



Communicable Disease Prevention Plan

KCS implements health protocols required by the Provincial Health Officer, Interior Health, the Ministry of Education, and Worksafe BC to ensure that students and staff remain healthy while at school. Our key goal is to ***provide a safe environment for our school community that is based on respect and care for each other.*** KCS recognizes that our community's health and safety includes emotional and social components that deeply impact our students, staff, and families. We commit to respect and care for all families and students with sensitivity, compassion, and love.

Regional or Local Health Protocols

The KCS Communicable Disease Prevention Plan includes protocols currently recommended or mandated by health authorities. Regional or local health authorities may require additional protocols (such as limiting visitors, size of gatherings, and use of masks) at times throughout the year in response to an increase in transmission of communicable diseases such as Covid-19. Any immediate changes will be communicated via the KCS app and this document will be updated as soon as possible. Please refer to the revision date at the bottom of this document.

Wellness Protocols

- A. Parents and caregivers should assess their children daily for illness before sending them to school. Parents/caregivers and students can utilize the provincial [K-12 Health Check app](#) for daily assessment of symptoms.
- B. If students are sick or feel unwell, they must stay home and away from others (as much as possible) until they feel well enough to return to school and no longer have a fever.
- C. Parents and caregivers should call 811 or talk with their health care provider to determine if their child should be tested for Covid-19 based on their symptoms.
- D. Students who test positive for Covid-19 must self-isolate for 5 days and must have improved symptoms (including no fever) before returning to school. Your child may return to school after self-isolating even if he/she continues to have some symptoms such as a persistent cough.
- E. Staff and other adults are required to complete a daily health check prior to entering the school. If staff or any other adult is sick, they must not enter the school.
- F. If your child becomes sick while at school, you will be notified by KCS staff to pick up your child. Please pick up your child as quickly as possible from the main office foyer.

- G. Students and staff who experience symptoms consistent with a previously diagnosed health condition (e.g. seasonal allergies) can continue to attend school as usual while they are experiencing these symptoms.
- H. Students or staff may still attend school if a family member has Covid-19, provided that the student/staff has no symptoms themselves.

Reporting Illness

- A. Families must inform the school if a child's absence is due to illness. Families do not need to inform the school if their child has tested positive or negative for Covid-19.
- B. Provincial Health Authorities are no longer contact-tracing. Instead, anyone who has symptoms or knows that they have Covid-19 must inform their own close contacts to either self-monitor or self-isolate.
- C. KCS will not have information about Covid-19 cases within the school and will not report to the school community about Covid-19 cases.

Strategies to reduce the risk of transmission of communicable diseases:

- A. Hand Hygiene
 - a. Staff will model personal practices (e.g., hand hygiene, respiratory etiquette), and assist younger students as needed.
 - b. Students will be given regular opportunities to wash their hands with soap/water or sanitizer for 20 seconds throughout the day. Some examples are:
 - i. When they arrive at school and before they go home
 - ii. Before and after recess breaks
 - iii. Before and after eating or drinking
 - iv. After sneezing or coughing into hands
 - v. Before and after washroom breaks
 - vi. After using shared equipment in PE class, during recess breaks, or in the classroom.
 - c. Students will be reminded how to wash their hands properly.
 - d. Students may bring their own sanitizer or plain soap if they are on the list authorized by Health Canada or have a medical condition that requires specialized soaps. (See the [List of Hand Sanitizers Authorized by Health Canada in Canada.](#))
 - e. Students will be reminded to cough or sneeze into their elbow, sleeve, or tissue and to wash their hands immediately after.
- B. Masks
 - a. Masks are no longer required for any students or staff for any school-related events or within the building at any time.
 - b. Masks are no longer required on buses while students are being transported to school-related events.
 - c. Staff and students may choose to wear a mask at any point during the day at school or during a school-related event. Any negative comments towards anyone who chooses to wear a mask are not acceptable.

C. Shared items

- a. Students will be reminded not to share personal items (water bottles, utensils, food, clothing items) with each other.
- b. Frequently touched surfaces will be cleaned regularly.