



HEALTH OFFICE
ABSENCE PROTOCOL 2020-21

SCENARIO 1

If you have a single symptom of COVID-19, NOT including loss of taste or smell, fever or cough, this can be vetted for an alternative diagnosis without having to get a COVID-19 test. You can return to school with a doctor's note documenting the alternative diagnosis.

SCENARIO 2

If you have multiple symptoms of COVID-19, or a single symptom that includes either a fever, a cough, or the loss of taste/smell, you will need to:

1. Get a COVID-19 test – if you get a rapid antigen test and the result is negative, this result must be confirmed with a standard molecular PCR test
2. Stay home until you receive the results; siblings/family members in close contact with you should also stay home until there is an alternative diagnosis or negative COVID result.
3. If the test is positive, you may return after:
 - a. 10 days of isolation from the 1st day of the symptoms, AND
 - b. You are fever free for 24 hours (without Tylenol/Advil), AND
 - c. Your other symptoms have improved
4. If the test is negative, you may return after:
 - a. Being fever free for 24 hours (without Tylenol/Advil), AND
 - b. No vomiting/diarrhea in the previous 24 hours
 - c. You must supply a doctor's note documenting the alternative diagnosis
 - d. You must provide the negative COVID-19 test result

For optimal accuracy of COVID-19 test results, get tested about 7-8 days after exposure or about 3-4 days after symptom onset.