

Communicable Disease Prevention Plan and Guidelines

Purpose: In response to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Whistler Waldorf School has made several changes to the way its program operates, all with the intention of keeping our children, families and staff as safe as possible and to help stop the spread of Covid-19. Program changes reflect Ministry of Education, Work Safe B.C., and the B.C. Centre for Disease Control directives.

Health Awareness

- **ILLNESS AND SELF ASSESSMENT PROTOCOLS**

- Assess daily for symptoms using <http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/bulletin/20220121/daily-health-check--jan-2022.pdf> or [K-12 Health Check](#) app. For a list of symptoms of COVID-19, see the [BC Centre for Disease Control](#) website.
- When sick stay at home.
- If you are unsure as to whether you should get tested use the following link <https://covidcheck.gov.bc.ca/>

- **SELF-ISOLATION, SELF-MONITORING, AND SYMPTOMS**

- If symptoms are mild, individuals should continue to monitor symptoms for 24 hrs. If symptoms improve and there is no fever or productive cough, students/staff can return to school.
- If you have tested positive for Covid please follow the guidelines laid out in the following link: <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/if-you-have-covid-19>

- **PROTOCOL IF A STUDENT DEVELOPS SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19 AT SCHOOL**

- Provide the student with a non-medical mask if they don't have one (exceptions should be made for students who cannot wear masks for medical and/or disability-related reasons).
- Immediately separate the symptomatic student from others and ensure the student is self-isolating in either the boardroom or student support room under adult guidance.
- Contact the student's caregiver and request immediate pick-up.
- Some students or staff may not be able to be picked up immediately. As such, schools should have a space available where the student or staff can wait comfortably and are separated from others. Younger children must be supervised when separated. Supervising staff can wear a non-medical mask, and should avoid touching bodily fluids as much as possible and practice diligent hand hygiene.
- Request that the individual stay home until symptoms have improved and they feel well enough to participate in all school-related activities.
- Encourage good respiratory hygiene.
- Avoid touching student's bodily fluids.
- Once student has left, wash hands diligently and disinfect all areas in use by the student.
- The guardian of any student sent home with symptoms should refer to the **Illness and Self-Assessment Protocols and the Self-Isolation, Self-Monitoring, and Symptoms section above.**

- **PROTOCOL IF SCHOOL STAFF DEVELOP SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19 AT SCHOOL**

If a faculty or staff member displays symptoms of COVID-19 while on-site, s/he will:

- Go home as soon as possible.
- Maintain 2-meters distance from all other individuals.
- Practice good respiratory hygiene.
- Inform administration.
- Refer to the **Illness and Self-Assessment Protocols and the Self-Isolation, Self-Monitoring, and Symptoms section above** once at home.
- If a staff member is found to have COVID-19, s/he can use the balance of their sick days for self-isolation. Once those days have been used, the staff member will be on un-paid leave until the period of self-isolation ends.

Environmental Measures

- Daily Cleaning and Sanitizing of Classrooms by Teachers and Custodian
 - All classrooms will be stocked with disinfectant, hand sanitizer and paper towels.
 - Student desks and chairs will be disinfected once a day.
 - Doors knobs, light switches, and any other high touch surfaces will be disinfected once daily
 - Any noticeably dirty surface will be cleaned and disinfected as needed.
- Daily Cleaning of General Areas
 - The Field House Lobby, administrative offices and Spruce Grove Hall will be stocked with disinfectant, hand sanitizer and paper towels.
 - Kitchen appliances and surfaces will be disinfected daily.
 - High touch surfaces in washrooms will be disinfected daily
 - Reception desk will be disinfected daily
 - All knobs and railings in Spruce Grove will be disinfected daily
 - Unnecessary kitchen items will be removed (i.e. plates, cups silverware).

Personal Measures

- Handwashing
 - Hand-washing should be encouraged upon school entry and before/after breaks and eating, using washroom and using frequently touched shared equipment.
 - Where handwashing facilities are unavailable alcohol-based hand sanitizer will be used.
 - Signage regarding hand hygiene will be posted at all hand hygiene stations
- Respiratory Hygiene & Etiquette for Staff and Students
 - Throw away used tissues immediately perform hand hygiene
 - Cough and sneeze into elbow, sleeve, or tissue
 - All parents should follow the guidelines laid out in the Covid-19 On-Site Policy

Administrative Measures

- Space Arrangement
 - Schools can use classroom and learning environment configurations and activities that best meet learner needs and preferred educational approaches.
- Transportation
 - Bus drivers, teachers and students in Kindergarten to Grade 12 may choose to wear masks or face coverings when they are on the bus
 - Windows will be open weather permitting
 - Students should clean hands before and after taking the bus
 - Parent Drivers can be utilized if the guidelines are followed
 - Buses should be disinfected once every 24 hours

Personal Protective Equipment

- The decision to wear a mask or face covering is a personal choice for staff, students and visitors. A person's choice should be supported and respected. Refer to Supportive School Environments for more information.
- WWS will continue to have non-medical masks on hand for those who have forgotten theirs but would like to wear one, or who become ill at school.

Curriculum, Programs, and Activities

- Field Trips
 - All trips will be conducted in line with those permitted as per relevant local, regional, Provincial and Federal public health recommendations and Orders.
 - When taking students on field trips, teachers will adhere to the guidelines in the transportation section and ensure that anyone other than staff working with the students have completed a health check.
 - Students may not attend field trips for the following reasons
 - are sick or showing symptoms of, COVID-19
 - have been told by public health to self-isolate because they are a close contact to someone with COVID-19
- Music/Physical & Health Education (PHE) / Outdoor / Food & Culinary / Theatre, Film & Dance / other Shared Equipment Programs Students should be encouraged to practice proper hand hygiene before and after shared equipment use. Equipment that touches the mouth (e.g., instrument mouth pieces, water bottles, utensils) or has been in contact with bodily fluids should not be shared unless cleaned and disinfected in between uses.

Visitor access/community use

- 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 can return to routine sign in/sign out practices for visitors and staff not typically onsite. Schools do not need to keep a list of the date, names and contact information of visitors for communicable disease prevention purposes.
- 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

