



# Symptomatic Child at School or Child Care

## 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 school/child care 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; Nausea, vomiting, and/or diarrhea.

*Ill child remains masked & staff supervising wear full PPE.*

Child (and siblings) goes to isolation room.

*Disinfect classroom, isolation room, work area & items.*

School/child care calls parent/guardian to pick up

Child gets picked up to self-isolate at home. Household & close contacts stay at home until child tests negative or is diagnosed with another illness. If household members are asymptomatic, not immunocompromised and fully vaccinated, they may continue going to essential activities (e.g. work, school, childcare).

Contact health care provider for advice/assessment.

Child tested for COVID-19?

**YES**

Child with symptoms and unvaccinated or symptomatic household contacts isolate/quarantine at home.

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 must follow public health guidelines regarding isolation.



**negative**

If child has no known high-risk exposure and has not been advised by public health to isolate: Child can return to school/child care when they do not have a fever (without the use of fever-reducing meds), GI symptoms have been improving for 48 hours and all symptoms have been improving for 24 hours.

**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), GI symptoms have been improving for 48 hours and all symptoms have been improving for 24 hours. Household contacts must follow public health guidelines regarding isolation.

Child has alternative diagnosis provided by health care provider.

Child can return to school/child care when they do not have a fever (without the use of fever-reducing meds), GI symptoms have been improving for 48 hours and all symptoms have been improving for 24 hours.

**Return to school / child care**