

September 22, 2020

Keep your child home and call their healthcare provider if your child gets sick

If your child has symptoms and may have been exposed to the virus that causes COVID-19 or has been in an area where the virus is spreading, keep your child home

Call your child's healthcare provider to discuss whether your child needs to be evaluated or tested for COVID-19. If you suspect that your child or someone they know has COVID-19 or has come into [close contact](#) with someone who has COVID-19, visit [Coronavirus self-checker](#). This online tool will help you decide when to seek testing or medical care for your child.

Protect yourself from COVID-19 while caring for your child

Notify your child's school that your child is sick. Also inform the school if your child has had a COVID-19 test and what the result is, if available.

Review your [child's school policies](#) related to when a child who has been sick can return

Bring your child back to school or other in-person activities only after they can safely be around others

What you can do

Monitor your child for COVID-19 symptoms every day

Pay particular attention to:

- Fever (temperature 100.4 °F or higher)
- Sore throat
- New uncontrolled cough that causes difficulty breathing (for a child with chronic allergic/asthmatic cough, see if there is a change from their usual cough)
- Diarrhea, vomiting, or stomachache
- New onset of severe headache, especially with a fever
- New loss of taste or smell