For Parents and Guardians

*Symptoms of COVID-19 include fever (≥100.4°F) or chills, fatigue (more tired than usual), headache, muscle aches, cough, nasal congestion or runny nose, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, abdominal pain, diarrhea, nausea or vomiting, new onset poor appetite or poor feeding.

For Schools and Childcare Facilities

**Close contact** means being within 6 feet of a person with COVID-19 for 15 minutes or more or direct exposure to respiratory secretions.

*** ≥10 cases per 100,000 population. Currently all of Virginia. This will be updated with a link to data on local transmission when available.

For Healthcare Providers

¶Testing – PCR or antigen (Ag) testing is acceptable. If an Ag detection test is negative and there is a high clinical suspicion of COVID-19, confirm with PCR, ideally within 2 days of the initial Ag test. If RT-PCR testing is not available, clinical discretion can be used in whether to recommend the patient isolate.

Return to School and Childcare

---

VDH Algorithm for Evaluating a Child with COVID-19 Symptoms or Exposure (August 24, 2020)

For Parents and Guardians

Is your child sick with symptom(s) of COVID-19*?

- **NO**
  - Symptoms new or unusual for the child
  - Keep child home. Call your healthcare provider. Notify the school.

- **YES**
  - Symptoms usual for the child (e.g., allergies, migraines, asthma) or caused by a known diagnosis (e.g., ear infection, strep throat)
  - Seek care as per usual practice. If fever present, stay home until at least 24 hours fever-free without fever-reducing medicines
  - Send to school and/or childcare

Does a child have symptom(s) of COVID-19* at school/childcare?

- **NO**
  - Child has known or chronic diagnosis that explains symptoms
  - Normal activities

- **YES**
  - Has the child had close contact** with someone with COVID-19?
    - **NO**
      - Send home until at least 24 hours fever-free without fever-reducing medicines
    - **YES**
      - Fever present?
        - **NO**
          - Send home until at least 24 hours fever-free without fever-reducing medicines
        - **YES**
          - Isolate/quarantine at home.
          - Exclude for 10 days from last exposure or isolate for 10 days from symptom onset


No known close contact and no exposure to area with ≥10 cases/100,000 population***

Testing* and exclusion for COVID-19 may be considered based on level of clinical suspicion and testing availability.

- Negative for SARS-CoV-2
  - Alternate diagnoses should be considered and exclusions based on usual practice. (Isolate until at least 24 hours fever-free without fever-reducing medicine)

- Positive for SARS-CoV-2

- Negative for SARS-CoV-2 or not tested
  - Close contact** with person with known or suspected COVID-19
    - Quarantine for 14 days from last exposure or isolate for 10 days from symptom onset
    - If no symptoms develop, return to school and/or childcare on Day 15

For Healthcare Providers

If no clinical evaluation performed on child

- Symptoms* new or unusual for the child
  - 10 days home isolation

- No symptoms, but has had close contact** with someone with COVID-19
  - 14 days home quarantine

Exclude for 10 days from symptom onset (or date of positive test) as long as 24 hours fever free and symptoms improved. Quarantine close contacts

For Schools and Childcare Facilities

If a child has symptom(s) of COVID-19 at school/childcare

- Child has known or chronic diagnosis that explains symptoms
  - Send to school and/or childcare

- Symptoms new or unusual for the child
  - Isolate from others. Send home.

Return to School and Childcare

- Even if fever present, stay home until at least 24 hours fever-free without fever-reducing medicines

For Healthcare Providers

- Isolate at home.