



During COVID-19, it is imperative that students who are demonstrating signs of illness not attend school until they are well again. Parents/Guardians are required to assess their child(ren) for symptoms of COVID-19 prior to sending them to school for the day by completing a Daily Health Check as required by the BC Centre for Disease Control.

Student Illness Policy

IF YOUR CHILD IS GOING TO BE ABSENT OR LATE, PLEASE CALL THE SCHOOL OFFICE BEFORE 9 AM.

If you are leaving a message, please include your child’s first and last name, and teacher or grade.

When should I keep my child home from school?

Please do not send your child to school if there are any symptoms of ill health, including sore throat; runny/ stuffy nose, headache; fatigue; loss of appetite; muscle aches; conjunctivitis (pink eye); dizziness or confusion; abdominal pain; skin rash or discoloration of fingers and toes; or when there is a suspected communicable disease, such as mumps, measles, rubella, chicken pox, whooping cough, etc. However, If the symptoms are consistent with a previously diagnosed, non-communicable health condition (e.g., asthma), the student may attend school—please notify the school if this is the case.

Before deciding to send your child to school, a Daily Health Check that checks specifically for the following symptoms must be completed:

- | | | |
|--|---------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shortness of breath | <input type="checkbox"/> Fever | <input type="checkbox"/> Loss of sense of smell or taste |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nausea and vomiting | <input type="checkbox"/> Chills | <input type="checkbox"/> Cough or worsening of chronic cough |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Diarrhea | | |

If any of the above symptoms are present, in addition to keeping your child at home, you will need to follow the COVID-19 protocols described below.

When could my child be sent home from school?

Our policy is to send students who are ill home as soon as possible.

Students who become ill during the day are to go directly to their teacher.

Our practice is to call parents and ask that the student be picked up. For this reason, it is important that parents keep work and emergency phone numbers current.

For more information, refer to the SWS Restart Plan (pages 18-22), or contact **HealthLink BC** (available 24/7) at 8-1-1, **Public Health** at 250-469-7070 or your **family doctor** if you have questions.

When can my child return to school?

For students who are ill but do not display the symptoms listed in the Daily Health Check:

- Students may return to school once they are symptom-free for the period of time specified in the “Returning to School” chart below.

For students who display the symptoms listed in the Daily Health Check:

- **For mild symptoms without fever**, students should monitor at home for 24 hours. If symptoms resolve, they can return to school without further assessment as specified in the “Returning to School” chart below.
- **If symptoms include fever or symptoms remain unchanged or worsen after 24 hours**, a health assessment should be obtained by calling 8-1-1 or consulting with a medical professional such as a physician or nurse practitioner.
 - **If the COVID-19 assessment is negative**, the student may return to school after the student is symptom-free for 24 hours as specified in the “Returning to School” chart below.
 - **If the COVID-19 assessment is positive**, please contact the school and keep your child at home until you are told by a public health official to end self-isolation.

For students who display the symptoms listed in the Daily Health Check but who do not choose to seek a health assessment:

- If a COVID-19 test is recommended but is not done because the parent or guardian chooses not to have the test or a health assessment is not sought when recommended, and the student’s symptoms are not related to a previously diagnosed health condition, they should stay home from school until 10 days after the onset of symptoms, and then may return when symptom-free for 24 hours. To minimize school absences, we recommend pursuing a health assessment with your family doctor or by phoning 8-1-1 to avoid this ten-day self-isolation period.

Returning to School – Listed by Symptom

Symptom

May return when . . .

COVID-19 - Related Symptoms

Fever - Temperature of 100 F / 37.8 C or higher (orally), or 99 F / 37.2 C or higher (under the arm), or 100.4 F / 38 C or higher (forehead/ear)

May return to school after confirmation the child does not have COVID-19 and/or 10-day isolation, and the child is symptom-free for 24 hours without the use of a fever-reducing medication.

Returning to School – Listed by Symptom (continued)

Symptom	May return when . . .
Any of the following --Shortness of Breath --Nausea and Vomiting --Diarrhea --Chills --Loss of sense of smell or taste --Cough or worsening of chronic cough	May return to school if symptom resolves within 24 hours and is not accompanied by fever OR after confirmation the child does not have COVID-19 and/or 10-days isolation, and the child is symptom-free for 24 hours.
Symptoms of Unrelated Illness	
Eye infections, discharge, red/pink eyes	May return to school after child is symptom-free for 24 hours.
Unexplained fatigue, aches, or cold/flu-like symptoms	May return to school after child is symptom-free for 24 hours.
Known or suspected communicable diseases (measles, chicken pox, pink eye, hand foot and mouth, etc.)	May return after being symptom-free for a minimum of 72 hours.
All other illnesses not associated with COVID-19	May return to school after child is symptom-free for 24 hours.
Seasonal allergies or other symptoms that are related to an existing condition	May continue to attend school when they are experiencing these symptoms as normal. If they experience any change in symptoms, they should seek assessment by a health-care provider.
Unexplained rashes or any rash that is not confirmed by doctor to be non-contagious	Seek medical confirmation and provide doctor's note to return.
Children who have just returned from international travel, or children with others living in the same house who have just returned from international travel without strict self-isolation/quarantine measures	May return after self-isolating for 14 days and being symptom-free.
Children who are a confirmed contact of a person confirmed to have COVID-19	May return after self-isolating for 14 days and being symptom-free.