

November 19, 2021

Dear parent or guardian:

Re: Stay home and seek testing at the first sign of a COVID-19 symptom, even a mild one

In response to the rapid rise of COVID-19 cases counts in Greater Sudbury, we want to reassure you that the safety of your child(ren) is one of our top priorities. Public Health Sudbury & Districts is monitoring the community-wide spread of COVID-19 closely. COVID-19 and the more transmissible variants of concern have certainly added new challenges to our everyday lives.

Considering this, we would first like to express appreciation for all the superhero parents and guardians whose everyday actions help protect our schools so that children can continue to have in-person learning.

As we navigate through this time together, you may have questions about your role in the COVID-19 response to keep in-person learning safe and reduce local spread. Many of you may be specifically wondering what you should do if their child develops symptoms.

At this time, regardless of vaccination status, we recommend that students check for symptoms daily before heading to the bus stop or school. Although some mild symptoms such as the sniffles are not listed on the provincial COVID-19 school and child care screening tool, due to the rapid rise of cases in Greater Sudbury it is recommended that your child stay home and get tested if they have a symptom, even a mild one.

It is very important that your child does not attend school or take school transportation if they have a COVID-19 symptom, even a mild one. At the first sign of feeling unwell, your child must stay home and get tested. The longer you wait, the more people they could infect. Getting tested as soon as possible also lets Public Health start the contact tracing process sooner if their test result is positive.

Sudbury

1300 rue Paris Street Sudbury ON P3E 3A3 t: 705.522.9200 f: 705.522.5182

Elm Place

10 rue Elm Street Unit / Unité 130 Sudbury ON P3C 5N3 t: 705.522.9200 f: 705.677.9611

Sudbury East / Sudbury-Est

1 rue King Street Box / Boîte 58 St.-Charles ON POM 2W0 t: 705.222.9201 f: 705.867.0474

Espanola

800 rue Centre Street Unit / Unité 100 C Espanola ON P5E 1J3 t: 705.222.9202 f: 705.869.5583

Île Manitoulin Island

6163 Highway / Route 542 Box / Boîte 87 Mindemoya ON POP 1S0 t: 705.370.9200 f: 705.377.5580

Chapleau

34 rue Birch Street Box / Boîte 485 Chapleau ON POM 1K0 t: 705.860.9200 f: 705.864.0820

toll-free / sans frais

1.866.522.9200

phsd.ca



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If your child requires testing for COVID-19, appointments should be booked online or over the phone with an Assessment Centre. For safety reasons, "walk in" appointments are strictly prohibited.

Assessment Centre

Health Science North (Sudbury)

- 705.671.7373 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., 7 days per week
- Online form: Request an Appointment at the COVID-19 Assessment Centre (hsnsudbury.ca)

Manitoulin Health Centre Assessment Centre

 Little Current 705.368.2300, Monday, 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Noojmowin Teg Health Centre

• 705.368.2182 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday to Friday

Espanola and area COVID assessment centre

• 705.869.1420, ext. 4500, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday to Friday.

Chapleau Assessment Centre

• 705.864.2568 between the hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday to Friday.

While your child awaits a testing appointment or testing results for COVID-19, they must remain in isolation at home and cannot attend school or child care. The Assessment Center will provide guidance if siblings and other close contacts, such as people living in the same household are required to isolate at home while waiting for your child's test results.

If you have any questions, please contact Public Health Sudbury & Districts' COVID-19 call centre at 705.522.9200 (toll-free 1.866.522.9200). Hours of operation are Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Sincerely,

Penny Sutcliffe, MD, MHSc, FRCPC Medical Officer of Health and Chief Executive Officer