

# RETURNING TO SCHOOL OR DAYCARE



## Evidence informed advice



Back to School/Daycare tips supplement [tips for parenting](#) during COVID-19.

Children account for a small proportion of people who are sick with COVID-19 and they have less [severe symptoms](#). Younger children are less likely to [transmit](#) coronavirus than older children or adults. [Reviews](#) suggest that reopening schools in other jurisdictions has not led to increased cases.



If you prefer that your child wear a non-medical mask to protect those around them, make sure it fits and teach them [how to wear it](#). If not worn properly, it provides little protection. Even if wearing a mask, they must stay 6ft/2m away from others. Masks are never recommended for children less than 2 years old.

### SCHOOL

Parents have the option of sending their children to [schools](#) that have modified protocols and classrooms to keep everyone safe.

Assess your child for [COVID-19 symptoms](#) each day. If your child is sick, keep them home even if you don't think they have COVID-19.

Teach children to avoid close interactions such as hugs and high-fives and to stay at their desks that are now spaced 6ft/2m apart in the classroom.



Teach children that procedures will be different. Pick-up/drop-off times, lunches and breaks will be staggered. Prepare children to be outside more often.

Teach children to [wash their hands for 20 seconds](#) when entering school property and often during the day. Where possible, remind them to wash hands before touching their face; before and after eating; after touching surfaces such as door knobs, keyboards, and desks; after wiping their nose; and after using the washroom.

### DAYCARE

[Open child care centres](#) and [vacancies](#) are listed for BC.

When picking up children, all parents should wait outside and practice [physical distance](#).

Remind children about prevention such as no sharing drinks or food, coughing into their sleeves and keeping hands to themselves.

