



# Provincial COVID-19 Communicable Disease Guidelines for K-12 Settings



Effective the First Day of a School's Spring Break

Updated March 10, 2022

This March 2022 update incorporates updated [Public Health Communicable Disease Guidance for K-12 Schools](#) from the BC Centre for Disease Control and aligns with the shift in the provincial COVID-19 response to a sustainable, long-term COVID-19 management strategy focused on immunization, self-management, and specific actions to protect those most at risk of severe infection. **This update is effective the first day of a school's spring break.**

Everyone in schools continues to be encouraged to do a daily health check, stay home when sick, and to practice hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette.

## Summary of Key Updates – Effective the First Day of Spring Break

Space Arrangement	Schools can return to classroom and learning environment configurations and activities that best meet learner needs and preferred educational approaches, though should still consider strategies to create space between people.
School Gatherings and Events	<p>For events with visitors (e.g., parent/caregiver spectators):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Should not exceed 50% capacity and proof of vaccination should not be implemented while the PHO Gatherings and Events Order is in place.</li> <li>• Can return to 100% capacity when the PHO Gatherings and Events Order is lifted (expected end of day April 7, 2022).</li> </ul> <p>Schools should make every effort to avoid venue/locations that place additional requirements that could prevent a person from being able to participate.</p>
Visitor Access/Community Use	Schools can return to routine sign in/sign out practices. Schools do not need to keep a list of the date, names and contact information of visitors for communicable disease prevention purposes.
Personal Protective Equipment	The decision to wear a mask or face covering is a personal choice. A person's choice is to be supported and respected.
Field Trips	Schools should make every effort to avoid venue/locations that place additional requirements that could prevent a person from being able to participate. If the trip cannot occur otherwise, schools can require participants to confirm they are able to meet additional requirements (e.g., are able to provide proof of vaccination).

Please refer within the document for full details.

Schools should continue to create a supportive school environment, including utilizing a trauma-informed lens when planning school activities.