

Department of Education and  
Early Childhood Development

Department of Health

**Date :** November 4, 2021  
**To :** Families and Students  
**From :** Craig Caldwell, Assistant Deputy Minister, Education and Early Childhood Development  
Dr. Jennifer Russell, Chief Medical Officer of Health  
**Copies :** Jennifer Elliott, Dr. Yves Leger, Mathieu Chalifoux , Penny Higdon, RMOH, Regional Public Health Directors, Julie McIntyre, School District Superintendents, Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.  
**Subject :** **School Based Point of Care Testing Program Suspended and Isolation Guidance: CUPE Action**

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The current CUPE labor action is impacting contact management and the rapid Point of Care Testing (POCT) program available through local schools. Public Health New Brunswick and the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development have paused the program effective October 29<sup>th</sup>.

Students identified as a close contact of COVID-19 will not have access to the POCT kits through their local school and will be required to follow self-isolation as directed by regional public health until further notice.

For children already enrolled in the POCT program, they should continue with daily POCT monitoring. If any child tests positive, isolate immediately and contact the local Public Health office for further direction.

Individuals who are currently self-isolating after contact with a positive case must continue to self-isolate. If they have no symptoms, their isolation may be stopped at 11:59 p.m. on Day 14.

If symptoms develop, they are to continue to self-isolate and [request a PCR test online](#). If you do not have access to a computer or need help, call 811.

The **Assessment Center will call you** with an appointment. Please answer your phone.

Given the circumstances, delays are to be expected. We recognize how challenging service changes are for everyone, and your continued patience is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



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Craig Caldwell  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Education and Early Childhood  
Development



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Dr. Jennifer Russell, BA, BSc, MD, CCFP  
Chief Medical Officer of Health