



Prince George's County Public Schools

PreK-12 COVID-19 Testing Guide

What Parents and Guardians Need to Know!

Spring 2021



Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) will test children for COVID-19. **Only children returning for in-person hybrid learning are eligible for testing.**

Schools will be equipped to test:

- Symptomatic children
- Asymptomatic children who were in close contact with someone who is positive for COVID-19



What will happen?

1. If your child exhibits covid like symptoms at school, the school nurse will be contacted.
2. Your child will be examined for COVID-like symptoms.
3. Your child will be isolated from others.
4. If the school nurse determines that your child may have COVID-19, your child will be tested if you have signed the [COVID-19 Testing Consent Form for Students](#).
5. You will be contacted and asked to pick up your child from school.
6. All children who were in close contact with your child will be sent home for 7 to 10 days under [CDC Guidance](#) to ensure the infection does not spread.
7. While quarantined at home, your child should be monitored for symptoms, avoid contact with high-risk individuals, and seek medical attention if symptoms develop.
8. Your child will participate in virtual learning during quarantine.
9. Your child should remain at home until a physician or public health official provides documentation that your child is able to return to in-person learning.

You must sign the [COVID-19 Testing Consent Form for Students](#) and return the forms to your child's principal before your child can be tested.

Testing Guidelines

- All 206 schools will offer testing for students who are learning in-person.
- Students will only be tested if they have symptoms while in the school building or if the student has had close contact with a COVID-19 case at school.
- Testing will take place in a secure location in the school building away from healthy students and staff.
- The authorized person administering the test will wear PPE.
- All tests will be properly handled and the parent/guardian of the student will be notified of the results.



What does this all mean?

If your child's test is positive, he or she will be isolated until you are able to pick them up.

If your child's test is negative, he or she will still be isolated until you can pick them up.

- Your child might be tested again and the school nurse will give you additional guidance on next steps.

All children sent home should remain at home and participate in virtual learning until they complete quarantine and have proper documentation from a health care provider to return to in-person learning.



Definitions

- **Symptomatic children** - individuals with COVID-19 symptoms.
- **Asymptomatic children** - individuals who do NOT show COVID-19 symptoms.
- **Close contact with COVID-19** - Someone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period.

More Guidance

[Frequently Asked Questions for Parents \(FAQs\)](#)

For more information about when to stay home, watch [this short video](#).

Want to know when to quarantine? [Click here](#).

Additional Questions? Contact your child's school.

