

PROTOCOL Covid19 - CASES MANAGEMENT

Measures for children (and adults) with symptoms (for all ages)

a) Children (or adults) with symptoms should stay at home and contact their doctor.

- Children or staff with clinical signs should stay at home and contact their doctor.
- A child must stay at home and cannot come to daycare or classes if he/she is sick or shows:
At least **one of the following major symptoms of acute onset, with no other obvious cause:**
 - Fever
 - Coughing
 - Breathing difficulties
 - Chest pain
 - Loss of taste and/or smell without apparent cause

OR

At least **two of the following minor symptoms without any other obvious cause:**

- Muscle pain
- Fatigue
- Rhinitis (congestion or runny nose)
- Sore throat
- Headaches
- Loss of appetite
- Aqueous diarrhea

OR

An aggravation of chronic respiratory symptoms (asthma, chronic cough...), without any other obvious cause.

In case of doubt or questions, contact can always be made with the school nurse yoke.moortgat@eursc.eu or 014 563 140

b) In the event of the appearance of symptom(s) at school

If a pupil develops a symptom while attending school:

- The pupil must be isolated from the others in the dedicated space in the infirmary;
- His/her parents must be contacted (by the Secretary Primary/Secondary) immediately to come and collect him/her;
- The school nurse will regularly ask about the pupil's state of health;
- After the departure of a sick pupil, this space must be ventilated and disinfected;
- Parents should contact the attending doctor who will judge whether a PCR2 test is necessary and whether the child can attend school or not;
- If a test is carried out, the child must remain isolated at least until the result is known in order to avoid any further spread of the virus. Parents must inform the school on following email address: Covid19@esmol.be . If there is a strong suspicion of COVID-19, cohabitants (siblings attending school) should already isolate themselves preventively while waiting for the test result.
- The child will be able to return to school according to the evaluation made by his or her doctor.
- A medical certificate is provided as part of the school's normal procedures.

c) Child meeting the definition of a possible case of COVID-19

When a student meets the definition of a possible case of COVID-19 :

PUPIL IN NURSERY

- Contact is made by his parents with his doctor.
- The doctor assesses whether or not a test is necessary:
- If no test is carried out, the child may return to school based on the evolution of his or her state of health, as determined by the doctor. There is no quarantine.
- If a test is carried out and it is negative, the child can return to school based on the evolution of his or her state of health, as determined by the doctor.
- If a test is carried out and it is positive, he is isolated at home and can return to school 7 days after the onset of symptoms if he has had no fever for the last 3 days and there is a significant improvement in symptoms.

PUPIL IN PRIMARY

- Contact is made by his parents with his doctor.
- A test is carried out (while waiting for the test result, the student stays at home):
- If the test is negative, he can return to school based on the evolution of his health, determined by his doctor. There is no quarantine.
- If the test is positive, he is isolated at home and can return to school 7 days after the onset of symptoms if he has had no fever for the last 3 days and there is a significant improvement in symptoms.

PUPIL IN SECONDARY

- Contact is made by his parents with his doctor.
- A test is carried out (while waiting for the test result, the student stays at home):
- If the test is negative, he can return to school based on the evolution of his health, determined by his doctor. There is no quarantine.
- EXCEPT if the student is in close contact with a confirmed case.
- In this case, he or she is quarantined and can only return to school 14 days after the high-risk contact with the confirmed case OR 14 days after the infected family member has been allowed to end the home isolation.
- A second test is possible, possibly allowing for a shorter quarantine. This is the responsibility of the attending physician.
- If the test is positive, he or she is isolated at home and can return to school 7 days after the onset of symptoms if there is no fever for the last 3 days and there is a significant improvement in symptoms.

IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COMMUNITY IN KINDERGARTEN AND PRIMARY SCHOOL

- If a child in nursery or primary school is a confirmed case of COVID-19, all children in the class as well as the teacher are considered low-risk contacts³.
- There is no test or quarantine for the other children and the teacher in the class but information should be given to the parents (see school nurse/doctor).
- Children and adults with whom he or she has been in contact should be monitored for the possible appearance of symptoms for 14 days.
- Pupils in the class can continue to attend school normally.

IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COMMUNITY IN SECONDARY SCHOOL

- **If the physical distance (>1.5m) has been respected**, the other pupils in the class, the teacher and the other classes are low-risk contacts.
- There is no test or quarantine, but information must be given to the parents (to be discussed with the school nurse/doctor).
- Children and adults with whom he or she has been in contact should be monitored for 14 days for the possible appearance of symptoms (= potential incubation period).
- Pupils in the class can continue to attend school normally.
- **If the physical distance has not been maintained for more than 15 minutes**, the pupils and the teacher in the case are high-risk contacts.
- They must be quarantined and tested.
- **If the test is negative**, the quarantine remains in effect for 14 days after the last high-risk contact. A second test can be carried out under certain conditions and the quarantine is shortened. The young person and his parents will discuss this possibility with their doctor.
- Those who **test positive** are isolated at home and can return to school 7 days after the test, or more depending on the evolution of the clinical condition.

³ For your information, you will find in the appendix the classification of contacts, and an explanation of the notions of "high risk" and "low risk".

Measures for children cohabiting in a COVID-19 case

Pupils with positive contacts in the household (parents or other cohabitants) are considered high-risk contacts.

PUPIL IN NURSERY

- The student is not tested.
- He or she is quarantined and can only return to school 14 days after the high-risk contact with the infected family member OR 14 days after the infected family member has been allowed to end the home isolation.
- If the student becomes symptomatic during quarantine, he or she is considered a confirmed case.

PUPIL IN PRIMARY AND SECONDARY

- The pupil is tested.
- If the test is negative, he or she is quarantined and cannot return to school until 14 days after the high-risk contact with the infected family member OR 14 days after the infected family member has been allowed to end the home isolation.
- A second test is possible, possibly allowing for a shorter quarantine. This is the responsibility of the attending physician.
- If the test is positive, the infected family member is isolated at home and can return to school 7 days after the onset of symptoms if there is no fever for the last 3 days and there is a significant improvement in symptoms.

IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COMMUNITY IN KINDERGARTEN, PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS

- There is no action to be taken.
- Pupils in the class can continue to attend school normally.

Measurements from 2 confirmed positive COVID-19 cases (cluster)

- From 2 positive COVID-19 cases confirmed within 14 days in the same class (nursery, primary, secondary), it is considered to be a cluster:
- The whole class must be tested, except in kindergarten.
- School nurses/physicians should contact the local authorities, who will take the necessary measures.

Situation of students contacts

A pupil who is in asymptomatic close contact (at school, in the household) with a person who is himself asymptomatic close contact normally continues his activities.

He can therefore come to school, participate in the day care. There are no special measures to be taken.

Role of the school infirmary and collaboration with the school management

a) Reporting a case of COVID-19

- When a case is confirmed, the parents informs the school (Covid19@esmol.be). The management decides on the measures to be taken.

In case the school asks the parents to pick up a child who has been symptomatic at school:

- The school keeps this information confidential;
- The school nurse can, if necessary, ensure that contact has been made with the attending doctor, via the family and then the attending doctor;
- Contact will only be made on request of the school. For any questions about the management of a suspicion or case, the school will contact the school doctor.

b) Contact tracing

- If a case of COVID-19 has attended school in the two days before the onset of symptoms (or the taking of the sample), the school nurse, in collaboration with the management and Safety & Security Officer, must carry out a contact tracing and inform the parents of the close contacts and inform them of the measures to be taken to limit the transmission of the virus.
- A list of contacts is drawn up by the parents and the school, including at least the surname, first name, date of birth of the contacts and the telephone number of a close relative, preferably a parent. The list is divided into two parts for high-risk and low-risk contacts.
- School nurses must also identify among the contacts whether there are children belonging to a risk group who were attending school in agreement with their doctor. Telephone contact with parents should be made immediately, informing them whether the contact is high or low risk, and asking them to discuss it again with their doctor.

- All information concerning personnel is transmitted to the SSO (Safety & Security Officer) and will be shared with the External Service for prevention (IDEWE)
- Doctor Stuyck: veronique.stuyck@idewe.be
- Secretary Primary/Secondary will keep the contact list of a case on the premises of their department so that they can communicate it at request if necessary.

c) Informing parents of contacts about the measures to be taken

The school Secretary, in collaboration with the school management, informs the parents of children who have been in contact with a confirmed case. The communication will be done by telephone, e-mail, or paper mail. Telephone contact is strongly recommended.

Measures for teachers with symptoms

- If a teacher has symptoms and meets the COVID-19 possible case definition, he or she should be ruled out and tested.
- If the test is **positive**, it is a confirmed case.

Consequences for the community in nursery

- The class is considered as high-risk contact (close contact)
- The class must be **closed** for 14 days.

Consequences for the community in primary and secondary

- If the physical distance (more than 1.5m) has been respected by the teacher, the pupils are contacts **at low risk**.
- There is no test or quarantine, but information must be given to the parents (to be discussed with the school nurse/doctor).
- Children and adults with whom he has been in contact should be monitored for the possible appearance of symptoms for 14 days.
- Pupils in the class can continue to attend school normally.

Inform the school of a case of Covid-19

- If a pupil or staff member has been tested for Covid-19 and has received:
 - a positive result,
 - or other medical information about Covid-19
- the pupil's parents or staff member must inform the school immediately at a dedicated special e-mail address:

Covid19@esmol.be

This e-mail address is accessible to the school management, Secretary Primary/Secondary and the infirmary.

You will receive an automatic reply with useful information once you have informed the school about the procedures described above that can be put in place.

ANNEX :

Sciensano - MEASURES FOR PERSONAL CONTACT WITH COVID-19 (version of 14/08/2020) **Excerpts relating to school audiences**

A suspected case of infection occurs when you have been in (close) contact with a person who is tested positive for Covid19 OR you are waiting for your test result.

- Definition of a contact:
 - Contact 2 days before symptoms and 7 days after the first symptoms showed.
 - Contact 2 days before the sample was taken for the test.

- Definition close contact (high risk):
 - A person had contact for at least 15 minutes closer than 1,5 meter distance ("face to face");
 - A person who has been in the same room with the Covid19 patient for more than 15 minutes without respecting the social distance and/or where common material was used;
 - A person who had direct physical contact (hugging, kissing, etc.) with the Covid19 patient;
 - A person who has travelled with the Covid19 patient for more than 15 minutes in any

- Low risk contact:
 - A person who had contact less than 15 minutes, closer than 1,5 meter ("face to face");
 - A person within the same room, but who had contact less than 1,5 meter during less than 15 minutes.