

# COVID-19 School Guidance for Staff

## What happens if a student develops COVID-19 symptoms?

Updated: December 15, 2020

### While at school:

**Teacher:** Be aware of symptoms descriptions and alert the principal if a student is ill.

**Principal:** Will coordinate pick-up of student. Student will be placed in isolation room with a school staff providing supervision. Staff will have appropriate PPE on in isolation room. When student is picked up, please ask parent to complete the [COVID-19 Screening Tool for Children in School and Child Care](#) to determine next steps. Siblings of symptomatic students will also be dismissed.

If the student needs to be tested for COVID-19, the parent needs to contact the [Brant Community Healthcare System](#) (BCHS) to arrange for testing. The Brant County Health Unit does not do in-person testing. Please note, the BCHS Assessment Centre will no longer be taking walk-in appointments as of Friday, October 2, 2020.

If the student has symptoms, they need to [isolate](#) while waiting for their test results. Members living in the same household as the sick student need to self-isolate while waiting for the student's test results.

If the student does not have symptoms but is a high risk contact, they need to [self-isolate](#) while waiting for their test results. Household members need to self-monitor.

If the student is waiting for direction from their healthcare provider and/or waiting for test results, they need to [isolate](#) and not return to school. Members living in the same household as the sick child need to self-isolate.

## Testing

### Negative COVID-19 test

- If the student had a high risk exposure (traveled outside of Canada in the last 14 days or been a close contact of a positive case of COVID-19) and the results of their COVID-19 test was negative, they need to finish their isolation period at home. Household members need to self-monitor unless they were also exposed.
- If the student had a COVID-19 test and the results are negative, the child can return to school once they have been symptom-free for 24 hours.

### Positive COVID-19 test

- The Brant County Health Unit (BCHU) follows up with all COVID-19 positive cases. BCHU will contact affected staff or parents to determine next steps and isolation requirements.

### What if a student is not tested for COVID-19?

- If the student does not get tested, everyone in the household needs to self-isolate for 14 days.
- If student has been assessed by their primary healthcare provider, and a COVID-19 test was not recommended, the student can return to school once they have been symptom-free for 24 hours. No doctor's note is needed. The parent/guardian does not need to get tested.

### For further information for educators:

Educators can call the Brant County Health Unit's COVID-19 line: 519-753-4937 ext. 459 or [schools@bchu.org](mailto:schools@bchu.org).