

Students & COVID-19

Background

On July 11, 2021, the Government of Saskatchewan repealed all on-going Public Health Orders related to COVID-19. This procedure has been created to ensure schools remain safe for all students and staff. These protocols will continue to be adjusted as necessary following the direction of the Chief Medical Health Officer of Saskatchewan.

Getting vaccinated for COVID-19 remains the most important step individuals can take to protect themselves and our communities. Prairie South School Division strongly encourages all eligible students to become vaccinated.

Procedures

1. General Guidelines

- 1.1 It is strongly recommended that children under 12 wear masks in common areas such as hallways, washrooms, lunchrooms and libraries. For outdoor activities such as recess or outdoor gym classes, there is no recommendation for students to mask. It is appropriate for students and staff to remove masks, if they choose, when in their classrooms.
- 1.2 Proper hand hygiene is expected from all students. Practices include using soap and water when hands are soiled and hand sanitizer when visibly clean. Cough and sneeze into your elbow and avoid touching your face, mouth, nose and eyes.
- 1.3 Students are encouraged to bring their own hand sanitizer to supplement what the school division will be providing.
- 1.4 Students are expected to keep their own space clean and sanitized. Disinfectants will be provided by the school division.
- 1.5 Sharing food, drinks or other personal items should be avoided.

2. Guidelines for Illness

- 2.1 All students are expected to self-monitor for COVID-19. Common symptoms include:
 - Fever
 - Cough
 - Headache
 - Muscle and/or joint aches and pains
 - Sore throat
 - Chills
 - Runny nose
 - Nasal congestion
 - Conjunctivitis
 - Dizziness
 - Fatigue
 - Nausea/vomiting
 - Diarrhea
 - Loss of appetite
 - Loss of sense of taste or smell
 - Shortness of breath
 - Difficulty breathing

- 2.2 If a student has symptoms of COVID-19 illness they are recommended to stay home until their symptoms resolve.
- 2.3 If a student starts displaying symptoms of COVID-19 illness while at school, the student will be isolated from other students and the parent or guardian will be notified to pick up the student immediately.
 - 2.3.1 In all interactions with the student, staff members should:
 - 2.3.1.1 Maintain physical distancing from the student as much as possible;
 - 2.3.1.2 Wear a mask and face shield;
 - 2.3.1.3 Avoid contact with the student's respiratory secretions;
 - 2.3.1.4 Provide the student with a face mask, if the student is not wearing one, and request the student wear it provided the student is not in respiratory distress;
 - 2.3.1.5 Wash their hands adequately with soap and water or use hand sanitizer before and after attending to the student; and,
 - 2.3.1.6 Dispose of disposable PPE and arrange for non-disposable PPE (i.e., face shield) to be cleaned and disinfected.
 - 2.3.2 The principal or designate shall, as soon as reasonably possible:
 - 2.3.2.1 Call parents or caregivers to pick up and remove their child from the school.
 - 2.3.2.2 Arrange for the cleaning and disinfection of the isolation room as soon as reasonably possible, the student's classroom and, in particular, the student's desk and surrounding desks and any other common touch items in the classroom and/or school facility (i.e., washroom) to which the student would have had access that school day.
- 2.4 All communications regarding the student or further action that might need to be taken by the staff, students or school must be done only by or with the approval of the Superintendent of School Operations in consultation with the Saskatchewan Health Authority.
- 2.5 Parents or guardians shall follow the direction of the Saskatchewan Health Authority.

3 Additional Health Supports

- 3.1 Healthline 811

Reference: Re-Open Saskatchewan: A plan to re-open the provincial economy
Primary and Secondary Educational Institution Guidelines June 18, 2020
AP 159 Health and Safety
AP 160 Student and Staff Safety
AP 164 Communicable Diseases

August 24, 2021