

December 4, 2020

RE: New COVID-19 screening for school students and children attending licensed child care settings in Peel

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Starting Monday, December 7, 2020, all children with at least one symptom of COVID-19, even mild symptoms, must stay home, self-isolate and are recommended to get tested. Household members, including siblings, also must self-isolate while the symptomatic child is awaiting test results. This will catch COVID-19 infections even sooner and help keep schools and child care open for all children.

Follow these steps:

1. Screen your children everyday for these symptoms – see the poster in this package for a handy tool to use.

- Fever and/or chills (≥ 37.8 degrees Celsius/100 degrees Fahrenheit)
- Cough or barking cough (croup)
- Shortness of breath
- Decreased or loss of taste/smell
- Sore throat or difficulty swallowing
- Runny nose or stuffy/congested nose
- Unusual or long-lasting headache
- Nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea
- Unusual or extreme tiredness or muscle aches

If your child attends a licensed child care setting, please follow the screening procedure of your child care provider.

2. Take your child to a [testing site or assessment centre](#) to get tested for COVID-19 if they have any new or worsening symptom. Without a COVID-19 test, your child must isolate for 10 days after their symptom(s) started.

3. All people in your home must stay home from work, school and child care until:

- Child's test results return and are negative, **or**
- Health care provider has identified another reason for your child's symptoms, **or**
- 14 days have passed since the last exposure to the child who was not tested.

**Health
Services**

Office of the
Medical Officer
of Health

PO Box 667
RPO Streetsville
Mississauga, ON
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4. Complete the *Student Return to School* form and return it to your school when your child is ready to go back to school. For children in child care, please refer to your *Parent/Guardian COVID-19 Screening Agreement* with your child care provider.

There are no changes to screening for school and child care staff, licensed home child care providers and their household members and essential visitors (where appropriate).

Visit our [website](#) for more information. If you have COVID-19 questions, call Peel Public Health 905-799-7700 (Caledon 905-584-2216), weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Thank you for your efforts to keep all children and staff safe, and schools and child care open for learning.

Sincerely,



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Medical Officer of Health
Region of Peel - Public Health