



STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE FOR ACTION TO BE TAKEN WHEN A CHILD OR LEARNER APPEARS ILL OR DISPLAYS SYMPTOMS ASSOCIATED WITH COVID- 19

When a learner appears to be sick or displays symptoms of COVID-19, such as a dry cough, high fever, respiratory distress or shortness of breath, or reports a sore throat, the procedure below must be followed:

- Isolate the learner in the designated isolation room (Blue Group Classroom) and keep them separate from other learners and staff until they can be collected by a parent/guardian.
- The parents/guardians of the learner must be informed immediately.
- The learner must then be assessed by a health professional on leaving the school premises.
- Call the nearest health facility, the NICD tollfree emergency hotline for COVID-19 **0800 029 999**.
- The school will be advised on any further actions to be taken.
- The school will be contacted by the relevant public health officials to discuss the case, to identify people who have been in contact with the infected person and advise on any further actions or precautions that should be taken.
- Should the learner test positive for COVID-19, the school will be advised on any further actions to be taken.
- However, the staff will conduct its own tracking and staff and learners with whom the infected person has come in contact will go into two weeks self-isolation. The tracking is easy to do as the children are working in clearly identified zones during the school day.
- Public health officials, with the assistance of relevant staff, will conduct a risk-assessment analysis and give recommendations on the management of learners and staff.
- Only the Department of Basic Education and the Department of Health may determine if the school should be closed.

ACTION FOR CONTACT WITH A SUSPECTED CASE OF COVID-19

- If a learner has been in contact with a **suspected** case of COVID-19 in a school, no restrictions or special control measures are required until the laboratory test results for COVID-19 have been received.
- There is no need to close the institution or send other learners or staff home.