

Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Child Care Settings

To reduce the risk of spread of COVID-19, people should stay home if they feel unwell. Families need to closely monitor and screen their children each day using the **COVID-19 Daily Checklist**. Keep children home when they are unwell or have new or worsening symptoms and complete the **COVID-19 Self-assessment**. Talk to your child care setting if your child has chronic symptoms for example seasonal allergies or migraines.

If your child becomes unwell or develops new or worsening health symptoms while in care, the following measures will take place:



Monitor your child until you arrive



Have them wash their hands



Offer a mask to older children if available and tolerated (not for under 2 years or if unable to remove on their own)



Escort them to an isolation room/area



Call you to come pick them up

811

Advise you to complete the COVID-19 Self-assessment:

<https://covid-self-assessment.novascotia.ca>
or if unable to access the online tool, call 811

By completing the online assessment, you will be advised if your child needs to be tested for COVID-19. Household members, including siblings, do not need to stay home if they do not have any symptoms.



- If a test is **not required**, your child may return when they are feeling better with no fever medication for 24 hours. Mild lingering symptoms such as cough or runny nose does not prevent individuals from returning. Repeat the assessment for any new or worsening symptoms



- If a COVID-19 test is **required**, your child will need to stay home until the test results come back.



- If the test is **positive**, public health will follow up and provide support and will advise when your child can return to care.



- If the test is **negative**, your child may return when they are feeling better with no fever medication for 24 hours. Mild lingering symptoms such as cough or runny nose does not prevent individuals from returning. Repeat the assessment for any new or worsening symptoms.



- If public health tells you that your child is considered a **close contact** of someone with COVID-19, they will need to stay home for 14 days. Household members of that child do not need to stay home unless they are also a close contact of someone with COVID-19.

We know that keeping children home is difficult for families. Taking a cautious approach is important to control the spread of COVID-19 and other viruses. This plan may change based on new information.

For any new or worsening symptoms complete the COVID-19 Self-assessment: **<https://covid-self-assessment.novascotia.ca>**