

**August 31, 2022**

**Subject: Updates to the School Screening Tool**

Good afternoon,

As we approach the beginning of the 2022-23 school year, I am writing to notify you of updates made by the Ministry of Health and Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health to the [School and Child Care Screening Tool](#).

Updates to the screening tool implement revisions to the [Management of Cases and Contacts of COVID-19 in Ontario](#) guidance from the Ministry of Health, based on evolving epidemiology and evidence for COVID-19, as well as considerations for other respiratory and gastrointestinal illness that are likely to circulate over the coming months.

Anyone who is feeling sick or has any new or worsening symptoms of illness, including those not listed in this screening tool, should stay home until their symptoms are improving for at least 24 hours (or 48 hours for nausea, vomiting, and/or diarrhea) and they do not have a fever, and seek assessment from their health care provider if needed. The presence of symptoms, particularly respiratory symptoms, increases the risk of transmitting to others.

[Downloadable versions](#) of the tool continue to be available; please note that there is a specific tool for individuals who are immunocompromised or living in a highest risk congregate care setting.

Please ensure that staff, students and families are aware of and using the updated screener. It is recommended that staff, students/children and visitors continue to self-screen every day before attending school or child care. As a reminder, individuals should stay home if they are feeling ill to prevent the spread of illness.

Sincerely,

Julia Danos  
Executive Lead  
Reopening Secretariat