

HWDSB

My Child Has Displayed COVID-19 Symptoms, Now What?

At Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board (HWDSB), we adopted enhanced health protocols to ensure that we can keep students, staff, and families as safe as possible during the COVID-19 pandemic.

When a child displays COVID-19 symptoms – at school, or when their family does daily screening – it is important to stay calm and to understand next steps.

For an overview of this process, please review the attached flowchart *Symptomatic Student at Home/School Decision Guides* produced with Hamilton Public Health Services.

Parents/guardians are encouraged to contact your health care provider or book a COVID-19 test online at www.hamiltoncovidtest.ca or call 905-974-9848 between 8:30 am and 4:30 pm.

Assessment & Testing Centres in Hamilton

Drive-Through COVID-19 Testing Centre

Dave Andreychuk Mountain Arena

[25 Hester Street, Hamilton](#)

Hours of Operation: 10 am to 3 pm daily

At your allotted appointment time drive around the rear of the building to the Zamboni entrance and wait for staff to signal you to drive inside the arena for testing.

East End Assessment Centre

[2757 King Street East, Hamilton](#)

Hours of Operation: Monday to Friday 4 to 10 pm | Saturday, Sunday & Holidays 9 am to 3 pm

West End Assessment Centre

[690 Main Street West, Hamilton](#)

Hours of Operation: 9 am to 5 pm daily

St. Joe's Mountain COVID-19 Testing Centre

[100 West 5th Street, Hamilton](#)

Hours of Operation: Monday to Friday 4:30 to 7:30 pm | Saturday & Sunday 1 to 7 pm

Learn more about testing locations at www.hamilton.ca/coronavirus/assessment-centres

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Any student suspected to have COVID-19 awaiting test results must be in isolation and cannot attend school in person. Students can do work from home if they feel well enough to participate. Their siblings may continue to attend school and continue monitoring for symptoms.

Please inform your school about your COVID-19 test result.

When can my child return to school?

- Please review the *Attestation for Return to School Following Illness* with your principal.

How to continue learning, at home:

While your child is isolating at home, we want learning to continue. Please speak with your child's teacher or contact their school for learning materials and resources.

COVID-19 Symptoms

Parent actions for Group A and Group B symptoms are explained on the *Symptomatic Student at School or at Home Decision Guide*.

Group A symptoms		
Fever and/or chills (temperature of 37.8°C/100.0°F or greater)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Cough (more than usual if chronic cough) including croup (barking cough, making a whistling noise when breathing) <i>Not related to other known causes or conditions (e.g., asthma, reactive airway)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Shortness of breath (dyspnea, out of breath, unable to breathe deeply, wheeze, that is worse than usual if chronically short of breath) <i>Not related to other known causes or conditions (e.g., asthma)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Decrease or loss of smell or taste (new olfactory or taste disorder) <i>Not related to other known causes or conditions (e.g., nasal polyps, allergies, neurological disorders)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

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Group B Symptoms		
Sore throat (painful swallowing or difficulty swallowing) Not related to other known causes or conditions (e.g., post nasal drip, gastroesophageal reflux)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Stuffy nose and/or runny nose (nasal congestion and/or rhinorrhea) Not related to other known causes or conditions (e.g., seasonal allergies, returning inside from the cold, chronic sinusitis unchanged from baseline, reactive airways)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Headache that is new and persistent, unusual, unexplained, or long-lasting Not related to other known causes or conditions (e.g., tension-type headaches, chronic migraines)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea Not related to other known causes or conditions (e.g. transient vomiting due to anxiety in children, chronic vestibular dysfunction, irritable bowel syndrome, inflammatory bowel disease, side effect of medication)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Fatigue, lethargy, muscle aches or malaise (general feeling of being unwell, lack of energy, extreme tiredness, poor feeding in infants) that is unusual or unexplained Not related to other known causes or conditions (e.g., depression, insomnia, thyroid dysfunction, anemia)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

Key Contacts and Resources

HWDSB Daily Student Screening Tool

<https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>

COVID-19 Resources at HWDSB

www.hwdsb.on.ca/covid19

Hamilton Public Health COVID-19 hotline

905-974-9848 or phscovid19@hamilton.ca. www.hamilton.ca/coronavirus

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HWDSB Social Workers

If you feel that your child could benefit from support, HWDSB social workers are available. Please speak with staff if this would be helpful.

HWDSB Helps app

Get help or share anonymous tips, using:

- Text to 905-963-0066. Standard rates apply.
- The HWDSB Helps app for iOS and Android.
- Web chat

In case of emergency, call 911.

If you have questions about next steps, please contact your school, your family doctor, or Public Health.