

Managing Students with COVID-19 Symptoms at School – Instructions for Staff

Student presents with new or worsening [symptoms consistent with COVID-19](#)

1

Perform hand hygiene, put on a medical/surgical mask or a non-fit-tested N95 mask (if not already wearing one), and goggles or face shield, and immediately bring student to isolation room.

Gown and gloves are advised if bodily fluids are involved. Refer to [Recommended Steps for Putting On and Taking Off PPE \(Personal Protective Equipment\)](#)

2

Provide student with a medical grade mask, if tolerated, and ensure student remains in isolation room until able to leave.

3

Notify student's emergency contact and advise regarding:

- Symptoms student is experiencing
- That student needs to be picked up ASAP. If student has only one of the secondary COVID-19 symptoms, siblings do not need to isolate. If student has symptoms consistent with COVID-19, siblings do not need to isolate if they have previously tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 90 days OR if they are under 18 yrs and fully vaccinated.**
- Public transportation must not be used (taxi is ok)
- Advise contact to complete the [COVID-19 School Screening Tool](#) with their child and follow guidance provided.

4

Monitor the student until they are picked up.

Maintain at least a 2m distance (if possible). Hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette should be practiced while the ill individual is waiting to be picked up.

If student must use washroom, ensure it is vacant before use and that it is not used by others until it is cleaned and disinfected.

5

When student's emergency contact arrives, ensure a clear pathway to the exit and bring student to the door. Provide the flow chart "[You have symptoms. Now what?](#)" and the factsheet "[How to Self-Isolate](#)" and a PCR Self Collection or Rapid Antigen Test if available.

6

Once student has departed, remove PPE in the isolation room and seal in a bag for disposal.

Perform hand hygiene and put on a new medical mask.

Refer to [Recommended Steps for Putting On and Taking Off PPE](#).

7

Ensure that the isolation room and all items used by symptomatic student are cleaned and disinfected.

8

Schools are not required to contact their local health unit (PHU) to report a positive COVID-19 test result (PCR or Rapid Antigen). Schools are welcome to call the PHU if clarification is required.

- Leeds, Grenville & Lanark District Health Unit: 1-866-236-0123
- Eastern Ontario Health Unit: 1-800-267-7120

***Siblings who are not required to self-isolate must self-monitor for 10 days following last exposure, wear a mask outside the home, avoid activities that require mask removal in public (like playing a wind instrument or high contact sports), and avoid visiting high risk settings or anyone vulnerable. Distancing is encouraged when masks are removed to eat in a school or child care setting.*



For more information, please call **1-800-660-5853**
or visit our website at www.healthunit.org