

Subject: What to do if your child becomes ill

Dear parent/guardian,

With the reopening of schools and children returning to child care, we have all had to adjust our usual routines to ensure a safe return for children. While going back can be a stressful time for many, COVID-19 has certainly added new challenges. Considering this, I would first like to express my appreciation for all the superhero parents who continue to support our children.

As we navigate this unprecedented time together, parents and families may have questions about what happens if their child develops symptoms that could be due to COVID-19. The following helps parents to know what to expect.

It is critically important that your daily routine includes using the *COVID-19 Screening Tool for Children in School and Child Care* (<https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>) and that you regularly monitor your child for symptoms of COVID-19.

If you notice that your child has new or worsening symptoms, what you do depends on the symptoms and how usual they are for your child. Follow the directions in the screening tool.

Should your child require testing for COVID-19, appointments can be booked over the phone with an Assessment Centre. An appointment is necessary to be tested.

Assessment Centre	Phone Number
Health Science North (Sudbury)	705-671-7373
NEOMO Medical Clinic (Sudbury)	705-671-7373
Primacy Medical Centre (Sudbury)	705-671-7373
Manitoulin Health Centre (Mindemoya)	705-377-5311

Sudbury

1300 rue Paris Street
Sudbury ON P3E 3A3
t: 705.522.9200
f: 705.522.5182

Elm Place

10 rue Elm Street
Unit / Unité 130
Sudbury ON P3C 5N3
t: 705.522.9200
f: 705.677.9611

Sudbury East / Sudbury-Est

1 rue King Street
Box / Boîte 58
St.-Charles ON POM 2W0
t: 705.222.9201
f: 705.867.0474

Espanola

800 rue Centre Street
Unit / Unité 100 C
Espanola ON P5E 1J3
t: 705.222.9202
f: 705.869.5583

Île Manitoulin Island

6163 Highway / Route 542
Box / Boîte 87
Mindemoya ON POP 1S0
t: 705.370.9200
f: 705.377.5580

Chapleau

101 rue Pine Street E
Box / Boîte 485
Chapleau ON POM 1K0
t: 705.860.9200
f: 705.864.0820

toll-free / sans frais

1.866.522.9200

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Manitoulin Health Centre (Little Current)	705-368-2300
Espanola and area assessment centre (Nairn, McKerrow, Massey, Sagamok, Webwood, Espanola, Birch island)	705-869-1420, ext. 4500
Chapleau Health Services/FHT building (Chapleau)	705-864-2568

If testing is required, the child must **remain in isolation at home** and cannot attend the child care centre in person while waiting for the appointment/test results. As appropriate, Public Health and the Assessment Center will provide guidance about whether siblings or any other close contacts, such as people living in the same household, are required to isolate at home while waiting for your child's test results. This guidance is based on an assessment of your child's risk of exposure to COVID-19.

If your child tests **positive for COVID-19**, Public Health Sudbury and Districts will receive the results directly from the lab and will contact you to provide further direction and guidance.

If your child tests **negative for COVID-19 or if testing is not recommended and/or an alternative diagnosis is provided**, your child may return to school/daycare if they are meeting the following criteria:

- They do not have a fever (without using medication); AND
- Their symptoms have been improving for at least 24 hours (or at least 48 hours if their symptoms were vomiting/diarrhea); AND
- They were not in close contact with someone who currently has COVID-19.

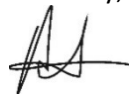
Please note that mild symptoms known to persist in young children (e.g. runny nose or mild cough that may persist following infections) may be ongoing at time of return to school/child care if other symptoms are resolved.

If testing is recommended by your health care provider and/or the *COVID-19 Screening Tool for Children in School and Child care* and you decide to **NOT** have your child tested, your child must stay home and self-isolate for 10 days from when their symptoms started. They may return to school/daycare after 10 full days since the symptoms started as long as they do not have a fever and their symptoms have been improving for at least 24 hours. If your child cannot isolate apart from your household contacts (e.g. they are too young) and needs help, the caregiver must also isolate with child and away from other household members.

For information about your child's return to daycare policy, please contact your child's daycare.

If you have any questions, please contact Public Health Sudbury & Districts' COVID-19 call centre at 705.522.9200 (toll-free 1-866-522-9200). Hours of operation are Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Sincerely,



Dr. Penny Sutcliffe

Medical Officer of Health and Chief Executive Officer