

Mercymount Country Day School

What if my child has symptoms at home or gets sick at school?

- If your child has any of the symptoms listed below, keep them home from school, call the school to report their absence, and contact your health care provider for further advice.
- If your child has any of the symptoms listed below while at school, they will be moved to an area set up in the health office specifically for students not feeling well and you will be called to come pick up your child. If there are unvaccinated siblings in the building they will also need to be picked up.

Cough (new)	<p>In the absence of a more likely diagnosis by a healthcare provider, any person with <u>any of these symptoms should isolate and get a PCR test.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Schedule a test online at portal.ri.gov or call 844-857-1814<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Choose that the child is a K-12 student◦ Weekdays 9 a.m - 5 p.m.◦ Weekends 9 a.m. - 1 p.m• Call your child's healthcare provider for medical advice. <p>The K-12 Testing sites have a faster turnaround time for test results than other locations. Appointments are saved for students, their families and teachers.</p>
Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing	
New loss of taste	
New loss of smell	
Fever	
Chills	
Muscle or body aches	
Headache	
Sore Throat	
Fatigue	
Congestion or runny nose	
Nausea or vomiting	
Diarrhea	

When can my child go back to school?

If your child had a **NEGATIVE PCR COVID-19 test**, your child can go back to school when:

1. You have received **all** COVID-19 test results and they are negative.
2. Your child has been fever free for 24 hours without taking fever-reducing medicine.
3. Your child's symptoms have improved.
4. Your child has not been told to quarantine by RIDOH or. Mercymount.

If your child **did not** have a **COVID-19 test** your child can go back to school when:

1. You have a note from a health care provider stating there is a more likely diagnosis than COVID.
2. Your child has been fever free for 24 hours without taking fever-reducing medicine.
3. Your child's symptoms have improved.

What if my child tests positive for COVID-19?

Most children who get COVID-19 have milder symptoms than adults and can be cared for at home. Your child's healthcare provider, school, and RIDOH will help you and give you information about what to do. **Your child will need to stay home in isolation until they are no longer contagious.**

- RIDOH will call and ask you questions about your child's health, symptoms, and activities in the past two weeks and give you information about:
 - Symptoms to watch for:
 - How to keep your child separated from others in the home while they are sick; and
 - How long **your child will need to be at home in isolation** which means staying home until they are no longer contagious to others
- If your child feels well enough to do schoolwork, your child should log onto their Google Classrooms for assignments or email the teacher to see if paperwork is available to be picked up in the office.
- Please call Mercymount each day and notify us if your child is too sick to participate in school work.
- Send COVID PCR test results to the school nurse at nurse@mercymount.org.

After a positive test, your child can return to school when:

1. The child's isolation period has ended according to the RI Department of Health.
2. Your child has been fever free for 24 hours without taking fever-reducing medicine.
3. Your child's symptoms have improved.

What if my child is a close contact of someone who has COVID-19?

- **Unvaccinated Close Contacts**
 - People who are not fully vaccinated should get a PCR test **immediately** after being identified as a close contact. If the test is negative, they should get another PCR test right away if they develop symptoms during quarantine **OR 5 - 7 days after last exposure**.
 - The student can return to school on day 8 after exposure if all tests are negative and the student has no symptoms.
- **Vaccinated Close Contacts**
 - Fully vaccinated people should get a PCR test **3 - 5 days after** exposure. They should wear a mask in public indoor settings and crowded outdoor settings for 14 days or until they receive a negative test result.
 - Fully vaccinated people may also be tested **immediately** after being notified of being a close contact and again **3 -5 days after the close contact exposure**. This helps detect an infection with no symptoms and helps prevent further spread of COVID.
 - Students may remain in school if they are without symptoms

Nurse Kellie and Nurse Gina

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