Updated Ministry COVID-19 School and Childcare Screening Tool (Feb 17, 2022)

The following information outlines the Ministry of Health’s recommendation for the return to school and child care of someone who had symptoms of COVID-19 (or tested positive for COVID-19) but other household members are still symptomatic (or tested positive for COVID-19).

Summary of guidance (Updated Jan 10, 2022):

1. If additional household members develop COVID-19 symptoms, they should follow isolation directions for symptomatic individuals.
2. Any other household members who are still well and have not developed COVID-19 symptoms should extend their self-isolation until the last symptomatic person or person who tested positive COVID-19 has finished their self-isolation period.
3. The initial household member(s) who had symptoms and recovered from the current illness circulating in the home do not need to extend their self-isolation if others in the home develop symptoms of COVID-19 or if others in the home test positive for COVID-19.
4. Household contacts who have previously tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 90 days (based on positive RAT or molecular test results), are not required to self-isolate and can attend high-risk settings, as long as they remain asymptomatic.

Screening tool question about household members (Updated Feb 7, 2022):

COVID-19 school and child care screening

Do any of the following apply?

- 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
- 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).

Next steps:

1. Contact the school/child care to let them know that you will not be going to school/child care today.
2. You and everyone you live with must isolate (stay home), except for a medical emergency or to visit a clinical assessment centre.
3. Take this screening every day before you go to school/child care.

Going to school/child care again

You can return to school/child care once the household member is cleared from their isolation and as long as you and other members of your household have not developed any symptoms.

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 do not have to extend their isolation period based on other household members developing symptoms.

Not sure about returning? Talk with the school/child care or a health care provider.

If you develop severe symptoms like chest pain or difficulty breathing, go to the nearest emergency department.