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# GUIDELINES FOR RETURN TO SCHOOL 2020





The following information is based on the current information provided by the Public Schools Branch and could be subject to change.

## NEW RULES:

- All students are required to wear a mask while on the bus.
- Masks will be required for students grade 7-12, during transitions.
- Masks will be required for any visitor during transitions and emergency procedures.
- Schools / Buses will have masks available for those who need one.
- Google Search “ PEI Government School Plans” (individual school procedures)

# GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- Pre-screening of students and staff
- Promotion of physical distancing
- Enhanced cleaning and disinfecting protocols
- Contact trace mechanisms
- Students / Staff in cohorts with reduced interaction between cohorts
- Staggering of transitions / movement in and out / within school

**\* Every school will have their own health / safety protocols \***

# PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

- Students will be **REQUIRED** to have a non-medical mask every day.
- **REQUIRED** that students in Grades 7-12, wear non-medical masks inside schools facilities when physical distancing cannot be maintained.
- Students Kindergarten to Grade 6 may wear masks inside school facilities when physical distancing cannot be maintained.
- Students may remove non-medical masks in classrooms if schools implemented measures to reduce the risk of transmission (i.e. desk layout, barriers, etc.)

# PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

The Importance of Wearing a Non-Medical Mask in the Community:

[https://youtu.be/P-8WPAK\\_QYg](https://youtu.be/P-8WPAK_QYg)

How to Safely Put On and Remove Masks:

<https://youtu.be/OzXZcOObiyo>



# PRE-SCREENING

- Parents / guardians will check for and report symptoms of COVID-19 daily to the school. Students will remain home until they are symptom free.
  - Principal will contact parents weekly via email / SAS / hard copy to remind the need for students to remain home when ill.
  - If a parent or other family member tests positive, then the child will stay home from school for 14 days since the last contact with that individual. If the child can't self-isolate away from family member, an additional 14 days will be added after the individual has recovered.
- **Symptoms of COVID-19 include:**
    - New or worsening cough
    - Shortness of breath and difficulties breathing
    - Fever
    - Chills
    - Sore throat
    - Runny nose, sneezing, congestion
    - Headache
    - Muscle aches
    - Unusual fatigue
    - Acute loss of sense of smell or taste

# IMMUNO-COMPROMISED

- Someone who has a weakened immune system that does not respond properly to infections or pathogens.
- 20 day isolation period required.



## IF A STUDENT BECOMES ILL WITH COVID-19 SYMPTOMS WHILE AT SCHOOL:

- They will immediately put on mask.
  - Be taken to a supervised designated location.
  - Family is contacted to pick child up.
  - Parents call 811 or Health Care provider to arrange testing.
  - Areas the student occupied (classroom, sick area, washroom) would immediately be cleaned.
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- If someone tests positive for COVID-19 at any school the CPHO will investigate the case and work to identify close contacts, create isolation measures and provide follow-up recommendations.

# UPDATE CONTACT INFORMATION

- It is very important to update contact information or ensure contact information is correct with schools and also PEIANC.



# TRANSPORTATION CHANGES

## Busing:

- Masks are REQUIRED.
- Students are encouraged walking, biking and alternative means of transportation.
- Imposed restriction regarding bus passes. (primary place of residence / child care)
- Bus drivers will assign seats and family members are encouraged to sit together.

# TRANSPORTATION CHANGES

## Arrival:

- When buses arrive, students will remain on their bus until directed by a staff member to depart and enter through the appropriate doors.
- Teachers will be in their classrooms / hallways to receive students off the bus and also administer any screening measures that have been put in place.
- Staggering unloading of buses may cause delays at beginning / end of school day.
- Students who walk, bike or arrive by car will be provided a designated time and area to arrive and must follow appropriate protocol upon arrival.
- Parents will not be permitted to leave their vehicles during drop-offs, enter schools with their children during arrival, or walk their children to the doors.

# TRANSPORTATION CHANGES

## Departure:

- Students will leave in a staggered departure plan.
- Students that are walking, driving, or getting picked up, will also be dismissed at staggered appropriate times.

# COHORTS

**Cohort:** A subgroup of the school that will, whenever possible, remain isolated from other cohorts.

- School will identify cohorts of students that will, as much as possible, remain isolated from other cohorts.
- Cohorts will stay as small as possible,
- Staff working within the cohort will remain with that cohort as much as possible. (teachers, EAs, custodians)
- Will remain in a physical school zone as much as possible, only crossing into other zones when necessary.
- Within this zone students will be assigned:
  - Washrooms
  - Water bottle filling stations (students should have water bottle)
  - Lockers / hooks / cubbies
  - Entrance / exit
  - Section of the playground / cafeteria etc.
- When cohorts must mix for instructional reasons, cohorts will remain separated by seating arrangements.

# STUDENT PREVENTATIVE MEASURES

- In all classrooms, each class will be provided with materials for students to clean / disinfect their desk and table space at different intervals throughout the day.
- Students will be instructed on how to do this appropriately.

# VISITOR ZONE

- Mask will be required for any visitor during transition and emergency procedures.
- All non-staff and non-student personnel will be required to enter the school via the main entrance.
- A “Visitor Zone” will be designated at each school, which will consist of a space where visitors are permitted.
- Numbers allowed in this space vary depending on size of the zone.
- Decals will be present on floor to mark this area.
- Unless urgent or an emergency (determined by school), parents will not be permitted beyond the visitor zone and a staff person will manage all parents’ requests:
  - Drop-offs of late students
  - Early pick up
  - Forgotten lunches / items etc.



# STUDENT BREAKS

## Playgrounds:

- Dismissal for outside recess will be done by individual teacher on a staggered schedule basis.
- Designated play areas for cohorts.
- Designated doorways will be used for each cohort, and if not possible, entrance/exits will be staggered.
- Return to classroom will also be staggered.
- Children are to wash their hands before and after play time. In addition to this students will wash their hands periodically throughout the day as a class.

# STUDENT BREAKS

## Food:

- All students will wash their hands or sanitize prior to eating.
- Elementary school students will remain in their classrooms for lunch.
- Parents will be encouraged to pack lunches for students daily.
- Staggered lunch/recess schedule to accommodate reasonable social distancing practices and minimize crowding in doorways, hallways, and areas outside the classroom.
- Students will be permitted to leave school property during lunch period, Grade 7 and above.

# STUDENT BREAKS

## Breakfast and Snack Program:

- Will continue.
- Buffet style will not be permitted.
- If not possible, student will enter and exit the breakfast area separately.

## Lunch in the Classroom:

- Any vendors delivering food will drop off food in the visitors' zone. Food orders will be collected in advance and delivered to individual classrooms.
- Microwaves may be permitted for cohort use, check with school.

# STUDENT BREAKS

## Lunch in the Cafeteria:

- CPHO Food Premises Guidelines will be followed in cafeteria.
- Maximum of 6 students (from same cohort at each table)
- Students cannot move from table to table.
- Floor markings will help students maintain physical distancing while waiting in line for food.

# EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- Organized events that typically take place at the school (e.g. meet the teacher, school concerts, PTI etc.) will follow the current CPHO Guidelines for large organized and multiple gatherings.
- School sports and intramurals will be paused.
- All before and after school programs will be paused.

# QUESTIONS?

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