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	Policy Number: 2.5.6

Health and Illness Protocol for COVID-19 Response Plan

To manage the risk of spreading illness within a child care centre, Algoma Public Health has set out a comprehensive cleaning and sanitation routine and personal health care practices including but not limited to proper and frequent hand hygiene, removal of sensory tables and toys and furniture that cannot be cleaned and disinfected, and increased frequency of cleaning and disinfecting. Algoma Public Health also requires daily screening of all individuals entering the child care setting to ensure the safety of the program.

ALL CHILDREN AND STAFF must be screened **DAILY UPON ARRIVAL** to the child care centre, which *may* include temperature checks. In addition to daily screening, all children will be monitored throughout the day for emerging signs and symptoms of illness.

Parents must keep their child(ren) home from the program if their child has any of the following signs and symptoms:

- If the **child** has any of the following screened symptoms (subject to change): fever and/or chills (37.8C/100.0F or greater), cough or barking cough (croup), shortness of breath, decrease or loss of taste or smell, nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea (diarrhea is a bowel movement that has no formation); without other known cause as per Appendices III in Policy 2.5.6 (subject to change).
- Whether a child is excluded from child care is determined by their responses to the **COVID-19 Screening**Tool for Children in School and Child Care Settings as per Appendices III in Policy 2.5.6 (subject to change) which is from the COVID-19 school and child care screening tool from the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education. The most updated version of this document (subject to change) is available on our website www.childcarealgoma.ca.
- Children will also be excluded for symptoms outside of the COVID-19 screening tool (including but not limited to sore throat, runny nose [white or coloured discharge; not related to immediate outdoor play, allergies or other medical condition], stuffy nose, abdominal pain, pink eye, headache, or lack of appetite) at a minimum, these individuals are to stay home from child care if they are sick, and will be excluded from child care until symptoms are improving for at least 24 hours (48hr symptom free for GI Symptoms) and they are well enough to participate (for pink eye, Child Care Algoma will follow exclusion guidelines which is exclude until 24 hours after prescribed antibiotic has been started and drainage has stopped).

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Staff and/or essential visitors must not attend work or enter a CCA building if they have any of the following screened symptoms (subject to change):

- Fever and/or chills, cough or barking cough (croup), shortness of breath, decrease or loss of taste or smell, tiredness, muscle aches; without other known cause as per Appendices II in Policy 2.5.6 (subject to change). Whether a staff or essential visitor is able to attend work or enter a CCA building is determined by their responses to the COVID-19 Screening tool for employees and essential visitors in schools and child care settings from the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education. The most updated version of this document (subject to change) is available on our website www.childcarealgoma.ca.
- Staff will also be excluded for symptoms outside of the COVID-19 screening tool (including but not limited to sore throat, runny nose, stuffy nose, abdominal pain, pink eye, headache, or lack of appetite, and vomit/nausea/diarrhea) at a minimum, these individuals are to stay home from work if they are sick, and will not be able to return to work until symptoms are improving for at least 24 hours (48hr symptom free for GI Symptoms) and they are well enough to participate (for pink eye, Child Care Algoma will follow exclusion guidelines which is exclude until 24 hours after prescribed antibiotic has been started and drainage has stopped).

If a child(ren) experiences any of the signs and symptoms listed above while at the child care program, staff will contact parents to pick up their child **immediately.** While their child(ren) waits for their parent or designate to arrive, the child will be separated from the other children. A symptomatic child participating in a child care program should be assessed by the COVID-19 Assessment Centre to determine if they may be exposed to COVID-19. You must make an appointment at an assessment centre either online https://www.sah.on.ca/patients/covid-19-assessment-centre or by phone (705)759-3434 ext. 7152. Parents/guardians of the child must notify the assessment centre the child was receiving care at a child care centre when they make the appointment. Children can return to child care when the test is confirmed negative and are symptom free for at least 24 hours. Children with symptoms who do not get tested must be excluded from child care for 10 days after the onset of symptoms and be 24 hours symptom free. Staff and children exposed to a confirmed case of COVID-19 must be excluded for 14 days.

Please note if a child or staff (or household member) is planning to travel or has travelled outside the Canada they **must** isolate for the mandatory 14 days upon returning.

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Unvaccinated children less than 12 years of age who enter Canada with their fully vaccinated parent/guardian may not be required to quarantine upon entering Canada if both the child and the parents/guardian meet certain requirements under the Quarantine Act. However, they will be directed not to attend school, camp or <u>daycare for 14 days</u>. All individuals who enter Canada, including those that may have shared custody agreements, must follow the directions provided to them at the border upon arrival to the country

Any travel within Canada and Ontario will be at the discretion of Child Care Algoma in consultation with Algoma Public Health if a staff or child will be ineligible to immediately return to the Program, and if a 14 day self-isolation or a negative COVID-19 test result is required, if the area visited had a known outbreak.

To protect the health of all individuals at the child care centre, staff will support the arrival and pickup routine for families. Upon arrival, once a child(ren) has completed active screening and are deemed able to enter the centre, staff will escort the child(ren) to the appropriate program room. Parent(s)/caregiver(s) are discouraged from entering the centre. Pick-up and drop-off of child(ren) will occur outside the child care setting unless it is determined that there is a need for the parent(s)/caregiver(s) to enter the setting.

As a Parent/Guardian responsible for my child(ren)'s child care placement, I agree to the following:

I have read and understood the above information.

I agree to all screening measures.

I agree to exclude ALL of my children from child care services immediately upon observing any of the above signs or symptoms or illness in my child(ren) until Algoma Public Health has determined my child(ren) can return to the program.

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In an effort to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in our Programs, please be advised effective December 15, 2021, Child Care Algoma will not allow unvaccinated children and staff who are deemed high risk close contacts of a positive COVID-19 case to attend child care or work for a period of ten days from the date of exposure. Furthermore unvaccinated children and staff who have household members who are high risk close contacts cannot attend child care or work during the ten days from the exposure date.

As per this policy Child Care Algoma will be adding a screening question for unvaccinated children, staff and their household members as to whether they are high risk close contacts of a positive COVID-19 case and will not allow those who answer yes to enter our Programs during the ten days from the initial exposure date. However if the child, staff or household member can show proof that they tested negative on day seven they can return to the Program.

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APPENDICES I

ALL STAFF DAILY

- WASH HANDS WITH SANITIZER
- FILL OUT SURVEILLANCE FORM

YOU MAY NEED TO WEAR A MASK AND EYE PROTECTION – PLEASE REFER TO POLICY

• IF YOU HAVE ANSWERED YES TO ANY SCREENING QUESTIONS PLEASE INFORM YOUR SITE SUPERVISOR – YOU WILL NEED TO GO HOME.

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APPENDICES II

COVID-19 Screening Tool for Employees and Essential Visitors in Schools and Child Care Settings

(Subject to change)

Screening Questions

1. Are you currently experiencing any of these symptoms?

The symptoms listed here are the symptoms most commonly associated with COVID-19. If you have these symptoms, you should isolate and seek testing. Please note that rapid antigen testing is not to be used for those with symptoms of COVID-19 or for contacts of known COVID-19 cases. Anyone who is sick or has any symptoms of illness, including those not listed below, should stay home and seek assessment from their health care provider if needed. Choose any/all that are new, worsening, and not related to other known causes or conditions you already have.

Fever and/or chills	**	
Temperature of 37.8 degrees Celsius/100 degrees Fahrenheit or higher and/or chills	Yes	No
Cough or barking cough (croup)	**	
Continuous, more than usual, making a whistling noise when breathing (not related to asthma, post-infectious reactive airways, or other known causes or conditions you already have)	Yes	No
Shortness of breath		No
Out of breath, unable to breathe deeply (not related to asthma or other known causes or conditions you already have)	Yes	
Decrease or loss of taste or smell	V	No
Not related to seasonal allergies,	Yes	No

neurological disorders, or other known causes or conditions you already have		
Tiredness	Yes	No
Unusual, fatigue, lack of energy (not related to depression, insomnia, thyroid dysfunction, or other known causes or conditions you already have)		
If you received a COVID-19 and/or flu vaccination in the last 48 hours and are experiencing mild fatigue that only began after vaccination, select "No."		
Muscle aches	3 7	N
Unexplained, unusual, or long lasting (not related to a sudden injury, fibromyalgia, or other known causes or conditions)	Yes	No
If you received a COVID-19 and/or flu vaccination in the last 48 hours and are experiencing mild muscle aches/joint paint that only began after vaccination, select "No."		
2. Do any of the following apply?		
 You are fully vaccinated against COV either a two-dose or a one-dose vaccin You have tested positive for COVID-1 	ne series)	
If YES, skip questions 3, 4, 5 and 9.		
Personal health information is not collected this question is to provide accurate isolation previous infection history. Yes No.	on instructions, which are	
3. Is anyone you live with currently experi	iencing any new COVII	O-19 symptoms and/or waiting
for test results after experiencing sympto Children (<18 years old): fever and/or chi or loss of taste or smell, nausea, vomiting a	oms? ills, cough or barking cou	
Adults: (≥18 years old): fever and/or chills loss of taste or smell, tiredness, muscle ache		, shortness of breath, decrease or
If the individual experiencing symptoms rechours and is experiencing only mild fatigue vaccination, select "No." Yes No		
4. In the last 10 days, have you been identihas COVID-19? If public health has advis "No." Yes No		•

5. In the last 10 days, have you received a COVID Alert exposure notification on your cell phone? If you have since tested negative on a lab-based PCR test, select "No." Yes No
6. In the last 14 days, have you travelled outside of Canada and been advised to quarantin as per the federal quarantine requirements? No
7. Has a doctor, health care provider, or public health unit told you that you should currently be isolating (staying at home)? This can be because of an outbreak or contact tracing. Yes No
8. In the last 10 days, have you tested positive on a rapid antigen test or a home-based self-testing kit? If you have since tested negative on a lab-based PCR test, select "No." Yes No
9. In the last 10 days, has anyone in your household tested positive on a rapid antigen test or a home-based self-testing kit? If they have since tested negative on a lab-based PCR test, select "No." Yes No

Results of screening questions

If you answered "YES" to any of the symptoms included under question 1, do not go to school or child care.

- You must isolate (stay home) and should not leave except to get tested or for a medical emergency.
- Talk with a doctor/health care provider to get advice or an assessment, including if you need a COVID-19 test.
- Other people in your household must stay at home until you test negative, or are cleared by your public health unit, or are diagnosed with another illness. Household members who are fully immunized or previously positive for COVID-19 in the last 90 days and have since been cleared are not required to stay home.
- Contact your school/child care provider to let them know about this result.

If you answered "YES" to question 3, do not go to school or child care.

- You must isolate (stay home) and should not leave except to get tested or for a medical emergency.
- You can return to school or child care after the individual with symptoms tests negative and is cleared by your local public health unit, or is diagnosed with another illness.
- Contact your school/child care provider to let them know about this result.

If you answered "YES" to question 4, do not go to school or child care.

• You must isolate (stay home) for 10 days and not leave except to get tested or for a medical emergency.

- Follow the advice of your local public health unit or a health care provider, including which symptoms to monitor for and when to get a COVID-19 PCR test. Please note that rapid antigen testing is not to be used for contacts of known COVID-19 cases.
- You can only return to school/child care after 10 days, even if you get a negative test result, as long as you do not develop any symptoms.
 - Other people in your household can go to school, child care or work, but must not leave the home for other non-essential reasons. Household members who are fully immunized or previously positive for COVID-19 in the last 90 days and have since been cleared are not required to stay home.

If you develop any of the symptoms listed above or test positive, contact your local public health unit or doctor/health care provider for more advice.

Contact your school/child care provider to let them know about this result.

If you answered "YES" to question 5, do not go to school or child care.

- You must isolate (stay home) and should not leave except to get tested or for a medical emergency.
- Visit an assessment centre to get a COVID-19 test. If you test negative on a PCR test (you do not have the virus), you can return to school/child care.
 - If you test positive on a PCR test (you have the virus), you need to continue isolating and can return only after you are cleared by your local public health unit.
- If you develop symptoms, contact your local public health unit or doctor/health care provider for more advice.
 - Other people in your household can go to school, child care or work, but must not leave the home for other, non-essential reasons until the individual who got the COVID alert tests negative on a PCR test, or is cleared by your local public health unit. Household members who are fully immunized or previously positive for COVID-19 in the last 90 days and have since been cleared are not required to stay home.
- Contact your school/child care provider to let them know about this result.

If you answered "YES" to question 6, do not go to school or child care.

- You must isolate (stay home) for 14 days and not leave except to get tested or for a medical emergency.
- Follow the advice of public health. You can return to school/child care after you have completed your federal quarantine requirement.
- If you develop symptoms and/or test positive, contact your local public health unit or doctor/ health care provider for more advice.
- Contact your school/child care provider to let them know about this result.

If you answered "YES" to question 7, do not go to school or child care.

- You must isolate (stay home) and should not leave except to get tested or for a medical emergency.
- Follow the advice of public health. You can return to school/child care after you are cleared by your local public health unit.
- If you develop symptoms, contact your local public health unit or doctor/health care provider for more advice.
 - Other people in your household must stay at home until you test negative, or are cleared by your public health unit. Household members who are fully immunized or previously

- positive for COVID-19 in the last 90 days and have since been cleared are not required to stay home.
- Contact your school/child care provider to let them know about this result.

If you answered "YES" to question 8, do not go to school or child care.

- You must isolate (stay home) and should not leave except to get tested or for a medical emergency.
- Visit an assessment centre to get a COVID-19 test.
 If you test negative on a PCR test (you do not have the virus), you can return to school/child care.
 - If you test positive on a PCR test (you have the virus), you need to continue isolating and can return only after you are cleared by your local public health unit.
- If you develop symptoms, contact your local public health unit or doctor/health care provider for more advice.
- Other people in your household must isolate until you test negative on a PCR test or are cleared by your local public health unit. Household members who are fully immunized or previously positive for COVID-19 in the last 90 days and have since been cleared are not required to isolate.
- Contact your school/child care provider to let them know about this result

If you answered "YES" to question 9, do not go to school or child care.

- You must isolate (stay home) and should not leave except to get tested or for a medical emergency.
 - You can return to school or child care after the individual who tested positive on a rapid antigen test or home-based self-testing kit tests negative on a PCR test.
- Contact your school/child care provider to let them know about this result.

If you answered "NO" to all questions, you may go to school/child care. Follow your school/child care provider's established process for letting them know about this result.

As per regular protocols, all sick individuals with any symptoms of illness should stay home and seek assessment from their regular health care provider if required.

- Individuals with severe symptoms requiring emergency care should go to their nearest emergency department.
- If an individual develops symptoms outside of the list above, the Public Health Unit may recommend other measures including testing based on an assessment of the individual's symptoms and exposure history.

Note: post immunization symptoms

- If you have received a COVID-19 and/or flu vaccination in the last 48 hours and have mild fatigue, muscle aches and/or joint pain that only began after immunization, and no other symptoms, you are to wear a surgical/procedure mask for your entire time at work (indoors and outdoors).
- Your mask may only be removed to consume food or drink and you must remain at least two metres away from others when your mask has been removed. If the symptoms

worsen, continue past 48 hours, or if you develop other symptoms, you should leave work immediately to self- isolate and seek COVID-19 testing. Please note these questions are from the Ontario Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education COVID-19 screening tool for employees and essential visitors in schools and child care settings Version 3: December 15, 2021.

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APPENDICES III

COVID-19 Screening Tool for Children in School and Child Care Settings Screening Questions (Subject to change)

1. Is the student/child currently experiencing any of these symptoms?

The symptoms listed here are the symptoms most commonly associated with COVID-19. If you have these symptoms, you should isolate and seek testing. Please note that rapid antigen testing is not to be used for those with symptoms of COVID-19 or for contacts of known COVID-19 cases. Anyone who is sick or has any symptoms of illness, including those not listed below, should stay home and seek assessment from their health care provider if needed. Choose any/all that are new, worsening, and not related to other known causes or conditions they already have.

Fever and/or chills		
Temperature of 37.8 degrees Celsius/100 degrees Fahrenheit or higher and/or chills	Yes	No
Cough or barking cough (croup)	Yes	No
Continuous, more than usual, making a whistling noise when breathing (not related to asthma, post-infectious reactive airways, or other known causes or conditions they already have)		
Shortness of breath	V.	N
Out of breath, unable to breathe deeply (not related to asthma or other known causes or conditions they already have)	Yes	No
Decrease or loss of taste or smell	Yes	No
Not related to seasonal allergies, neurological disorders, or other known causes or conditions they already have	Tes	NO
Nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea	**	
Not related to irritable bowel syndrome, anxiety, menstrual cramps, or other	Yes	No

known causes or conditions they already have 2. Do any of the following apply to the student/child? • They are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 (it has been 14 days or more since their final dose of either a two-dose or a one-dose vaccine series) • They have tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 90 days (and since been cleared) If YES, skip questions 3, 4, 5 and 9. Yes \square No Personal health information is not collected when you complete this screening tool. The purpose of this question is to provide accurate isolation instructions, which are based on vaccination status and previous infection history. 3. Is someone that the student/child lives with currently experiencing any new COVID-19 symptoms and/or waiting for test results after experiencing symptoms? Children (<18 years old): fever and/or chills, cough or barking cough, shortness of breath, decrease or loss of taste or smell, nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea Adults: (≥18 years old): fever and/or chills, cough or barking cough, shortness of breath, decrease or loss of taste or smell, tiredness, muscle aches If the individual experiencing symptoms received a COVID-19 and/or flu vaccination in the last 48 hours and is experiencing only mild fatigue, muscle aches, and/or joint pain that only began after vaccination, select "No." Yes ΠNo 4. In the last 10 days, has the student/child been identified as a "close contact" of someone who currently has COVID-19? If public health has advised you that you do not need to self-isolate, select "No." □Yes \square No 5. In the last 10 days, has the student/child received a COVID Alert exposure notification on their cell phone? If the student/child has since tested negative on a lab-based PCR test, select "No." Tyes \square No 6. Do any of the following apply? • In the last 14 days, the student/child travelled outside of Canada and was told to quarantine In the last 14 days, the student/child travelled outside of Canada and was told to not attend school/child care Please note that if the child/student is not **fully vaccinated** but is exempt from federal quarantine because they travelled with a vaccinated companion, they must not attend school or child care for 14 days. Select "yes" if this applies to the student/child. Yes Γ No 7. Has a doctor, health care provider, or public health unit told you that the student/child should currently be isolating (staying at home)? This can be because of an outbreak or contact tracing. The \square No 8. In the last 10 days, has the student/child tested positive on a rapid antigen test or a

If the student/child has since tested negative on a lab-based PCR test, select "No."

home-based self-testing kit?

Yes

9. In the last 10 days, has anyone in the student/child's household tested positive on a rapid antigen test or a home-based self-testing kit?

If the individual	who tested po	ositive on	the rapid	antigen	test or h	ome-based	self-testin	g kit
has since tested n	negative on a	lab-based	PCR test	, select '	"No."	□Yes	□No	

Results of screening questions

If you answered "YES" to any of the symptoms included under question 1, do not go to school or child care.

- The student/child must isolate (stay home) and not leave except to get tested or for a medical emergency.
- Talk with a doctor/health care provider to get advice or an assessment, including if the student/child needs a COVID-19 test.

Siblings or other people in your household must stay at home until the student/child showing symptoms tests negative, or is cleared by your public health unit, or is diagnosed with another illness. Household members who are fully vaccinated or previously positive for COVID-19 in the last 90 days and have since been cleared are not required to stay home.

• Contact your school/child care provider to let them know about this result.

If you answered "YES" to question 3, do not go to school or child care.

- The student/child must isolate (stay home) and not leave except to get tested or for a medical emergency.
- The student/child can return to school or child care after the individual with symptoms tests negative, is cleared by your local public health unit, or is diagnosed with another illness.
- Contact your school/child care provider to let them know about this result.

If you answered "YES" to question 4, do not go to school or child care.

- The student/child must isolate (stay home) for 10 days and not leave except to get tested or for a medical emergency
- Follow the advice of your local public health unit or a health care provider, including which symptoms to monitor for and when to get a COVID-19 PCR test. Please note that rapid antigen testing is not to be used for contacts of known COVID-19 cases.
- The student/child can only return to school/child care after 10 days, even if they get a negative test result, as long as they do not develop any symptoms.
 - Siblings and other people in your household can go to school, child care or work, but must not leave the home for other non-essential reasons. Household members who are fully vaccinated or previously positive for COVID-19 in the last 90 days and have since been cleared are not required to stay home
- If the student/child develops any of the symptoms listed above or tests positive, contact your local public health unit or doctor/health care provider for more advice.
- Contact your school/child care provider to let them know about this result.

If you answered "YES" to question 5, do not go to school or child care.

- The student/child must isolate (stay home) and not leave except to get tested or for a medical emergency.
- Visit an assessment centre to get them a COVID-19 test.

If they test negative on a PCR test (they do not have the virus), they can return to school/child care.

If they test positive on a PCR test (they have the virus), they need to continue isolating and can return only after they are cleared by your local public health unit.

• If they develop symptoms, contact your local public health unit or doctor/health care provider for more advice.

Siblings or other people in your household can go to school, child care or work, but must not leave the home for other, non-essential reasons until the individual who got the COVID alert tests negative, or is cleared by your local public health unit. Household members who are fully vaccinated or previously positive for COVID-19 in the last 90 days and have since been cleared are not required to stay home.

• Contact your school/child care provider to let them know about this result.

If you answered "YES" to question 6, do not go to school or child care.

- The student/child must follow federal guidelines for individuals who have travelled internationally, including not going to school/child care for 14 days after their arrival and getting tested as per federal requirements.
- If the student/child has been directed to quarantine, they must stay home for 14 days and not leave except to get tested or for a medical emergency. For more information on federal requirements for travelers, please see the Government of Canada's website.
- If the student/child develops symptoms and/or tests positive, contact your local public health unit or doctor/health care provider for more advice.
- Contact your school/child care provider to let them know about this result.

If you answered "YES" to question 7, do not go to school or child care.

- The student/child must isolate (stay home) and not leave except to get tested or for a medical emergency.
- Follow the advice of public health. The student/child can return to school/child care after they are cleared by your local public health unit.
- If the student/child develops symptoms, contact your local public health unit or doctor/health care provider for more advice.

Siblings or other people in your household must stay at home until the student/child tests negative, or is cleared by your public health unit.

Household members who are fully vaccinated or previously positive for COVID-19 in the last 90 days and have since been cleared are not required to stay home.

• Contact your school/child care provider to let them know about this result.

If you answered "YES" to question 8, do not go to school or child care.

- The student/child must isolate (stay home) and not leave except to get tested or for a medical emergency.
- Visit an assessment centre to get them a COVID-19 test.
 - If they test negative on a PCR test (they do not have the virus), they can return to school/child care.
 - If they test positive on a PCR test (they have the virus), they need to continue isolating and can return only after they are cleared by your local public health unit.
- If they develop symptoms, contact your local public health unit or doctor/health care provider for more advice.
- Siblings or other people in your household must isolate until the individual who
 tested positive on the rapid antigen test or home-based self-testing kit tests negative
 on a PCR test or is cleared by the local public health unit. Household members who
 are fully vaccinated or previously positive for COVID-19 in the last 90 days and
 have since been cleared are not required to isolate.
- Contact your school/child care provider to let them know about this result

If you answered "YES" to question 9, do not go to school or child care.

- The student/child must isolate (stay home) and not leave except to get tested or for a medical emergency.
 - The student/child can return to school or child care after the individual who tested positive on a rapid antigen test or home-based self-testing kit tests negative on a PCR test.
- Contact your school/child care provider to let them know about this result

If you answered "NO" to all questions, your child may go to school/child care. Follow your school/child care provider's established process for letting staff know about this result.

- As per regular protocols, all sick individuals with any symptoms of illness should stay home, and seek assessment from their regular health care provider if required.
- Individuals with severe symptoms requiring emergency care should go to their nearest emergency department.
- If an individual develops symptoms outside of the list above, the Public Health Unit may recommend other measures including testing based on an assessment of the individual's symptoms and exposure history.

Please note these questions are from the Ontario Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education COVID-19 school and child care screening Version 4: December 15, 2021

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