

# Student Symptom Decision Tree

## Student Symptom Decision Tree

Screen all students for potential COVID-19 symptoms or exposure

### High-risk: red flag symptoms



Fever (≥100.4°F)  
(and/or chills)



Cough



Difficulty breathing



Loss of taste/smell

### Low-risk: general symptoms



Congestion/runny nose



Nausea/vomiting/diarrhea



Fatigue/muscle  
or body aches



Sore throat



Headache

### Exposure to COVID-19 positive person?

Close contact: less than 6 feet, 15 minutes or longer

NO

▶ 1 low risk symptom



Send home



Return to school 24 hrs  
after symptom resolution  
(without fever reducing  
medication)

▶ ≥2 low risk symptoms  
OR 1 high risk symptom



Send home



Evaluation by  
health care provider

1

Health care provider confirms alternative  
diagnosis for symptoms. A health care  
provider's note must be on file.  
SARS-CoV-2 diagnostic test not needed.



Return to school after 24 hrs without fever  
and symptoms improving

2

Negative SARS-CoV-2  
diagnostic test.



Return to school after 24 hrs without fever  
and symptoms improving

3

Positive SARS-CoV-2  
diagnostic test  
OR  
No provider visit or test.



Return to school only after 10 days since  
symptom onset and 24 hrs without fever.  
Quarantine close contacts of confirmed  
cases. If any questions, contact local  
health care provider.

YES



Stay home\*



Return to school after 14 days from last  
contact, unless symptoms develop.  
If symptoms develop, perform  
SARS-CoV-2 diagnostic test.

\*In consultation with local health care provider

This care pathway was designed to assist school personnel and is not intended to replace the clinician's judgment or establish a protocol for all patients with a particular condition.

Diagnosis and treatment should be under the close supervision of a qualified health care provider.

Guidance might change; Revision date 10/2/2020