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## **EEB1 Covid case procedures / Integrating SCIENSANO COVID MEASURES**

**Concerning COVID-19 - You will find below the different measures to follow if you develop symptoms when not in school.**

### **1. You're sick → stay at home**

A child or adult with clinical signs should stay at home and contact his or her general practitioner:

If they display **at least one of the following symptoms** without any other apparent cause:

- fever
- cough
- breathing difficulties
- chest pain
- loss of taste and/or smell without apparent cause

If they display **two or more of the following symptoms** without any other apparent cause :

- muscle aches and pains
- fatigue
- rhinitis
- sore throat
- headaches
- loss of appetite
- watery diarrhea

### **OR**

A worsening of chronic respiratory symptoms (people with chronic asthma, chronic cough, ...)

### **2. You're sick at school → what does it entail?**

#### **Adults:**

Stop working, inform your superior and go straight home. Contact your general practitioner who will decide what to do next. **Don't go to the infirmary except in cases of vital emergency !**

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### Students :

- Sick students are sent to the infirmary. The infirmary will decide according to symptoms if they should be placed in a "quarantine area".
- Students placed in the quarantine area will have to be picked up as soon as possible by their parents.
- Parents of sick students will have to contact their doctor who will decide what to do next depending on the child's school level (testing, medical certificate, quarantine...).

### **3. Implications for children with symptoms of COVID-19 according to grade level**

#### Nursery :

*Children less than 6 years of age are no longer systematically tested except for specific cases (as advised by your general practitioner).*

If no test is conducted : the child returns to school in accordance with the medical opinion delivered in the medical certificate.

If a test is conducted :

- Negative → the child returns to school in accordance with the medical opinion delivered in the medical certificate.
- Positive → the child is put in quarantine and may return 7 days after the date of the test if they have had no fever in the previous 3 days and their health has improved.

#### Primary :

A test must be conducted → until the results are known, the child must remain at home.

- If the test is negative, they return to school in accordance with the medical opinion delivered in the medical certificate.
- If the test positive, the child is put in quarantine and may return to school 7 days after the first symptoms appear if there has been no fever for the last 3 days and the child's health has improved.

#### Secondary :

A test must be conducted → until the results are known, the student must remain at home.

- If the test is negative, the student returns to school in accordance with the medical opinion delivered in the medical certificate. No quarantine.
- If test is positive, the student is put in quarantine and may return 7 days after the date of the test if there has been no fever in the previous 3 days and the health has improved.

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#### 4. What are the implications if there is a positive case in the class?

##### 4.1 Nursery and Primary:

- The class continues its normal activities and parents are notified of a case;
- No testing and quarantine for other students and teachers in the class;
- Maintained alertness towards the symptoms of the students and adults in the class. If they develop symptoms, they should be quarantined, tested, and notify the school of the result.

*Only exception for nursery: if the teacher is positive, the whole class will systematically be quarantined.*

##### 4.2 Secondary:

###### a) Low risk contact

Students and teachers who had low-risk contact with the person that tested positive i.e. :

- Wearing the mask correctly positioned when less than 1m50 away
- There was no physical contact with the person that tested positive.

###### Implications of low-risk contact :

- They can continue their activities normally. The school informs the parents and the teacher of a case in the class or in the group ;
- No testing nor quarantine;
- Symptoms must be monitored. If they develop symptoms, they will have to quarantine, be tested and notify the school of the result.

###### b) High-risk contact

For students and teachers who have had high-risk contact with the person that tested positive i.e. :

- They have been in contact with the person that tested positive at less than 1.5m without a mask for more than 15 minutes (in the canteen, for instance) ;
- They had physical contact with the person that tested positive.

###### Implications of high-risk contact :

- They should be quarantined and tested 5 days after their latest high-risk contact (if they report symptoms during those 5 days, they should be tested immediately).
- If the test is negative: they must stay home for 7 days from the latest high-risk contact they had.
- If the test is positive: they quarantine for (at least) 7 days from the date of the test. If during the last 3 days of this period there has been no fever and their health has improved, the quarantine ends.

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## **5. Measures from two or more cases in class**

### **5.1. For kindergarten and primary school**

- The class is closed and quarantined if the two cases appear to be related ;
- The entire primary class is tested, including the teacher.
- In nursery, the child is tested only if he or she displays symptoms. The teacher must be tested.
- The duration of the quarantine depends on each individual's test results.

If they test negative:

They must stay at home for 7 days from the latest class contact with the person that tested positive.

If they test positive:

The quarantine is extended for (at least) 7 days from the date of the test. If during the last 3 days of this period there has been no fever and their health has improved, the quarantine ends.

Until the results are known, the person must stay at home.

### **5.2. For the secondary level**

A class closure will occur if and only if both cases of the class/group have not been recognized as having had high-risk contact. (See point 4.2)

If no link can be established between the two positive cases :

- Class closure :
  - The class is quarantined and must be tested, including the teacher.
  - The duration of the quarantine depends on the test results of each individual.

If they test negative:

They must stay at home for 7 days from the latest class contact with the person that tested positive.

Or the test is positive:

The quarantine is extended for (at least) 7 days from the date of the test. If during the last 3 days of this period there has been no fever and their health has improved, the quarantine ends.

Until the results are known, the person must stay at home.

## **6. Measures in the event of a positive case in the household (a parent or a sibling)**

When there is a positive case in the household, all members of the household are considered to have had a high-risk contact with the person that tested positive.

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This means that everyone will have to quarantine and be tested (except for children under 6 years of age = test only if they develop symptoms or are part of a vulnerable group).

The period of quarantine will depend on several factors such as contact with the person that tested positive, the duration of the illness, the test result, etc.

For this part, we strongly encourage you to consult your treating physician.

**7. What happens to the student's class if a sibling or parent is positive?**

- Only the student needs to quarantine and be tested.
- The class continues its activities as usual.

**8. A student had a contact with a student who had a high-risk contact with a person who tested positive for COVID-19**

- No measure needs to be taken regarding this student.

**9. One person in the family is showing symptoms and has been tested. Does the rest of the family need to go into preventative quarantine before the test result is known?**

- No, quarantine for the rest of the family does not begin until the test result is available and/or if the person displays symptoms of COVID (**unless otherwise specified by the doctor** via a medical certificate, e.g. if they are part of a vulnerable group!)