

16 November 2020

Re: Advice for families regarding COVID-19 symptoms and testing

Dear Parents,

You would have noticed the COVID-19 government restrictions in NSW are starting to relax. Whilst this is good news for us all as we return to our regular routines, we need to remain extremely vigilant. We also need to remind ourselves that our area has been identified as a COVID-19 hotspot due to the recent discovery of fragments of the virus within the local sewerage treatment plants.

In accordance with [advice from NSW Health](#), parents are reminded **NOT** to send children to school if they are unwell, even if they have the mildest flu-like symptoms.

NSW Health has requested that schools encourage anyone who is unwell or has even mild flu-like symptoms, to arrange to be tested through their local medical practitioner or one of the [COVID-19 clinics](https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/how-to-protect-yourself-and-others/clinics#find-a-covid-19-testing-centre-in-nsw). <https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/how-to-protect-yourself-and-others/clinics#find-a-covid-19-testing-centre-in-nsw>.

Students with flu-like symptoms will need to be tested and provide a copy of a negative COVID-19 test result and be symptom-free before being permitted to return to school.

Students who do not undertake a COVID-19 test result will not be permitted to return to school for a 10 day period. Additionally, they must be symptom-free for at least 3 days prior to returning to school.

Students who have seasonal allergic rhinitis or another condition that presents similarly to flu-like symptoms are still required to get tested for COVID-19 and return a negative test result. Where their symptoms continue beyond 10 days, students should provide documentation from their GP confirming their symptoms are typical for their condition. If the student develops new or changed symptoms, they should get tested for COVID-19. Find more information about [COVID-19 symptoms](https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/symptoms-and-testing#symptoms-of-covid-19). <https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/symptoms-and-testing#symptoms-of-covid-19>

COVID-19 testing for students with complex health or disability may be challenging. In these situations, schools will ask the parent or carer to have their child assessed by their medical practitioner. Where a medical practitioner determines that a COVID-19 test is not required, documentation must be provided to the school to confirm that the student does not have symptoms that warrant a COVID-19 test. The certificate must also indicate that the student is able to return to school.

Woodbury continues to follow protocols by checking students' temperatures upon arrival and whether they are showing any symptoms.

Please feel to contact the office if you need any further information.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Freakley