



EMV Communicable Disease **Prevention Plan**



Daily Health Check

- All Students and Staff are expected to self-assess their health for symptoms before entering the building each day.
- All Staff must complete the Daily Health Check (in the office) each morning. This can be accessed for students at <https://www.k12dailycheck.gov.bc.ca/healthcheck?execution=e1s1>

Illness

- **Any student or staff member who is experiencing symptoms of a cold, flu, COVID-19, or other respiratory illness must stay home. Anyone experiencing symptoms in the building will be sent home. If you are sick, please stay home.**
- If you are ill during the day, please notify administration immediately. Administration will notify the District office.
- If staff experience symptoms of COVID-19 (see attached Daily Health Check List), they should contact 8-1-1 and follow the advice and guidance provided
- It is expected that Parents/Guardians will assess their child each day before arriving at school. If students are sick, they must stay home
- If students are ill during the day, their parent/guardian will be called and they will be asked to come and pick up their son/daughter immediately. They will be asked to contact 8-1-1 and follow the guidance provided and follow up with the school
- Students who become ill during the day should wear a mask and be sent to the office for home communication
- Any Student or Staff member experiencing symptoms should self-isolate and contact either 8-1-1 or Northern Health at 1-844-645-7811.
 - If testing is required, instructions will be given.
 - If testing is NOT required, individuals can return to school **once their symptoms are gone.**
- **Anyone who has travelled outside of Canada must self-isolate for 14 days.**
- **Northern Health will contact all close contacts and provide instructions.**

Accessing the Building

- Upon entering the building, all staff and students must practice hand hygiene immediately
- Staff must sign in and complete the daily health check
- All guests/visitors to the building must wear a mask

- Parents, guardians, guests are asked to call the school from the front doors where they will be met and helped.
- Visitors must complete the Health Check, sign in, sanitize hands, and read the most up to date EMV communicable disease prevention plan document
- Visitors to the building are limited to those that are of direct benefit to student learning and wellbeing

Students Arriving at EMV

- If students are ill or have any symptoms, they need to stay home from school. If symptoms develop while they are at school, parents/guardians will be contacted immediately. The student will wait for parent pickup in the first aid room off the main office. Students will be given a mask to wear. When a parent/guardian arrives, staff will escort the student to the front entrance where they will meet their parent/guardian outside of the building.
- Students should not arrive at EMV before 8:40.
- Supervision will begin at 8:40, monitoring entry doors and line ups.

If a child indicates that they are not well or have not been well, they will be sent to the office via the safest route possible for a health check

*Do you have a fever?

*Do you have a runny nose?

*Do you have a cough or are you sneezing?

*Do you have chest pain, chills, loss of smell, headache, sore throat, nausea, diarrhea or shortness of breath?

*Do you have any new muscle aches or pains?

If the answer is “Yes” to any of these questions the child will not be admitted into the school and the principal will be contacted to attend to the child. A parent/caregiver would then need to take the child home.

If any of the symptoms appear during the school day, the child will be placed in our first aid room and a parent/caregiver will be contacted to come to the school to pick up the child. **Any student or staff member who is sick or becomes sick will be given a mask to wear until they can be picked up or until they are able to go home.**

- Students will wash their hands as soon as they enter their classroom.

Accessing the Main Office

- Other than office staff, only one person can enter the front office at one time.
- All staff must wear masks at all times

Hand Washing/Hygiene

- All staff and students must practice hand hygiene immediately upon entering the building.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing; going to the bathroom; and

before eating or preparing food.

- If you have to cough or sneeze, try to do it into your elbow or a tissue, and then throw out the tissue if used and wash your hands afterwards.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands. Wash your hands afterwards.
- Students and staff should wash their hands frequently as well as before eating, after lunch...
- Hand hygiene should occur:
 - When they arrive at school and before they go home
 - Before eating and drinking
 - After using the toilet
 - After sneezing or coughing into hands or tissue
 - Whenever hands are visibly dirty
 - Before and after moving between different learning environments (e.g., outdoor-indoor transitions, from the gym to the classroom, etc.)

Physical Distancing

- All students and staff are reminded to respect the personal space of others in the school
- Avoid close greetings such as hand shakes, hugs, etc.
- Hallways are divided and arrows indicate the direction to walk
- In the hallways, walk single-file on the right side of the hallway (follow the arrows).
- Staff should proceed to their work space (classroom/office) as quickly as possible
- Avoid congregating in hallways or areas that others need to walk through
- Room occupancy limits must be followed at all times
- Students should eat at their desks and take all breaks outside
- Arrange desks/tables so students are not facing each other, if possible
- Use consistent assigned seats
- Incorporate more individual activities that encourage spacing between students and staff

Classrooms

- All staff must wear a mask (see Personal Protective Equipment section)
- Physical contact should be avoided at all times
- Minimize close, prolonged face-to-face interactions
- Spread out as much as possible in the available space
- Face-to-face seating arrangements should be avoided, where possible
- Students should have consistent seating arrangements, when practical
- Some manipulatives may not be able to be cleaned often or at all (e.g. sand, foam, playdough, etc.). These items can still be used, if hand hygiene is practiced before and after use

Physical Education

- Create space between students and staff
- Spread out as much as possible
- Outdoor activities/programs are encouraged as much as possible
- Staff is required to wear a mask during indoor PE classes, when indoors and no barrier is present
- For High Intensity activity involving movement, the activity should be designed and delivered in a way to reduce physical contact beyond brief moments
- Mask rules apply during indoor PE
- For low intensity physical activity (e.g. yoga, stretching, walking) students are required to wear a mask when they are indoors and a barrier is not present.
- Teachers should plan activities that DO NOT involve prolonged physical contact
- Plans should be adapted to reduce physical contact
- **Hand hygiene must be practiced before and after PE classes**
- **NOTE – High Intensity Activity involve sustained heavier breathing and an elevated heart rates**
- **Extracurricular sports tournaments will be paused**

Music Class

- K-12 staff and students in Grades KG to 12 must wear masks when indoors. 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.
- Class organisation of Students and Staff should encourage physical distancing as much as space allows

Barriers

- Hallways will have arrows indicating the flow of traffic
- There will a barrier in the Office keeping staff/students a physical distance from the secretary
- There will a barrier in the Library keeping staff/students a physical distance from the Teacher Librarian and/or Library Assistant for book sign out

Occupancy Limits

- Recognize and follow the occupancy limits posted on individual rooms and spaces throughout the building.

Cleaning, Disinfecting, and Sanitizing

- There will be NO sharing of supplies. This includes such things as pens, pencils, water bottles, snacks/food, etc.
- Clean and disinfect highly touched surfaces once a day and when visibly dirty (e.g. door knobs, light switches, cupboard handles, grab bars, hand rails, tables, phones, bathrooms, keyboards).

Beginning of the Day/End of the Day

- See attached entry and exit protocols for further clarification
- Students will line up as normal in the AM at their individual mudroom doors
- Classes are divided into 2 separate groups that enter and exit at separate times to reduce congestion in mud room areas.
- Additional entrances including the library may be used at times to reduce congestion if required
- Unsupervised activities in the mudroom are not encouraged
- Students and parents/guardians should not arrive before 8:40 AM and should leave the school grounds as close to 3:00 PM, as possible.

Shared Spaces

- There are a number of spaces within the building that will be shared by multiple classes
- These include the Hallways, Music/Band Room, the Library, the Computer lab, Learner Support Rooms and the Gym.
- **Before and after students and/or adults use shared spaces, they must practice hand hygiene**

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- All staff, adult volunteers and visitors, and all Grades KG to 12 students must wear a non-medical mask or face covering (a “mask”) **at all times while indoors at school**, subject to the exceptions noted below.

Exceptions – The recommendations above should not apply as follows:

- To a person who is unable to wear a mask because they can not tolerate it (for health or behavioural reasons);
 - To a person unable to put on or remove a mask without the assistance of another person;
 - If the mask is removed **temporarily** for the purposes of identifying the person wearing it;
 - If the mask is removed **temporarily** to engage in an educational activity that cannot be performed while wearing a mask (e.g. actively playing a wind instrument, high-intensity physical activity, etc.);
 - If a person is eating or drinking;
 - If a person is behind a barrier;
 - 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 are important.
- While wearing a non-medical mask, everyone should still make every effort to maintain physical distancing

- While working with students who have mask exemptions, adults should attempt to use alternate measures to enhance their own safety that do not impede a students' ability to participate in an activity

Bus Transportation

- Staff, adult volunteers, and all Grades KG to 12 students **should wear a mask at all times while on a bus**, subject to the exceptions noted below.

Exceptions – The recommendation above should not apply as follows:

- To a bus driver while driving;
- To a person who is unable to wear a mask because they do not tolerate it (for health or behavioural reasons);
- To a person unable to put on or remove a mask without the assistance of another person;
- If the mask is removed temporarily for the purposes of identifying the person wearing it;
- Hand hygiene must be practice before boarding the bus and upon arriving at home

Lunch

- It is suggested that staff and students, not leave the building during the day for such things as lunch, etc.
- If a student or staff member leaves, they must follow the entry routine again when returning to the building.
- All students will be encouraged to bring their snack and lunch from home.
- Microwaves, kettles, etc. will **NOT** be available for students anywhere in the building
- While eating, students should spread out
- Prevent crowding and prevent physical contact

Communication

- All Health and Safety information will be emailed to all staff and posted in the Staff Room
- Student specific Health and Safety plans will be emailed home to Parents/Guardians, and posted on our webpage and reviewed by staff with students upon their entry into the building

Student Belongings

- We will minimize the amount of supplies and materials coming to and from school.
- The water bottle refill station can be used by students and staff throughout the day.
- Please do not bring any additional items (e.g. toys, sports equipment, etc.) to school unless you have checked with school staff first.

Shared Materials

- There will be NO sharing of supplies. This includes such things as pens, pencils, water bottles, snacks/food, electronic devices, etc.

- There will be NO sharing of food or drinks
- Personal items, student and staff, should be labeled and NOT shared with others
- Limit frequently touched items that are not easily cleaned to those that support learning, health, and development
 - Some manipulatives may not be able to be cleaned often or at all (e.g. sand, foam, playdough, fabrics, etc.). These items can still be used, if hand hygiene is practiced before and after use
- Shared Learning items/equipment (e.g. keyboards, tablets, etc.) will be cleaned once per day by the custodial staff
- Items and surfaces that children have placed in their mouths or that have been in contact with bodily fluids should be cleaned as soon as possible and between uses by different children

Staff Only Spaces

- Staff only gatherings (ex. Staff meetings, in-service, and professional development activities) will be held virtually

School Gatherings And Events (including extracurricular)

- School gathering including parent teacher conferences will be held virtually
- If gatherings and events must be held, the number of participants will be minimized to the lowest number possible and will not exceed 50% operating capacity
- No spectators will be allowed