



February 18, 2021

Dear Givins/Shaw Community:

As was mentioned before we re-opened, some of the Toronto Public Health (TPH) guidelines and protocols regarding Covid have been updated.

Understandably, we have had a number of questions from students, families, and staff regarding the current regulations and we are doing our best to provide you with succinct and informed responses.

We have included two links below that we feel will be very beneficial to the community.

The first is the link to the TPH Decision Tool for Students for parents to follow when determining whether it is ok to have their child attend school.

The second is the TPH 'Back to School Confirmation Form' that we need families to complete before their child returns to school if indeed they have been home due to illness.

We have also attached a copy of the screening forms that includes a chart for families to follow.

Decision tool for students:

<https://www.toronto.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/9858-COVID-19-Decision-Guide-for-Schools.pdf>

Back to School Confirmation Form:

<https://www.toronto.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/9095-Attestation-for-Return-to-School.pdf>

As you can imagine, with the more stringent guidelines contained in the decision form (if anyone in your family is displaying even one symptom, you are all to isolate for 10 days or get tested and await the results, even if you have had a negative test, the child should not return until symptom-free for 24 hours), there is now an increased demand for covid testing right across the city.

With that in mind, the TDSB has aligned a testing partner with each school and this is the location that families may contact if indeed they require a covid test.

By aligning a testing partner with each school, the hope is that the process of testing and receiving the results will be completed more expeditiously.

Testing Partner assigned to Givins/Shaw PS is:

Women's College Hospital

76 Grenville Street

416-800-1945 – then press 4

If you need a covid test, please contact the hospital and they will direct you through the process.

Also, we have asked our school's Toronto Public Health liaison a question about proper process if a student is even displaying a mild symptom.

Here is the response we received:

Thank you for your inquiry regarding the proper procedure and protocol for the said health matter.

As per the **Decision Tool for Students**, please refer to: <https://www.toronto.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/9858-COVID-19-Decision-Guide-for-Schools.pdf>

it states, "The student should be **excluded** from school under the following conditions: (A) If the student has one or more symptoms even if it is **mild or has resolved**, the student should stay home, self-isolate, and get tested or contact their health care provider."

In addition, please have the parent complete **The Back to School Confirmation Form**: <https://www.toronto.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/9095-Attestation-for-Return-to-School.pdf>

The said back to school confirmation form reflects the student has either completed the 10-day isolation and/or has been tested for COVID-19.

Our TPH liaison is coming to see our school on Monday in order to examine all the procedures we currently employ and to make any suggestions for improvement.

We will continue to follow the guidelines from Toronto Public Health so that we can do everything we can to protect the larger G/S community and to hopefully not have any more interruptions to the school year.

If you do contact the school in order to report that your child will be absent, please remember to include the reason for the absence.

We appreciate all the support and patience of the Givins/Shaw community.

Thanks again.

Dan Taylor