

NEED TO KNOW



Chronicles In COVID-19

Highlights



Our new normal that isn't so normal...

What we know about COVID-19 and children from the CDC:

- Scientists are still learning how COVID-19 affects children and the role children play in transmission of the virus.
- Limited data suggests that children are less likely to get COVID-19 than adults.
- When children do get COVID-19, they generally have less serious illness than adults and many children have no symptoms.
- Common symptoms of COVID-19 in children are fever, runny nose, cough, sore throat, headache, body ache and diarrhea.
- As of July 21, 2020, 6.6% of reported COVID-19 cases in the United States are among children and teenagers less than 18 years old.
- The limited evidence of how COVID-19 spreads to children suggests most children become infected by a family member.
- Children with underlying medical conditions, who are medically complex, who have neurologic, genetic, metabolic conditions or who have congenital heart disease may be at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19, compared to other children.
- More cases of COVID-19 have been reported among children with intellectual and developmental disabilities than those children without disabilities.
- As of August 23, 2,597 children (birth -17) have been tested for COVID -19 in Okaloosa County. Of those tested, 288 children were positive (Department of Health, Okaloosa County, Aug. 24, 2020).

Adapted from:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/decision-tool.html>

Daily Home Screening for Students and Employees:

- The Florida Department of Health and the CDC recommends that school districts encourage parents, guardians, or caregivers and employees to conduct daily home screenings each morning before leaving for school / work.
- Employees and parents should conduct "screenings" for the following symptoms: [Fever > 100.4, cough \(worsening cough in those with chronic cough\), shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, sore throat, headache \(moderate or severe\), body or muscle aches, GI symptoms \(abdominal pain, diarrhea, vomiting, nausea\), new loss of taste or smell, nasal congestion or runny nose.](#)
- See attached Florida Department of Health – Okaloosa County Daily Home Screening Form for Parents and Student Evaluation in School Health Room.

- Students and employees should stay home:
 - For any COVID-like symptoms
 - Awaiting COVID-19 test results
 - Under quarantine for exposure to a positive COVID-19 case
 - In isolation due to testing positive for COVID-19

Return to School Procedures:

- Positive COVID-19 case with symptoms:
 - At least 10 days since symptom onset, AND
 - At least 24 hours fever free, without the use of medication, AND
 - Symptoms improving
- Positive COVID-19 without symptoms:
 - 10 days from the test collection date
- 14-day Self-Quarantine:
 - At the conclusion of the 14-day quarantine period (negative COVID-19 test does not end or decrease quarantine).

- Students / Employees sent home with COVID-like symptoms may return to school / work:
 - With verification from a healthcare provider of an alternative diagnosis other than COVID-19 and symptom free for 24 hours without the use of medication. **A note from the provider is required.**
 - A negative COVID-19 test result and symptom free for 24 hours without the use of medication. **Documentation of negative test is required.**
 - If no COVID-19 testing is done and / or no alternative diagnosis obtained, then school / work exclusion for 10 days from onset of symptoms and until symptom free for 24 hours without the use of medications, in line with current CDC recommendations.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/symptom-screening.html>

Daily Screening Form for Parents/Guardians

STAY AT HOME IF AWAITING COVID-19 TESTING RESULTS.
 If your child has COVID-19 based on PCR or Antigen testing.

Do not go to school until all three of following are met:
 1. at least 10 days since symptom onset or, if asymptomatic, 10 days from test collection date, AND
 2. at least 24 hours fever free, without fever reducing medication, AND
 3. symptoms improving

Yes

STEP 1 - Did your child test positive for COVID-19 (PCR or Antigen test) OR is your child awaiting results of a COVID-19 test?

No

Have you been told your child has been exposed to a person with COVID-19?

No

No

Yes

Daily Home Screening Conducted by Parent/Guardian or Caregiver

Does your child have any of the following symptoms?

- Fever >100.4 F (measured orally)
- Cough (worsening cough in those with chronic cough)
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Sore throat
- Headache (moderate or severe)
- Body or muscle aches
- GI symptoms (abdominal pain, diarrhea, vomiting, nausea)
- New loss of taste or smell
- Nasal congestion, runny nose

No

Stay home. Do not go to school.
 Follow the directions provided by your healthcare provider or the health department.

Go to School

Yes

Stay home and do not go to school.
 Seek medical care and COVID-19 PCR or rapid Antigen testing.
IMPORTANT: Rapid Antibody testing IS NOT ACCEPTED for diagnosis of COVID-19.



Student Evaluation in a School Health Room

STEP 1 -Child tells teacher of symptoms. Teacher notifies school health unit of child with possible COVID-related symptoms. Student reports to school health room for evaluation.

STEP 2: Evaluation in a School Health Room

Does the child have any of the following symptoms?

- Fever >100.4 F (measured orally)
- Cough (worsening cough in those with chronic cough)
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Sore throat
- Headache (moderate or severe)
- Body or muscle aches
- GI symptoms (abdominal pain, diarrhea, vomiting)
- New loss of taste or smell
- Nasal congestion, runny nose

YES

Meets school exclusion criteria. for COVID-19

- Isolate child from others
- Inform parent
- Send home
- Recommend evaluation by health care provider and possible testing for COVID-19 (PCR or Rapid Antigen)

NO

No, but has symptoms not related to COVID-19.

Observe. Assess for more common ailments routinely observed in school-aged children.

Symptoms Do Not Resolve

Inform parent and consider sending home based on normal school exclusion policy.

No symptoms

Return to Class Recommended

Prevention Measures

- Physical distancing (6 ft.)
- Wear cloth face covering
- Cough/sneeze hygiene
- Don't share drinks or eating utensils
- Wash hands frequently

Symptoms Resolve

Return to Class Recommended Prevention Measures

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- Wear cloth face covering
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