

## My Child Has Symptoms of COVID-19, Now What?

(Please see [COVID-19 School Screening](#) for details on symptoms and screening.)

Does your child have a chronic medical condition?

Yes

Are your child's symptoms worse / different than normal?

No

Children with stable symptoms of a known chronic medical condition may attend school. If there are concerns, consult your health care provider and follow their guidance.

Yes

No

Call the school and inform them of your child's illness and absence.

**Your child must not attend school/before & after school care  
AND**

**Should visit an assessment centre for testing and/or seek medical advice, if required**

If the child was tested for COVID-19 they are required to self-isolate until test results are available. If the test results are negative and the child has no known exposure to COVID-19, the child may return to school after being symptom-free for at least 24 hours

**OR**

If an alternate diagnosis from a health care provider is received (i.e. it is not believed to be COVID-19), your child may return to school once they are symptom-free for at least 24 hours.

**OR**

If your child was given no alternate diagnosis and was not tested for COVID-19, they must begin self-isolation period for minimum of 14 days from onset of their symptoms. After self-isolating for 14 days, they may return to school if they have been at least 72 hours without fever and their symptoms are improving.

## Please note:

- The SMDHU is unable to provide clinical assessment or determine the suitability of a child returning to school.
- If a health care provider provides an alternate diagnosis, ill student/staff can return to school after being symptom-free for at least 24 hours. Mild symptoms known to last in young children (e.g. runny nose) may be ongoing at the time of return to school if other symptoms have resolved.  
Note: If the alternate diagnosis is clearly non-infectious then the individual can return to school prior to symptom resolution.
- In the absence of testing or an alternate diagnosis, and with the mild and/or fairly brief duration of symptoms often seen with COVID-19, SMDHU is recommending ill individuals self-isolate for 14 days from symptom onset (even if symptoms resolve). After self-isolating for 14 days, they may return to school if they have been at least 72 hours without a fever and symptoms are improving.  
Note: It is difficult for a health care provider to rule out COVID-19 without a test, if there is not a clear alternate diagnosis.
- All household members of the ill child are to self-monitor for 14 days. They can continue to go to school or work as long as they have not developed symptoms themselves, and as long as the ill child has not been diagnosed with COVID-19.
- If positive COVID-19 result, SMDHU will conduct case and contact management and provide guidance.
- Visit [www.smdhu.org](http://www.smdhu.org) for information on where to get tested.

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