



Owen Sound District Secondary School

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Dear Parents and Guardians:

Good afternoon everyone, a new access to school protocol has been released. The protocol details are outlined below.

New: Single-symptom screening and enhanced isolation requirements

In response to new COVID-19 variants of concern in Ontario, the Ministry of Education has updated its [COVID-19](#) screening tool with increased expectations.

This more rigorous approach states:

1. That everyone in a household should stay home if anyone in the household:
 - has COVID-19 symptoms; or
 - is waiting for test results after experiencing symptoms until the person with symptoms gets a negative COVID-19 test result, is cleared by public health, or is diagnosed with another illness.
2. If a student or staff member has even **1 new or worsening symptom**, then that person must isolate for 10 days or until:
 - they receive a negative COVID-19 test result;
 - they receive an alternate diagnosis by a health care professional; or
 - it has been 10 days since their symptom onset, and they are feeling better.
3. All household members of that person who has a symptom and is isolating/being tested, must also stay home until the symptomatic person receives a negative test result or an alternate medical diagnosis.
4. If the symptomatic individual **tests positive** or is **not tested** the symptomatic individual must isolate (including from household members) for 10 days from symptom onset, and all household contacts must isolate until 14 days have passed from their last contact with the symptomatic individual.
5. If a child develops an illness during the school day, and their siblings are at the same school, they should all be picked up together. However, if a sibling attends a different school, they can finish their day so long as they remain well.

Thank you as always for your cooperation and support as we continue to adapt to these changes in provincial protocols. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me or your child's teacher .

Yours Truly,

Jeff Brookshaw
OSDSS Principal