

# How do parents know if their child should get tested for COVID-19?

Children who are sick at all should not go to school. Parents should check students for symptoms of COVID-19 every day before school. This quick assessment can help parents check for symptoms of COVID-19. It is not meant to replace any advice from a healthcare provider. If at any time a parent has questions about their child's health, they should seek advice from a healthcare provider.

**If your child has a health condition that puts him or her at [higher risk](#) for severe illness from COVID-19, you should call a doctor or healthcare provider for advice.**

Part 1: Symptoms	
Does your child have any of these symptoms?	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fever or temperature of 100.4° F (38° C) or higher. If you do not have a thermometer, check your child's skin to see if it feels warm or is red, or ask if he or she has chills or is sweaty.</li> <li>• Sore throat</li> <li>• Cough - if your child normally has a cough because of allergies or asthma, is this cough different than normal?</li> <li>• Shortness of breath</li> <li>• Muscle aches or pains</li> <li>• Decrease in sense of smell or taste</li> </ul>	
<b>Yes, my child has at least 1 of those symptoms.</b>	<b>No, my child is sick, but does not have any of the symptoms listed above.</b>
If you answered YES, move on to part 2.	<p>You answered NO, your child does not have one of the 6 eligible symptoms of COVID-19 for testing.</p> <p>Follow your school's sick policy. Most likely this will mean to keep your child at home until he or she has been fever-free (for 24 hours without medicine) and has not had any symptoms of sickness for 24 hours.</p> <p>If your child does not seem to be getting better, or is getting worse, your child should see a doctor right away.</p>
Part 2: Has your child been exposed to COVID-19?	
<p>Has your child been in close contact to someone who tested positive for COVID-19, in the last 2 weeks (14 days)?</p> <p>This means he or she was closer than 6 feet or 2 meters (about 2 arm lengths) to the person for 15 minutes or longer.</p> <p>If your child came into close contact with someone at school who tested positive for COVID-19, the school or health department would have likely notified you and asked that your child quarantine.</p>	
<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
<p><b>If you answered yes to any questions in both parts 1 and 2, you should call a doctor or healthcare provider right away. Your child may need to get tested for COVID-19.</b></p> <p>Your child should not go to school until he or she has seen a doctor or healthcare provider because your child was in close contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19.</p>	<p>Your child has one or more symptoms of COVID-19 but was not in close contact with someone who tested positive.</p> <p>You should call a healthcare provider to find out if your child should be tested for COVID-19.</p>