

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Sept. 28, 2021

We at Women's College Hospital (WCH) are working with Toronto schools to keep schools safe and enjoyable!

COVID-19 vaccination rates are increasing and this is a very good thing. Still we must be careful about COVID-19 and the variants. If your child develops any symptoms of COVID-19 while at school, your child will receive a saliva testing kit to complete at school or to take home and return to school. Your principal will send the sample to WCH and you will receive your test result quickly and confidentially. In this way you and your child do not need to go to an assessment centre at all.

If your child stays home with symptoms you can still pick up a kit at school and return the kit to school instead of testing at an assessment centre!

"How-to" instructions are found inside your take home kit.

Method of test: A small amount of saliva is collected into a container. Your child may be asked to:

- Drink a cup of water 60 minutes before collecting saliva
- NOT to eat, drink or chew gum 30 minutes before providing the saliva sample

If your child tests negative, they can return to school more quickly! Results are often available

We encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity!



To get your results on line (available in <u>within 72 hours</u>). You can check results using this link! https://covid-19.ontario.ca

Click links below for more information about COVID from Toronto Public Health (as a reminder):

 $\underline{https://www.toronto.ca/home/covid-19/covid-19-financial-social-support-for-people/covid-19-s}\\ \underline{chool-information-for-parents-caregivers/}$

Have a great return to school! From the Women's College Hospital School Team