Weather Transportation Zones map**: <http://bit.ly/HCDSBInclementWeather>

Looking for notifications on bus delays and cancellations?

Halton Student Transportation Services (HSTS) provides important information for parents and students who ride the bus to and from school. Bus delays and cancellation information can be found directly on the **Delays & Cancellations** page.

Thank You - On behalf of our Queen of Heaven staff, we want to thank our families for your ongoing support during the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. We know that these are uncertain times and we appreciate your patience, understanding and support. We ask that you continue to remind your children of the importance of following our school protocols around maintaining distance, wearing a mask and good hand hygiene to help keep everyone safe at school. We will continue to keep our school community in our prayers and hope God blesses our families and staff with continued good health, prosperity and love in 2022!

