



December 4, 2020

Dear SHS Families,

Sterling Safe Screening:

Toronto Public Health (TPH) announced today that it has updated its COVID-19 school and child care screening protocols and directives.

As part of this guidance, if a child has even ONE (or more) new, or worsening COVID-19 symptoms, parents will now be required to:

- ◆ Keep their child home;
- ◆ Keep other siblings home (including siblings at different schools), even if they do not have symptoms;
- ◆ Arrange for the symptomatic child to get tested or contact their health care provider;
- ◆ Without testing, the symptomatic child and siblings must stay home for 10 days;
- ◆ If the COVID-19 test is negative, all children may return to school, as long as the symptomatic child is fever free without medication and symptoms have been improving for the last 24 hours;

- ◆ If adults are not symptomatic and the child has not tested positive, adults may leave the home and/or go to work.

If a child or adult has been in close contact with a confirmed COVID-19 case, (s)he will:

- ◆ Need to self-isolate for 14 days from the last date of exposure to that COVID-19 case, even if the exposed child or adult does not have any symptoms;
- ◆ If the child or adult has symptoms, their household members will need to stay home and self-isolate until COVID-19 is ruled out.



Based on this new guidance we have amended our daily Sterling Safe screening questions and responses to align with new recommendations.

The Sterling Safe screening form will be automatically updated to reflect these changes beginning **Monday, December 7, 2020**. We will continue to send a daily screening email reminder with the link to the screening form.

TPH has shared a resource that families may find helpful: [COVID-19 School Decision Guide](#).

As a reminder, if your son is absent please:

- ◆ Notify attendance@sterlinghall.com
- ◆ Continue to fill in your son's Sterling Safe screening form even when he is at home
- ◆ Please keep our Health Centre informed throughout the duration of an absence by email at nurse@sterlinghall.com

Ensuring the health and safety of our students and community is a priority, especially during periods of increased community spread of COVID-19.

One of the most important things you can do to keep our community safe is to help your son successfully wear a close-fitting mask, screen your son daily for COVID-19 symptoms, keep him home when he is ill to allow him the time to recover prior to returning to our community on campus.

I want to express my gratitude for your continued support and partnership as we navigate this challenging time together and I wish you all an enjoyable weekend.

Sincerely,

Rick Parsons
Principal



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