

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE PROTOCOLS

MCLEOD ELEMENTARY- SCHOOL DISTRICT #59

OCTOBER 2021

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McLeod Elementary COVID-19 Safety Protocols

Overview

The Ministry of Education has shifted from a pandemic response to a recovery. This recovery is guided by health and safety guidelines, measures, protocols, and orders as well as the principles developed for continuity of learning during the pandemic. This Protocol is meant to address a return to face to face instruction.

All Students in Grades K – 12

- All students in grades K - 12 are required to wear a mask or face shield (in which case a mask should be worn in addition to the face shield) indoors in schools and on school buses.

Daily Health Check for Students and Staff

Before a child is able to attend school, it is expected that parents/caregivers will:

- complete a daily health check with their child, checking for symptoms of COVID-19 each day prior to dropping their child off at the school site. Parents/caregivers and students can utilize the [K-12 Health Check](#) app for daily assessment of symptoms, or reference the SD59 Daily Health Check Form. The parental check will include checking for fever, chills, cough, shortness of breath, loss of sense of smell or taste, nausea and vomiting, sore throat, loss of appetite, extreme fatigue, headache, body aches and diarrhea.
- **Keep child at home when sick.**
- provide their child with a water bottle (water fountains may not be available).
 - Staff and other adults should complete a daily health check prior to entering the school.
 - If a student, staff or other adult is sick, they must not enter the school.

COVID-19 Preventative Measures For Staff:

- Complete the active daily health check, checking for symptoms of COVID-19 each day prior to coming to work. Staff can utilize the BC COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool app for daily assessment of symptoms, or reference the SD59 Daily Health Check Form. The health check will include checking for fever, chills, cough, shortness of breath, loss of sense of smell or taste, nausea and vomiting, sore throat, loss of appetite, extreme fatigue, headache, body aches and diarrhea. School and district administrators are required to verify that staff and other adult health checks have been completed before they enter the school.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- All K-12 staff are required to wear a mask or face shield (in which case a mask should be worn in addition to the face shield) in schools - both within and outside of their learning group, except when: There is a barrier in place, and/or eating/drinking
- Staff will work with the students to help them understand and practice coughing and sneezing etiquette; reminding students to cough or sneeze into their elbow or a tissue, and then throw out the tissue if used and wash hands or use hand sanitizer afterwards.
- Staff will work with the students to help them understand and practice avoiding touching their eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Manage flow of people in common areas, including hallways and around lockers, to minimize crowding and allow for ease of people passing through. 2 metre physical distancing is not required.
- Staff will work with the students to help them understand and practice avoiding touching their eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Staff who work at multiple sites and TTOCs, TOCs, and EA substitutes are required to wear a mask or face shield (in which case a mask should be worn in addition to the face shield) in schools except when: there is a barrier in place, during eating or drinking, or outdoors.
-

Supporting Students with Diversablilities

Supporting students with complex behaviours, medical complexities or receiving delegated care may require staff providing health services or other health care providers to be in close physical proximity or in physical contact with a medically complex or immune suppressed student.

- People providing these services in schools must wear a mask (medical or non-medical) when providing services and the service cannot be provided from behind a physical barrier. Additional PPE over and above that needed for routine practices and the use of a medical or non-medical mask is not necessary.
- Those providing health services in schools may be receiving different guidance related to PPE from their regulatory college or employer. Health service providers are encouraged to work with their employer to confirm what PPE is recommended for the services they provide in school settings.
- Parents and caregivers of children who are considered at higher risk of severe illness due to COVID-19 **Students in Grades 4 – 12**
- All students in grades K - 12 are required to wear a mask or face shield (in which case a mask should be worn in addition to the face shield) indoors in schools and on school buses.

Exceptions for Staff, Students and Visitors

The guidance outlined above regarding mask requirements does not apply to staff, students and visitors in the following circumstances:

- All visitors must wear a non-medical mask when they are inside the school.
- To a person who cannot tolerate wearing a mask for health or behavioural reasons;
- To a person who is unable to put on or remove a mask without the assistance of another person;
- If the mask is removed temporarily to engage in an educational activity that cannot be performed while wearing a mask (e.g. playing a wind instrument, engaging in high-intensity physical activity, etc.);
- If a person is eating or drinking;
- If a person is behind a barrier; or
- While providing a service to a person with a disability or diverse ability (including but not limited to a hearing impairment) where visual cues, facial expressions and/or lip reading/movements is important.

Schools must not require a health-care provider note (i.e. a doctor's note) to confirm if staff, students or visitors cannot wear a mask.

No student should be prevented from attending or fully participating at school if they do not wear a mask.

Learning Groups

Public Health no longer recommends Learning Groups.

School Gatherings and Events

School gatherings and events (including inter-school events) can occur in line with those permitted as per relevant local, regional, provincial and federal public health recommendations and Orders. Organizers should apply a trauma-informed lens to their planning, including consideration of:

- respecting student and staff comfort levels regarding personal space;
- using space available to spread people out as much as possible, respecting room occupancy limits, and ensuring enough space is available to prevent involuntarily physical contact between attendees (i.e. overcrowding); and
- gradual transitions to larger gatherings (e.g. school-wide assemblies), including starting with virtual or smaller in- person options, shorter in-person sessions, etc.

Visitors

Front doors can be unlocked for visitor access, but may encourage visitors to make appointments.

Schools are responsible for ensuring that visitors are aware of communicable disease protocols and requirements, and have completed a daily health check, prior to entering the school.

Information on communicable disease protocols and requirements for visitors should be posted by the entrance to the school, on the school's website and included in communications to students and families.

Schools must have a sign in/sign out process in place for all visitors and staff who are not typically onsite (e.g. TTOCs, itinerant teachers/specialists, maintenance or IT personnel, district/authority administrators).

- All visitors to McLeod Elementary must wear a non-medical mask when they are inside the school. See the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) section for more information, including exceptions to mask requirements for visitors.
- Where possible, visitor access should be limited to those areas required for the purpose of the visit (e.g. school office for drop-off/pick-up of items, gymnasium for a sports event, etc.), and parents/caregivers should be encouraged to drop-off/pick-up students outside of the school.
- Parents/caregivers and other visitors should respect others' personal space on school grounds, including outside. After hours community use of facilities is allowed in alignment with other health and safety measures:
- Use must occur in line with those activities permitted as per relevant local, regional, provincial and federal public health recommendations and Orders
- Diligent hand hygiene
- Respiratory etiquette
- Ensuring participants stay home if they are feeling ill
- Where possible, limiting building access to only those areas required for the purpose of the activity

Community users are responsible for collecting names and contact information of participants to support contact tracing activities by the local health authority.

Student Drop Off/Pick Up:

- Students will use designated entrance(s) and exit(s). These are site-specific.

- Students will maintain physical distancing as they enter/exit the school.
- Students will wash their hands or use hand sanitizer when they enter/exit the school.
- Parents must drop off and pick up their students at their designated time (site specific).
- Schools will have further site-specific procedures for student arrival/exit at school.
- Schools will develop site specific procedures for students arriving and departing by bus.

Where possible, bus line up areas should be set up to prevent crowding.

Playgrounds and Outdoor Activities

- Take students outside more often.
- Reassure students, parents and caregivers that playgrounds are a safe environment, and encourage appropriate personal hygiene practices before, during, and after outdoor play.
- Spread people out into different areas.
- Limit the number of students on certain pieces of playground equipment.

Washrooms

- Schools will develop a washroom use plan for students to prevent crowding.
- Regularly review the COVID-19 handwashing guidelines (as posted) with students.

Food for Students

- Students must wash their hands or use hand sanitizer before handling food.
- Students are not to share food items or contact food items that belong to others.
- Microwave ovens must be treated like other frequently touched items and cleaned and disinfected.
- Students should consume food items at their individual designated work area and clean the area when finished.
- All beverage and food containers should be clearly labeled with the student name.

Workspaces for Students

- Avoid close greetings (**e.g. hugs, handshakes**). Regularly remind students about keeping their “**hands to yourself**”. Learning spaces are arranged to maximize the space available and to minimize people directly facing one another (where possible).
- Stagger recess/snack, lunch and class transition times to provide a greater amount of space for everyone.
 - o Incorporate more individual activities or activities that encourage more space between students and staff.
 - o For younger students, adapt group activities to minimize physical contact and reduce shared items.

For adolescent students, minimize group activities and avoid activities that require physical contact. Manage flow of people in common areas, including hallways and washrooms.

Physical Education

Spread out students and staff within available space, and encourage outdoor activities and programs, as much as possible.

K-12 staff and students in Grades K to 12 are required to wear masks during PHE/outdoor program classes when they are indoors, and a barrier is not present.

Students are not required to wear masks during high-intensity physical activities (e.g. stationary bike, weightlifting, basketball, soccer); mask use during these activities is left to students’ choice. Staff are encouraged to move high-intensity physical activities outdoors whenever possible.

For low intensity activities (e.g. yoga, walking), students are required to wear masks when they are indoors, and a barrier is not present.

Shared equipment can be used, provided it is cleaned and disinfected as per the guidelines in the Cleaning and Disinfecting section of this document.

- Students should be encouraged to practice proper hand hygiene before and after using frequently touched pieces of equipment (e.g. before and after a sports game using a shared ball), as well as proper respiratory etiquette.

- Sharing water bottles is not permitted in any school setting..

Why are masks not required during high intensity physical activity? During high intensity physical activity, respiration rates are increased (resulting in a wet mask) and the wearer is more likely to touch their face and adjust the mask frequently. These factors lessen the protective value a mask may offer. In addition, a wet mask is more difficult to breathe through; those wearing masks during high intensity activities should change them as soon as they become wet.

Music Classes

K-12 staff and students in Grades K to 12 must wear masks when indoors and a barrier is not present. Masks can be temporarily removed while engaging in an educational activity that cannot be performed while wearing a mask (e.g. playing a wind instrument), but must be worn while singing.

Shared equipment should be cleaned and disinfected as per Cleaning and Disinfecting guidelines and students should be encouraged to practice proper hand hygiene before and after music equipment use.

- Equipment that touches the mouth (e.g. instrument mouth pieces) should not be shared unless cleaned and disinfected in between uses.

School Sports

Intra- and inter-school programs, activities (e.g. intramurals, sports team practices, games), sports academies and events can continue in alignment with the following guidance:

Requirements of relevant local, regional and provincial public health recommendations and Orders for community gatherings and events.

Masks are worn by K-12 staff, other adults and students in grades 4 to 12 when they are indoors, and a barrier is not present.

Students are not required to wear masks during high-intensity sport activities (e.g. stationary bike, weightlifting, basketball, soccer); mask use during these activities is left to the student's choice. Staff are encouraged to move high-intensity sport activities outdoors whenever possible.

Emergency Evacuation Drill

Schools should continue to practice emergency (e.g. fire, lockdown) and evacuation drills, including the six required annual fire drills as per BC Fire Code 2.8.3.2, and modify current procedures to adhere to health and safety guidelines (e.g., providing additional muster spots to prevent crowding/congestion).

- Staff should be notified in advance of emergency/evacuation drills (i.e. no “surprise” drills)
- The BC Fire Code requires schools to conduct “total evacuation fire drills” involving all occupants in the building. Partial evacuations involving smaller groups of students would not comply with the fire drill requirements of the Fire Code.
- Schools must continue to update their fire safety plans on an annual basis, as per the BC Fire Code, to “ensure it takes account of the changes in use and other characteristics of the building” (such as current pandemic-related protocols). School fire safety plans, including fire drill procedures, should be developed in cooperation with the local fire department and other regulatory authorities.
- Emergency procedures may require modification to adhere to communicable disease plans (e.g. designating additional muster locations to reduce crowding where required, making efforts to minimize involuntary physical contact between participants, etc.). Schools may also need to consult with their local medical health officer for guidance on current public health Orders, which may affect site specific emergency and evacuation procedures.

In the event of an actual emergency, emergency procedures must take precedence over COVID-19 preventive measures.

Maintain Cleaning/Disinfecting Procedures

The following frequency guidelines must be adhered to when cleaning and disinfecting:

- General cleaning of the premises, and cleaning and disinfecting of frequently touched surfaces, **at least once in a 24-hour period.**
- Clean and disinfect any surface that is visibly dirty.
- Empty garbage containers daily.

The requirements for daily cleaning and disinfecting outlined above do not apply to spaces/equipment that are not being used by students, staff or visitors. Many schools may have implemented procedures such as sign-in sheets posted next to room entrances that help custodial staff focus cleaning/disinfecting activities on those spaces that have been utilized by staff or students.

Frequently touched surfaces include:

- Items used by larger numbers of students and staff, including doorknobs, light switches, hand railings, water fountains, faucet handles, toilet handles. Limiting access to water fountains is no longer recommended. Hand hygiene should be practiced before and after use.

School communicable disease plans should not include restricting access to water, washrooms or other spaces that support student learning and well-being (e.g. gymnasiums, libraries, support rooms, etc.). Schools should return to full operation of all spaces in alignment with the protocols outlined in this document.

- Shared equipment (e.g. computer keyboards and tablets, glassware and testing equipment for science labs, kitchen equipment for culinary programs, sewing machines and sewing equipment for home economic programs, PE/sports equipment, music equipment, etc.)
- Appliances (staff and students can share the use of appliances and other objects, but treat items like microwaves, refrigerators, coffee pots, photocopiers or laminators as frequently touched surfaces)
- Service counters (e.g., office service window, library circulation desk)

Frequently-touched items like toys or manipulatives that may not be able to be cleaned often (e.g. fabrics) or at all (e.g. sand, foam, playdough, etc.) can be used, if hand hygiene is practiced

before and after use. Carpets and rugs (e.g. in Kindergarten and StrongStart classes) can also be used.

There is no evidence that the COVID-19 virus is transmitted via textbooks, paper or other paper-based products. Laminated or glossy paper-based products (e.g. children's books or magazines) and items with plastic covers (e.g. DVDs) can be contaminated if handled by a person with COVID-19; however, the risk is low. There is no need for these items to be cleaned and disinfected or quarantined for any period of time, or for hand hygiene to be practiced before or after use.

Universal Precautions

- Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds after you have had contact with blood or other body fluids, after going to the washroom, before preparing or eating food, and after removing latex gloves. Use hand lotion to help keep your hands from becoming chapped or irritated. Intact skin is your first defense against infection!
- Wear gloves when in contact with blood or other body fluids, excrement or non-intact skin.
- Wear gloves when in contact with articles such as clothing or surfaces that have been contaminated with blood or body fluids.
- Replace torn or punctured gloves immediately.
- DO NOT clean up blood or other bodily fluids from surfaces, call administrator or speak with the on-site custodian regarding clean-up

Washroom Use:

- Two students per washroom can occupy the washrooms at a time at McLeod Elementary. If bathrooms are full, a pylon will be put in front of the door, indicating the washroom is full and students have to wait until there is room.
- Regularly review the COVID-19 handwashing guidelines (as posted) with students.
- Staff will use bathrooms in the staff room, or bathrooms in the community center at McLeod Elementary.

Staffroom and Breaks

- Staff are required to wear masks indoors (See PPE section for more guidance).
- Wash your hands or use hand sanitizer before you go into the staffroom.
- If you have to leave the building, make sure you follow the same protocols that you did when you arrived.
- Bring a lunch/snack that does not require a lot of preparation (to limit microwave use, surface use, utensil use, etc.).
- Clean the areas, surfaces, appliances, etc. that you use in the staffroom.
- Wash your hands or use hand sanitizer again before you go back to your classroom, office or workspace.
- Do not share food or drink.

Protocol if a Student/Staff Develops Symptoms of Illness at School

If a student or staff member develops symptoms at school, schools will:

- Provide the student/staff with a non-medical mask if they don't have one (exceptions should be made for students and staff who cannot wear masks for medical and/or disability-related reasons).
- Provide the student/staff with a space where they can wait comfortably that is separated from others. The student is to be supervised and cared for, when separated.

Make arrangements for the student/staff to go home as soon as possible. Contact the student's parent/caregiver with a request to have their child picked up as soon as possible. Clean and disinfect the areas the student/staff used. Request that the student/staff stay home until COVID-19 has been excluded and symptoms have resolved.

Students, staff or other adults should stay home when sick.

Protocol in the Event of a Confirmed Covid-19 Case in a School

If a student or staff member is confirmed to have COVID-19, and were potentially infectious while they were at school: o Public health will perform an investigation to determine if there were any potential close contacts within the school. (To learn more about contact tracing, visit the BCCDC website.) Students and staff who have interacted with the confirmed case may be asked to stay home while public health completes their investigation

If it is determined that there are close contacts within the school, public health will notify the school administrators to request class and bus lists to assist with contact tracing and provide guidance on what steps should be taken.

Public health may then:

- Recommend 14-day isolation if necessary (for confirmed close contacts).
- Recommend monitoring for symptoms if necessary.
- Provide follow-up recommendations if necessary.

Schools will continue to provide learning support to students required to self-isolate. Together, schools/school districts and public health officials will determine if any other actions are necessary.

There is no role for screening students or staff for symptoms, checking temperatures, or COVID-19 testing. Such activities are reserved for health-care professionals.

The District and school personnel must not provide notification to staff or students' families if a staff member or student becomes ill at home or at school, including if they display symptoms of COVID-19, unless directed to by public health.

Staying Home, Self-Isolation and Symptoms

Stay Home When Required to Self-Isolate

Students, staff or other adults **must stay home if they are required to self-isolate. Symptoms of Illness and Return to School**

Students, staff or other adults should stay at home when sick, as this is one of the most important ways to reduce the introduction to and the spread of COVID-19 in schools. The following resources provide guidance regarding specific symptoms of illness:

- Parents/caregivers and students can use the K-12 Health Check app.
- Staff and adults can refer to the BCCDC’s When to get tested for COVID-19
- Staff, students and parents/caregivers can also use the BCCDC online Self-Assessment Tool, call 8-1-1 or their health care provider.

When a staff, student or other adult can return to school depends on the type of symptoms they experienced (as indicated in the K-12 Health Check app and the BCCDC “When to get tested for COVID-19 “ resource), if a COVID-19 test is recommended, and the type of illness they had (e.g. COVID-19 or other illness). See Appendix A – COVID-19 Symptoms, Testing and Return to School for more information.

Students and staff who experience symptoms consistent with a previously diagnosed health condition (e.g. seasonal allergies) can continue to attend school when they are experiencing these symptoms as normal. They do not require reassessment by a health-care provider and should not be required to provide a health-care provider note. If they experience any new or unexplained symptoms, they should seek assessment by a health-care provider.

Students or staff may still attend school if a member of their household develops new symptoms of illness, provided the student/staff has no symptoms themselves. If the household member tests positive for COVID-19, public health will advise the asymptomatic student/staff on self-isolation and when they may return to school.

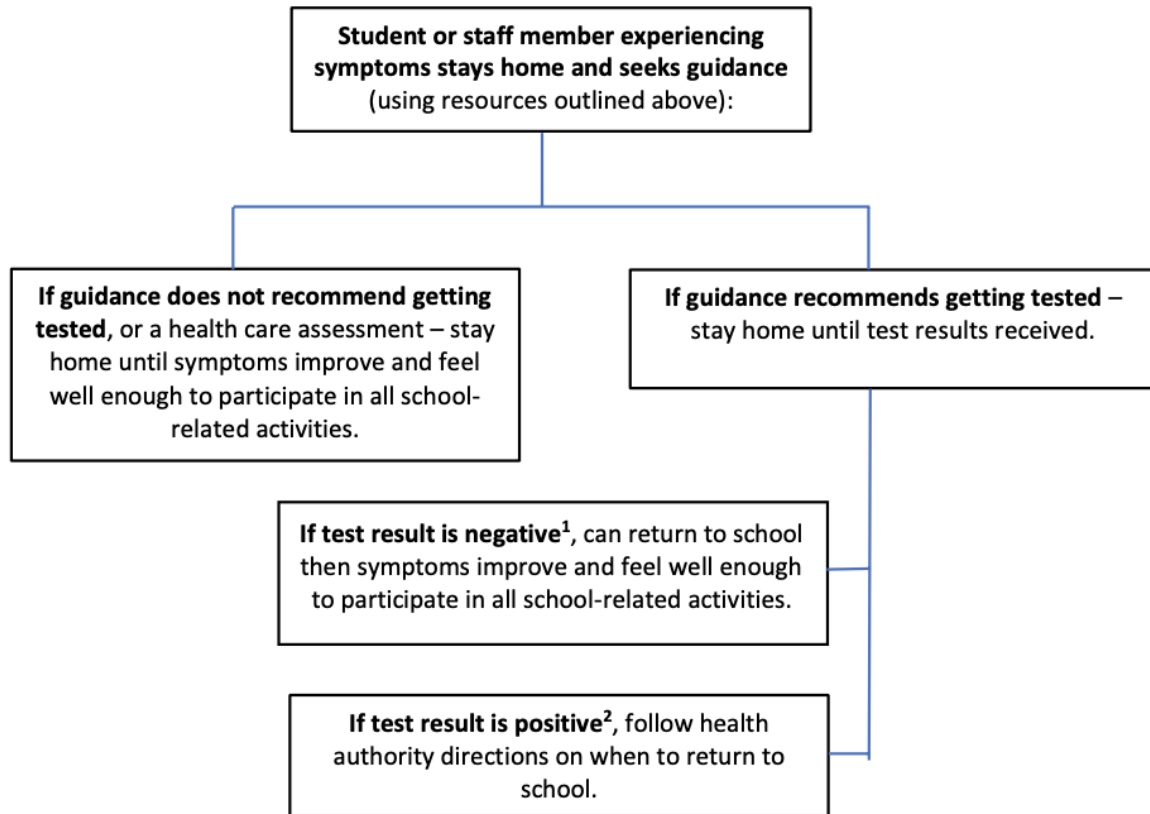
Supporting Documents:

- **BC's K-12 Education Recovery Plan:** Updated August 24th, 2020 provides direction to boards of education and independent school authorities to deliver educational programs and supports in line with provincial pandemic recovery efforts in the 2021/22 school year by:
- **Provincial COVID-19 Health and Safety Guidelines for K-12 Setting:** Updated October 1st, 2021 to provide detailed information and guidelines pertaining to health and safety in K-12 schools.
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/administration/kindergarten-to-grade-12/safe-caring-orderly/k-12-covid-19-health-safety-guidelines.pdf>
- **BCCDC COVID-19 Public Health Guidance for K-12 School Settings:** Updated October 1st, 2021 to provide health and safety standards for schools to operate.
http://www.bccdc.ca/Health-Info-Site/Documents/COVID_public_guidance/Guidance-k-12-schools.pdf

Northern Health Online Clinic and Information Line: 1-844-645-7811

COVID-19 Symptoms, Testing and Return to School

When a student, staff or other adult can return to school depends on the type of symptoms they experienced and if a COVID-19 test is recommended. See the K-12 Health Check app and BCCDC When to get tested for COVID-19 resource for specific guidance. Staff, students and parents/caregivers can also use the BCCDC on Self-Assessment Tool or call 8-1-1 or their health care provider.



1. Symptoms of common respiratory illnesses can persist for a week or more. Re-testing is not needed unless the person develops a new illness. BCCDC has information on receiving negative test results.
2. Public health will contact everyone with a positive test. Visit the BCCDC website for more information on negative test results.

Daily Health Check for Students

Daily Health Check for Students:

Based on current evidence, some symptoms are more likely to be related to COVID-19 than others.

If your child has any of the symptoms listed below, follow the instructions.

Symptoms	What to Do
Fever higher than 38°C Chills Cough Difficulty breathing Loss of sense of smell or taste	If yes to 1 or more of these symptoms: Stay home. Contact a health care provider or call 8-1-1 about your symptoms and next steps.
	What to Do
Sore throat Loss of appetite Diarrhea Nausea and vomiting Extreme fatigue or tiredness Headache Body aches	If yes to 1 of these symptoms: Stay home until you feel better If yes to 2 or more these symptoms: Stay home for 24 hours. If symptoms don't get better or get worse, contact a health care provider or call 8-1-1 about your symptoms and next steps.
International Travel	What to Do
Have you returned from travel outside Canada in the last 14 days?	If yes: Fully vaccinated students, staff and other adults who have travelled outside of Canada may qualify for the fully vaccinated traveller exemption . Students, staff and other adults who are not fully vaccinated and have travelled outside of Canada CANNOT attend school for 14 days after arrival , as part of federal requirements .
Close Contact	What to Do
Have you been notified by public health that you are a close contact of a person confirmed to have COVID-19?	Follow the instructions provided by Public Health.

When a **COVID-19 test** is recommended by health assessment, stay home until test results are received:

- If the COVID-19 test is **positive**, follow health authority direction on when to return to school.
- If the COVID-19 test is **negative**, you can return to school once symptoms have improved and you feel well enough to participate in all school-related activities. Symptoms of common respiratory illnesses can persist for a week or more. Re-testing is not needed unless you develop a new illness.

If a COVID-19 test is not recommended by the health assessment, you can return when symptoms improve, and you feel well enough to participate in all school-related activities. Testing may not be recommended if the assessment determines that the symptoms are due to another cause (i.e. not COVID-19).

Daily Health Check for Staff

Daily Health Check for Staff:

Based on current evidence, some symptoms are more likely to be related to COVID-19 than others.

If you have any of the symptoms listed below, follow the instructions.

Symptoms	What to Do
Fever higher than 38°C Chills Cough Difficulty breathing Loss of sense of smell or taste	If yes to 1 or more of these symptoms: Stay home. Contact a health care provider or call 8-1-1 about your symptoms and next steps.
	What to Do
Sore throat Loss of appetite Diarrhea Nausea and vomiting Extreme fatigue or tiredness Headache Body aches	If yes to 1 of these symptoms: Stay home until you feel better If yes to 2 or more these symptoms: Stay home for 24 hours. If symptoms don't get better or get worse, contact a health care provider or call 8-1-1 about your symptoms and next steps.
International Travel	What to Do
Have you returned from travel outside Canada in the last 14 days?	If yes: Fully vaccinated students, staff and other adults who have travelled outside of Canada may qualify for the fully vaccinated traveller exemption . Students, staff and other adults who are not fully vaccinated and have travelled outside of Canada CANNOT attend school for 14 days after arrival , as part of federal requirements .
Close Contact	What to Do
Have you been notified by public health that you are a close contact of a person confirmed to have COVID-19?	Follow the instructions provided by Public Health.

When a **COVID-19 test** is recommended by health assessment, stay home until test results are received:

- If the COVID-19 test is **positive**, follow health authority direction on when to return to work.
- If the COVID-19 test is **negative**, you can return to work once symptoms have improved and you feel well enough to participate in all work/school-related activities. Symptoms of common respiratory illnesses can persist for a week or more. Re-testing is not needed unless you develop a new illness.

If a COVID-19 test is not recommended by the health assessment, you can return when symptoms improve, and you feel well enough to participate in all work/school-related activities. Testing may not be recommended if the assessment determines that the symptoms are due to another cause (i.e. not COVID-19).

Hand Washing Procedures

HOW TO HAND WASH



Wet hands with warm
(not hot or cold)
running water



Apply liquid or foam soap



Lather soap covering
all surfaces of hands
for 20-30 seconds



Rinse thoroughly
under running water




Pat hands dry thoroughly
with paper towel



Use paper towel
to turn off the tap

School COVID-19 Health and Safety Checklist

COVID-19 Public Health Guidance for K-12 Schools		
Health and Safety Checklist		 BC Centre for Disease Control <small>Prevent. Protect. Promote.</small>
Administrative Measures		
	For indoor gatherings, people are spread out within the available space and room capacity limits are not exceeded.	<input type="checkbox"/> Included
	During breaks and other unstructured time in indoor settings, strategies are in place to ensure there is enough space available to prevent involuntary physical contact.	<input type="checkbox"/> Included
Staff Specific Considerations	WorkSafe BC guidance for workplaces is used to determine measures for staff-only spaces within a school and/or for non-school spaces operated by the school district/authority.	<input type="checkbox"/> Included
	Staff-only gatherings (e.g., meetings, professional development days, etc.) occur in line with those permitted as per relevant local, regional, Provincial, and Federal public health recommendations and Orders for workplace gatherings and events and any related WorkSafe BC guidance.	<input type="checkbox"/> Included
Visitors, including Itinerant Staff, Temporary Teachers on Call, Parents and Others	Processes are in place to ensure itinerant staff, teachers on call and visitors are aware of the school's communicable disease plan and their responsibility to follow measures at all times.	<input type="checkbox"/> Included
Curriculum, Programs and Activities	For music and physical education (and other subjects as necessary), prevention practices specific to the activity are implemented (e.g., cleaning mouth pieces and water bottles between use).	<input type="checkbox"/> Included
	Local and international field trips occur in line with those permitted as per relevant local, regional, Provincial, and Federal public health recommendations and Orders for local and/or international travel.	<input type="checkbox"/> Included
Bus Transportation	Frequently touched surfaces are cleaned and disinfected at least 1x/day. Surfaces touched by fewer people are cleaned 1x/day.	<input type="checkbox"/> Included
	Practices are in place to clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces when they are dirty.	<input type="checkbox"/> Included
	Other general cleaning occurs in line with regular practices.	<input type="checkbox"/> Included
	Practices are in place to encourage bus drivers and passengers to practice hand hygiene before and after trips.	<input type="checkbox"/> Included
	Spread passengers out if empty seats are available.	<input type="checkbox"/> Included
	Windows are opened when the weather allows.	<input type="checkbox"/> Included
	Bus drivers, adult volunteers and visitors, and students in Grade 4 or higher wear masks according to the guidelines or applicable public health orders/recommendations.	<input type="checkbox"/> Included
	Grade K-3 students wear masks based on their personal or family/caregivers' choice.	<input type="checkbox"/> Included
Food Services	Food services (e.g., meal programs, cafeterias, fundraisers, etc.), are following regular operational and food safety practices.	<input type="checkbox"/> Included

COVID-19 Public Health Guidance for K-12 Schools

Health and Safety Checklist



Administrative Measures		
Community Use of Schools	Community use of school facilities is aligned with related public health guidance, recommendations and Orders.	<input type="checkbox"/> Included
Water Fountains	The use of water fountains is not limited.	<input type="checkbox"/> Included

Personal Measures		
Daily Health Checks	Staff, parents and students are regularly reminded of their responsibilities to complete a Daily Health Check and are provided with resources on how to complete one (e.g., the K-12 Health Check app).	<input type="checkbox"/> Included
Stay Home When Sick / What To Do When Sick	Staff and students are regularly reminded to stay home when they are sick and are provided with resources on what to do when they are sick (e.g., the BC Self-Assessment Tool app).	<input type="checkbox"/> Included
Symptoms Develop at School	Practices are in place to appropriately respond when a staff member, student, or other person develops symptoms of illness while at school.	<input type="checkbox"/> Included
Returning to School After Illness	Health care provider notes (i.e., a doctor's note) are not required to confirm the health status of any individual, beyond those required to support medical accommodation as per usual practice.	<input type="checkbox"/> Included
Hand Hygiene & Respiratory Etiquette	Hand cleaning facilities are available and accessible throughout the school and are well maintained.	<input type="checkbox"/> Included

Personal Protective Equipment		
Masks	Staff, adult volunteers and visitors, and students in Grade 4 and higher in "bricks and mortar" schools wear a non-medical mask or face covering (a "mask") according to the guidelines or applicable public health orders/recommendations.	<input type="checkbox"/> Included
	Grade K-3 students wear masks based on their personal or family/caregivers' choice.	<input type="checkbox"/> Included
	Masks are available for those who have forgotten theirs.	<input type="checkbox"/> Included

Supportive School Environments		
Personal Prevention Practices	Strategies are in place to routinely support students to practice personal prevention measures like hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette (e.g., signage, included in morning announcements, etc.).	<input type="checkbox"/> Included

Health and Safety Checklist

Personal Space	Strategies are in place to encourage staff and students to consider and respect others personal space. Personal space is the distance from which a person feels comfortable being next to another person.	<input type="checkbox"/> Included
Positive & Inclusive Approaches	Positive and inclusive approaches identified to support students' personal prevention practices.	<input type="checkbox"/> Included

The information included in this checklist is based on the Ministry of Education COVID-19 Communicable Disease Guidelines for K-12 Settings. As such, there may be differences between the checklist and the information in this guidance document.