



Dear Parent/Guardian/Caregiver,

Your child was assessed and found to have the following potential symptoms of COVID-19:

- Fever (100 degrees or higher), without use of fever-reducing medication
- Cough, not due to other known causes, such as chronic cough
- Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
- Chills or shaking chills
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Muscle aches or body aches
- Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea
- Headache (when in combination with other symptoms)
- Fatigue (when in combination with other symptoms)
- Nasal congestion or runny nose, not due to other known causes, such as allergies, (when in combination with other symptoms)

Please contact your healthcare provider to report the above symptoms and need for a COVID-19 test. Please be advised that a **PCR test** is recommended by the MA Department of Public Health.

Even mild symptoms could be indicative of a COVID infection.

The Hingham Public School District is following the guidance of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and Department of Education; therefore, your student is required to have a test for COVID-19 infection prior to returning to school.

Documentation of the test result is required in writing to the School Nurse prior to your student's return to school.

If your child receives an alternate diagnosis that explains symptoms (ear infection, strep throat), your provider must provide a note stating when your child may return to school.

Test Results:

- While test results are **PENDING**: Student must stay home and self isolate until results are received. Family members living in the same household should avoid close contact (within 6 feet) of the ill child.
- If test results are **POSITIVE**: Student must stay home and self isolate for at least 10 days, fever-free for 24 hours (without the aid of fever reducing medications), improvement of other symptoms has occurred, and has been given clearance from contact tracers to return to school.
 - Household members must enter **quarantine for 14 days**, and will not be allowed to attend school in person. They should avoid close contact (within 6 feet) with the ill child and monitor for symptoms.
- If test results are **NEGATIVE**: Student can return to school 24 hours after symptoms improve and are fever free (without the use of fever reducing medication).
- If **NOT TESTED**: Student must remain at home in self isolation for 10 days from symptom onset. At the end of the 10 days, they may return if they have improvement in symptoms and are without fever for 24 hours (without the use of fever reducing medications).

Please contact your school nurse as soon as you receive test results. Please note, Hingham Public Schools is obligated to share information about suspected and confirmed cases of COVID-19 with the Hingham Board of Health.

Thank you for your cooperation during this Public Health Crisis.

Hingham Public School Nurses