

COVID-19 screening tool for schools and child care settings

Version 4.4: February 4, 2022

Staff, students, children, and visitors must screen for COVID-19 every day before going to school or child care. Parent(s)/guardian(s) can fill this out on behalf of a child/student..

Date (mm-dd-yyyy) _____

Screening questions

1. In the last [5, 10] days have you experienced any of these symptoms?

- If you are fully vaccinated AND/OR 11 years old or younger, use 5 days
- If you are 12 years old or older and not fully vaccinated OR if you are immunocompromised, use 10 days.

Anyone who is sick or has any new or worsening symptoms of illness, including those not listed below, should stay home until their symptoms are improving for 24 hours (or 48 hours for nausea, vomiting, and/or diarrhea) and should seek assessment from their health care provider if needed. Household members of individuals with any of the below symptoms should stay home at the same time as the person who is sick, regardless of vaccination status.

If you are symptomatic and tested negative for COVID-19 on a single PCR test or rapid molecular test, or two rapid antigen tests (RATs) taken 24-48 hours apart, you do not have a fever, and symptoms have been improving for 24 hours (or 48 hours for nausea, vomiting, and/or diarrhea), you may answer "no" to all symptoms.

Choose any/all that are new, worsening, and not related to other known causes or conditions you already have.

Fever and/or chills	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Temperature of 37.8 degrees Celsius/100 degrees Fahrenheit or higher and/or chills	
Cough or barking cough (croup)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Continuous, more than usual, making a whistling noise when breathing (not related to asthma, post-infectious reactive airways, or other known causes or conditions they already have)	
Shortness of breath	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Out of breath, unable to breathe deeply (not related to asthma or other known causes or conditions they already have)	
Decrease or loss of taste or smell	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Not related to seasonal allergies, neurological disorders, or other known causes or conditions they already have	

2. In the last [5, 10] days have you experienced any of these symptoms?

- If you are fully vaccinated AND/OR 11 years old or younger, use 5 days
- If you are 12 years old or older and not fully vaccinated OR if you are immunocompromised, use 10 days.

You may select "No" to all symptoms if you tested negative for COVID-19 on a PCR test, a rapid molecular test, or two rapid antigen tests taken 24 to 48 hours apart AND you do not have a fever and your symptoms have been improving for 24 hours (48 hours if you have nausea, vomiting, and/or diarrhea).

Choose any/all that are new, worsening, and not related to other known causes or conditions you already have.

Sore throat or difficulty swallowing Yes No

Painful swallowing (not related to seasonal allergies, acid reflux, or other known causes or conditions you already have)

Runny or stuffy/congested nose Yes No

Not related to seasonal allergies, being outside in cold weather, or other known causes or conditions you already have

Headache Yes No

Unusual, long-lasting (not related to tension-type headaches, chronic migraines, or other known causes or conditions you already have)

If you received a COVID-19 and/or flu vaccination in the last 48 hours and are experiencing a mild headache that only began after vaccination, select "No."

Extreme tiredness Yes No

Unusual, fatigue, lack of energy (not related to depression, insomnia, thyroid dysfunction, sudden injury, or other known causes or conditions you already have)

If you received a COVID-19 and/or flu vaccination in the last 48 hours and are experiencing mild fatigue that only began after vaccination, select "No."

Muscle aches or joint pain Yes No

If you received a COVID-19 and/or flu vaccination in the last 48 hours and are experiencing mild muscle aches/joint pain that only began after vaccination, select "No."

Nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea Yes No

Not related to irritable bowel syndrome, anxiety, menstrual cramps, or other known causes or conditions they already have

3. In the last [5, 10] days have you tested positive for COVID-19? Yes No

This includes a positive COVID-19 test result on a lab-based PCR test, rapid molecular test, rapid antigen test or home-based self-testing kit.

- If you are fully vaccinated AND/OR 11 years old or younger, use 5 days
- If you are 12 years old or older and not fully vaccinated OR if you are immunocompromised, use 10 days.

Select "No" if you have already completed your isolation period of [5, 10] days because your symptoms started before your positive test result AND:

- your symptoms have been improving for 24 hours (48 for nausea, vomiting, and/or diarrhea) AND
- you do not have a fever

4. Do any of the following apply?

Yes

No

- You live with someone who is currently isolating because of a positive COVID-19 test
- You live with someone who is currently isolating because of COVID-19 **symptoms** (any one or more symptoms from question 1 above or any two or more symptoms from question 2 above)
- You live with someone who is waiting for COVID-19 test results

Select "No" if you completed your isolation after testing positive in the last 90 days (using a rapid antigen, rapid molecular, or PCR test).

5. In the last [5, 10] days, have you been identified as a "close contact" of someone who currently has COVID-19 or has symptoms of COVID-19 (any one or more symptoms from question 1 above or any two or more symptoms from question 2 above)?

Yes

No

- If you are fully vaccinated AND/OR 11 years old or younger, use 5 days
- If you are 12 years old or older and not fully vaccinated OR if you are immunocompromised, use 10 days

Select "No" if any of the following apply:

- You are fully vaccinated, not immunocompromised, and you do not live with the person who has COVID-19
- You completed your isolation after testing positive in the last 90 days (using a rapid antigen, rapid molecular, or PCR test)
- Contact with the person who has COVID-19 or symptoms of COVID-19 only occurred within a school or child care setting.

Note: Given the multiple protective strategies in place, contacts who are only exposed at school or child care are not generally considered close contacts requiring isolation

6. Has a doctor, health care provider, or public health unit told you that you should currently be isolating (staying at home)?

Yes

No

This can be because of an outbreak or contact tracing.

7. Do any of the following apply?

Yes

No

- In the last 14 days, you travelled outside of Canada and were told to quarantine.
- In the last 14 days, you travelled outside of Canada and were told to not attend school/child care.
- In the last 14 days, someone you live with returned from travelling outside of Canada and is isolating while awaiting results of a COVID-19 test.

Results of screening questions

If you answered "YES" to ANY question, you cannot go to school or child care. Contact your school/child care provider to let them know that you will not be attending school today. See below for isolation and testing requirements.

NOTE: When the option of [5, 10] days is listed:

- If you are fully vaccinated AND/OR 11 years old or younger, use 5 days
- If you are 12 years old or older and not fully vaccinated OR if you are immunocompromised, use 10 days



If you answered “YES” to any of the symptoms listed under question 1, do not go to school or child care.

- You must isolate (stay home) and not leave except to get tested or for a medical emergency.
- If you are not tested, you must isolate for [5, 10] days from when symptoms started and stay in isolation until your symptoms have been improving for 24 hours (or 48 hours after nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea symptoms), and you do not have a fever, whichever is longest.
 - When determining your isolation period, the day your symptoms began is day 0. For example, for those isolating 5 days, if you develop symptoms on Saturday (day 0), you can return to school on Friday (day 6).
- If testing is available:
 - If a single PCR test, rapid molecular test, or rapid antigen test is positive, you should follow the guidance above for “if you are not tested” and isolate for [5, 10] days.
 - If a single PCR or rapid molecular test is negative or two rapid antigen tests collected 24-48 hours apart are both negative, you may return to school/child care when your symptom(s) have been improving for at least 24 hours (48 hours for nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea) and you do not have a fever.
- Household members must stay home at the same time as you, whether they are fully vaccinated or not, unless they tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 90 days and have already completed their isolation.



If you answered “YES” to any of the symptoms listed under question 2, do not go to school or child care.

- If you have experienced **only one** of these symptoms in the last [5, 10] days you must stay home until the symptom has been improving for at least 24 hours (48 hours for nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea). A negative test result is not required for return to school/child care.
 - If you have been identified as a “close contact” of someone with COVID-19 in the last 10 days, even if you are fully vaccinated and the contact was not living with you, it is more likely that you have a COVID-19 infection. You must isolate for [5, 10] days and until you do not have a fever and your symptoms have been improving for at least 24 hours (48 hours for nausea, vomiting, and/or diarrhea).
- If you have experienced **two or more** of these symptoms in the last [5, 10] days you must stay home.
 - If you are not tested, you must isolate for [5, 10] days from when symptoms started and stay in isolation until your symptoms have been improving for 24 hours (48 hours for nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea), whichever is longest.
 - If testing is available:
 - * If a single PCR test, rapid molecular test, or rapid antigen test is positive, you should follow the guidance above for “if you are not tested” and isolate [5, 10] days.
 - * If a single PCR test, rapid molecular test, or two rapid antigen tests collected 24-48 hours apart are both negative, you may return to school/child care when your symptoms have been improving for at least 24 hours (48 hours for nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea) and you do not have a fever.
 - Household members must stay home at the same time as you, whether they are fully vaccinated or not, unless they tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 90 days and have already completed their isolation.

NOTE: If you also answered “YES” to question 1, follow question 1 guidance for next steps.



If you answered “YES” to question 3, do not go to school or child care

- You must isolate (stay home) and only leave for a medical emergency.
- You must isolate for [5, 10] days from when symptoms started or from when you tested positive for COVID-19 (whichever was first) and stay in isolation until your symptoms have been improving for 24 hours (or 48 hours after nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea symptoms) and you do not have a fever, whichever is longest.

- When determining your isolation period, the day your symptoms started or you tested positive is day 0. For example, for those isolating 5 days, if you develop symptoms or test positive on Saturday (day 0), you can return to school on Friday (day 6).
- Household members must stay home at the same time as you, whether they are fully vaccinated or not, unless they tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 90 days and have already completed their isolation



If you answered “YES” to question 4, do not go to school or child care.

- You must isolate (stay home) while there is anyone in the home who is isolating because of symptoms of COVID-19, a positive COVID-19 test result, or is waiting for a COVID-19 test result. You should only leave home for a medical emergency.
- All household members must stay home at the same time as the household member who has COVID-19 symptoms or is a positive COVID-19 case, whether they are fully vaccinated or not, unless they tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 90 days and have already completed their isolation
- If another household member develops symptoms or tests positive, you must continue isolating until they have also finished their own isolation period. The initial household member(s) with symptoms and/or positive test results does not have to extend their isolation period based on other household members developing symptoms.



If you answered “YES” to question 5 or 6, do not go to school or child care.

- You must isolate (stay home) for [5, 10] days and not leave except to get tested or for a medical emergency. When determining your isolation period, the day you were exposed to an individual with symptoms or COVID-19 is day 0. For example, for those isolating 5 days, if you were exposed on Saturday (day 0), you can return to school/child care on Friday (day 6).
- As long as you and your household members do not develop any symptoms, other people in your household can go to school, child care or work, but must not leave the home for other non-essential reasons.



If you answered “YES” to question 7, do not go to school or child care.

- You must follow federal guidelines for individuals who have travelled internationally, including not going to school/child care for 14 days after their arrival and getting tested as per federal requirements.
- If you have been directed to quarantine you must stay home for 14 days and not leave except to get tested or for a medical emergency. For more information on federal requirements for travellers, please see the [Government of Canada's website](#).
- If someone you live with is isolating following return from travelling outside of Canada and received a take-home PCR test at the airport, is symptomatic following international travel OR is awaiting test results, you must stay home until the individual has received a negative PCR test result or has completed their isolation period.
- If you develop symptoms, you must also follow isolation guidance found under the results to “If you answered “YES” to any of the symptoms listed under question 1 do not go to school or child care.” and/or “If you answered “YES” to any of the symptoms listed under question 2, do not go to school or child care.”



If you answered “NO” to all questions, you may go to school/child care. Follow your school/child care provider’s established process for letting them know about this result.

- As per regular protocols, all sick individuals with any symptoms of illness should stay home and seek assessment from their regular health care provider if required.
- Individuals with severe symptoms requiring emergency care should go to their nearest emergency department.
- If you got a COVID-19 vaccine or flu shot in the last 48 hours and are experiencing mild fatigue/tiredness, muscle aches, and/or joint pain that only began after vaccination, you must wear a properly fitted mask for the entire time at school/child care. You may take the mask off to quickly eat or drink and you must stay at least two metres away from others while it is off. If your symptoms worsen, continue past 48 hours, or if you develop other symptoms: you should leave school/child care immediately to isolate.