

Subject: COVID-19 School Screening Tool

Date: September 17, 2020

Memorandum to: Directors of Education
Centre Jules-Léger Consortium
School Authorities

From: Nancy Naylor
Deputy Minister of Education

Subject: **COVID-19 School Screening Tool**

I am writing to let you know that the Government of Ontario has made a new tool available for families, school staff and essential visitors to meet their obligation to screen themselves or their children for symptoms of illness each day before going to school.

The [COVID-19 School Screening](#) tool is a new, voluntary, simple and fast online tool that will allow parents, staff and essential visitors to indicate whether they, or their children, are experiencing particular symptoms of illness (from a specified list), are currently subject to quarantine requirements or have otherwise been advised to isolate. Based on their responses, they will receive a clear indication as to whether they should go to school that day or not, and if not, what to do next. The tool itself can also be printed to support screening by persons who do not have access to technology. The tool reflects current provincial health guidance and will be continuously updated should that guidance change.

The screening result can be downloaded as a PDF and printed or emailed if needed. The onus is on parents to screen their child and staff and essential visitors to screen themselves and the ministry has not directed that schools must verify a person's screening. However, schools may have their own entry protocols in place.

The ministry is aware that some boards have worked with their local public health units to develop their own screening tools. Where this has happened, we ask that you align the criteria in those tools with the provincial tool, so that parents and staff are not given conflicting results.

In addition, please find attached three posters in English and French to help reinforce health and safety measures for students as they return to school. The posters highlight the importance of staying home if not well, hand hygiene, physical distancing and more. We encourage you to share these posters with schools to print and post. More information is available on [Ontario.ca/reopeningschools](https://ontario.ca/reopeningschools).

Thank you as always for your ongoing partnership in preparing for a safe and healthy return to school.

Nancy
Deputy Minister

Naylor

Attachments

- c: Executive Director, Association des conseils scolaires des écoles publiques de l'ontario (ACÉPO)
- Executive Director, Association franco-ontarienne des conseils scolaires catholiques (AFOCSC)
- Executive Director, Ontario Catholic School Trustees' Association (OCSTA)
- Executive Director, Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA)
- Executive Director, Council of Ontario Directors of Education (CODE)
- Executive Director and Secretary-Treasurer, Association des enseignantes et des enseignants franco-ontariens (AEFO)
- General Secretary, Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association (OECTA)
- General Secretary, Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario (ETFO)
- General Secretary, Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation (OSSTF)
- Chair, Ontario Council of Educational Workers (OCEW)
- Chair, Education Workers' Alliance of Ontario (EWAO)
- Co-ordinator, Canadian Union of Public Employees – Ontario (CUPE-ON)