



COVID-19 Information Update

January 7, 2022

The Government of Alberta has released additional details about COVID-19 health measures ahead of next week's return to school on Monday, January 10. Key information is outlined below. We look forward to welcoming students back to classes and are working hard to keep our schools as safe as possible.

Rapid Tests

- Rapid tests will be delivered to each school next week. Each student will be provided with one five-test kit, which is sufficient for 2.5 weeks of testing. The rapid tests are to be completed at home.
- Next week, the Division will share an instructional video and fact sheet to assist families in properly completing the rapid tests at home.
- A second shipment of rapid test kits will be delivered to schools at a later date.

Masks

- Medical grade masks will be delivered to each school next week. Each student will be provided with 20 masks, which is sufficient for a two-week supply of two masks per day.
- There will be no changes to the existing provincial masking guidelines in schools. Masks continue to be required for all students in Grades 4-12 and are mandatory for all K-12 students while on the bus.
- Masks are not mandatory for students in K-3 outside of the bus, however, **Alberta Health Services strongly recommends they be worn to mitigate risk of transmission.**

Returning to School After COVID-19

- As per provincial guidelines, **vaccinated** students who tested positive for COVID-19 may return to school after **five days or when symptoms resolve**, whichever is longer. After returning to school, these students must wear a mask **at all times** for the next five days. These students will eat lunch in a private area for this five-day duration.
- As per provincial guidelines, **unvaccinated students** who tested positive for COVID-19 may return to school after **ten days or when symptoms resolve**, whichever is longer.

Daily Health Checklist

- To help protect the health and safety of our school communities, it is critical that families continue to complete the Daily Health Checklist every day before students go to school or get on the bus.
- **Please do not send symptomatic children to school.**



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- Please ensure you are always referencing the most up-to-date Daily Health Checklist. [See the latest version here.](#)

Monitoring Cases in School

- As Alberta Health Services will no longer notify the Division of cases in schools, we request that parents notify school staff if their child tests positive for COVID-19.
- The Division will monitor the number of self-reported cases along with absentee rates. Based on these factors, classes or grades may be moved to at-home learning if necessary.

Current Health Measures in Schools

Along with the addition of provincially-supplied rapid test kits and medical grade masks, the following health measures continue to be in place at school:

- Enhanced cleaning measures, particularly on high-touch surfaces
- Air handling units operating at industry standards to assist in air flow and ventilation
- Cohorting of elementary students
- Strong emphasis on hand washing and sanitizing

Thank you to families for their continued support and assistance in keeping our schools safe. Any additional information will be communicated as it becomes available. Should you have any questions, please contact your school directly.