

Testing Students, School Staff, and Children for Covid-19

Our local schools and childcare programs are following the guidelines from the New Jersey Department of Health for covid testing of students, school staff, and children with covid compatible symptoms.

Students, school staff, and children with the following covid compatible symptoms, need to be tested for covid-19. Students, school staff, and children with covid compatible symptoms should not return back to school or childcare without a negative covid test and an alternate diagnosis is not acceptable for them to return without a covid test.

Covid Compatible Symptoms

At least two of the following: fever, chills, rigors, myalgia, headache, sore throat, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, fatigue, congestion, or runny nose

OR

At least one of the following: cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, new olfactory disorder, or new taste disorder

Covid Testing

Rapid Antigen Test

PCR Test

Result is Negative

Result is Positive

This is an acceptable test for students, children, and school staff who have covid compatible symptoms.

Confirm with a PCR



Further testing is not needed to confirm the result. If a PCR test is done and the specimen is collected within 48 hours of the antigen test, the PCR test result would be the result that is accepted.



As per the guidelines from the New Jersey Department of Health, students, children, and school staff who have a negative rapid antigen test should have a PCR test to confirm the result if they have covid compatible symptoms. Our local schools and childcare centers are not accepting negative rapid antigen tests when students, children, and school staff have covid compatible symptoms; the result will need to be confirmed with a PCR test.

Developed by Livingston Health Department

Information from the New Jersey Department of Health