

Message to families from principals:

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s)

I want to thank our students and families for following the advice of Nova Scotia Public Health and staying home when they feel unwell. This is an important step to help prevent and reduce the spread of COVID-19 and other viruses in our school community.

We would like to clarify the advice Public Health has given regarding testing after a COVID-19 infection.

It's not necessary to test for COVID-19 in the first 90 days (3 months) after you've recovered from an infection since you may have some short-term immunity.

However, if you choose to test, you may use a rapid test. Regardless of whether you chose to test for COVID-19, if symptoms develop, students should stay home until their symptoms have improved and there is no fever for at least 24 hours.

We have received a supply of COVID-19 rapid test kits from the province. These kits will be available to students to take home to have rapid tests available at home in case they start to feel unwell or develop symptoms of COVID-19. In addition, if a student is at school and starts to feel unwell or develop symptoms that resemble COVID-19, they will be offered a COVID-19 rapid test.

We ask that if your family already has rapid tests at home or have recently recovered from COVID-19 to please not request a rapid test kit to ensure that we have adequate supply for those who require them.

If anyone has symptoms of COVID-19 they should not go to their school to pick up rapid tests. People experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 should complete the [COVID-19 Self-assessment](#) to find out if they need a COVID-19 test at a testing centre or mobile unit.

Additional information on COVID-19 symptoms, testing and what to do if you test positive is available at: www.nshealth.ca/coronavirus or by calling 811. If you or your child tests positive on a rapid test and/or a PCR COVID-19 test, complete the [Report and Support screening form](#), or if you require assistance completing the form call 1-833-797-7772.

For more information about public health guidance in schools, go to:
<https://bactoschool.ednet.ns.ca/public-health-guidance>