



# SYMPTOMATIC CHILD AT HOME DECISION GUIDE



## SELF-SCREENING AT HOME

First thing in the morning, the parent/child completes the School and Child Care Screening and follows prompts.

Child becomes ill at home with **ONE or more** of the following symptoms: fever and/or chills; cough or barking cough (croup); shortness of breath; decrease or loss of taste or smell; sore throat or difficulty swallowing; runny or stuffy/congested nose; headache; nausea, vomiting, and/or diarrhea; extreme tiredness or muscle aches.

Child isolates at home and contacts health care provider for advice/assessment. Household and close contacts stay at home until student tests negative or is diagnosed with another illness.

Child tested for COVID-19?

**YES**

Child with symptoms self-isolates at home. Household contacts stay home pending test result.

Test result received.

 **POSITIVE**

Child with positive test result remains in isolation and follows Hamilton Public Health Services guidance. Child cannot attend school/child care for at least 10 days. Household contacts need to self-isolate at home for 14 days and follow public health guidelines.

 **NEGATIVE**

If child has no known high-risk exposure and has not been advised by Hamilton Public Health Services to isolate, they can return to school/child care when they do not have a fever (without the use of fever-reducing meds) and when symptoms have been improving for 24 hours. Household contacts must screen daily before attending school or work.

**NO**

Child with symptoms must self-isolate for a minimum of 10 days. Child can return to school/child care when they do not have a fever (without the use of fever-reducing meds) and when symptoms have been improving for 24 hours. Household contacts self-isolate for 14 days.

Child has alternative diagnosis provided by health care provider.

Child isolates at home until they do not have a fever (without the use of fever-reducing meds) and symptoms improving for 24 hours.

**RETURN TO SCHOOL/  
CHILD CARE PROCESS**