



BLACKBURN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 57 (PRINCE GEORGE)

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Addendum - COVID-19 School Communicable Disease Plan

January 7, 2022

Dear Blackburn Families,

Please be aware of the updated health and safety measures for Blackburn Elementary School. These measures are in effect from Monday, January 10th, 2022 through the end of school session on June 28, 2022. We will update these measures when provided with new information from the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health in conjunction with the Public Health Officer, Dr. Bonnie Henry. You will find attached to this document an up-to-date copy of the Daily Health Check. For ease of use, please download the Covid-19 Health Check app.

Administrative Measures		
Category	Criteria	Plan
Entrance and Exits	Strategies are in place to prevent crowding during class transition times (i.e. staggered start and end times, staggered recess and lunch times, class transition times)	<p>EXISTING MEASURES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From 11:45-12:05 Odd divisions will eat lunch and Even divisions will play outside • From 12:10-12:30 Odd divisions will play outside and Even divisions will eat lunch • Staff will ensure foyers and hallways are clear of the first group before transitioning the second group • Staff will ensure hallways are clear before allowing classes to enter the hallway • Halls are divided for 1-way traffic <p>NEW MEASURES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Intermediate/Primary classes will alternate morning entry upon arrival at school</i> • -January 10-14, Intermediate students will enter the school upon arrival and Primary students will remain outside until the morning bell; • -January 17-21 Primary students will enter upon arrival and Intermediate students will remain outside – alternating weekly for the remainder of the school year • Odd divisions, 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11 will have recess from 9:45-10:00; Even divisions, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, will have recess from 10:05-10:20 • All students who are picked up by parents, daycare, Big Brothers Big Sisters or are walking home will be dismissed at 1:50 PM. • All bus students will be dismissed at 2:10 and instructed to get on busses immediately • Shared spaces (i.e. library, computer lab) will have 1-way designated entry and exit doors.

		Classes will exit the space before a new class enters.
Space Arrangement	In Indoor spaces, people have enough room to carry out intended activities without involuntary physical contact. Spaces are configured to maximize space between people	NEW MEASURES: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designated one-way entrance and exit doors in common areas • Staff only spaces have occupancy limits posted • Staff & student shared spaces (i.e office, supply rooms) will have occupancy limits posted • Plexiglass barriers will be provided upon staff request
Staff-only gatherings	Staff gatherings (i.e. staff meetings, in-service and professional development activities) occur virtually	NEW MEASURES: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All staff gatherings will occur via Zoom or Teams
Itinerant staff, Temporary Teachers on Call, and other Visitors	Process in place to ensure Itinerant staff, TTOC/TTUC and visitors are aware of the school's health and safety measures and their responsibility to follow them at all times	EXISTING MEASURES: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The main entrance is the only access point for Itinerant staff, TTOC/TTUC, and visitors. • When Itinerant staff, TTOC/TTUC, and visitors enter the school they are required to wear a mask, hand sanitize, complete the daily health self-check and sign-in, at the office. • Facilities Staff are expected to follow all SD57 H & S protocols including hand sanitizing, wearing a mask, completing the daily health check and signing in at the office at each school they service NEW MEASURES: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prior to signing in, Administrative staff will ensure that all visitors read the site-based protocols kept in a duo tang at the office. By signing in they are agreeing to following all site-based protocols, at all times, while in the school
Gatherings and events	School gatherings and events (i.e. assemblies, celebrations, etc.) are held virtually whenever possible If gatherings and events must be in-person (i.e. inter-school sports games, theatre productions), the number of people in attendance is minimized as much as possible, does not exceed 50% operating capacity, and spectators are not present	EXISTING MEASURES: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School gatherings, including but not limited to assemblies and celebrations of any kind, will be held via zoom or in individual classrooms. When not possible to be held virtually, events will be postponed until safe to proceed NEW MEASURES: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Intramurals (i.e. lunch time sports events between school-based teams, etc.) will be held with active participants only and no spectators present.</i>
Extracurricular activities	Sports Tournaments are paused. Please see gathering and events above	NEW MEASURES: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There will be no sports tournaments at this time • Curricular Field Trips will be considered on an individual basis – cancellation will occur due to inability to support COVID safety protocols, - 20C temperature, or lack of staff to safely support the field trip

Hand Hygiene	Hand cleaning facilities are available and accessible throughout the school and are well maintained	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff and students will either use hand sanitizer or wash their hands with soap and water immediately upon entering the school building, every time they come inside from outside <p>NEW MEASURES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand sanitizer is available at all entrances • Staff and students will use hand sanitizer or wash their hands with soap and water in the following instances: before and after eating, after using the toilet/washroom, before leaving and/or entering a new space in the school, before entering the gym and after leaving the gym (hand sanitizer outside the doors), before going outside to play and when returning inside after breaks, after coughing, sneezing or blowing their nose, and when hands are visibly soiled.
Bus Transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frequently touched surfaces are cleaned and disinfected at least 1x/day. Surfaces touched by fewer people are cleaned 1x/day. • Practices are in place to clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces when they are dirty • Everyone on the bus (without exemptions), wear masks in accordance with the <u>PHO Order on Face Coverings</u> • Practices are in place to encourage bus drivers and passengers to practice hand hygiene before and after trips – Hand sanitizer is available on all busses • Passengers are spread out if empty seats are available • Windows are opened when weather allows 	
Environmental Measures		
Learning space configuration	Learning spaces are arranged to maximize the space available and to avoid people directly facing one another (where possible)	<p>NEW MEASURES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All classrooms will utilize the space available to distance students as much as possible and prevent face-to-face configurations (i.e. classrooms with desks will be placed in rows with all students facing the same direction, partner work will be done side-by-side, and group work will be done without face-to-face interactions or limited face-to-face interactions with increased space between students, whenever possible) • Classrooms with tables will reduce the number of students per table, and utilize alternate seating methods, in order to reduce face-to-face interactions, non-critical furniture will be stored in the event that more seating is needed
Increased cleaning and disinfecting	<p>Frequently touched surfaces (those touched by larger numbers of people) are cleaned and disinfected at least 1x/day. Surfaces touched by fewer people are cleaned 1x/day</p> <p>Practices are in place to clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces when they are visibly dirty</p>	<p>EXISTING MEASURES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All spaces will be disinfected, after school hours, by custodial staff, using the hydrostatic sprayer • All surfaces will be cleaned, after school hours, by custodial staff • Health and Safety is the responsibility of all staff and as such all staff are expected to clean visibly soiled surfaces • When bodily fluids are expelled, school administration or designated staff will contact custodial services to request specialized cleaning <p>NEW MEASURES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High-touch surfaces, including: <i>doorknobs, light switches, hand railings, water</i>

	<p>Other general cleaning occurs in line with regular practices</p> <p>Practices are in place to clean and disinfect any surfaces a person's body fluids have contacted after they have displayed symptoms of illness (contact custodial services)</p>	<p><i>fountains, bathroom sink and toilets, door panic bars, clerical/office area-counter & chairs, door frames, keyboards used by more than one person (computer rooms), health/isolation rooms, commonly used phones, pencil sharpeners (if used) will be cleaned by available EA staff when not occupied with direct student support</i></p>
Ventilation and Air Exchange	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All HVAC systems are operated and maintained as per standards and specifications, and are working properly Schools with recycled/recirculated air systems have upgraded their current filters to MERV 13 where possible or have identified mitigation efforts If using portable fans or air conditioning units, ensure they are set up to move air downward and not blowing directly from one person's breathing zone to other occupants of the room. Avoid horizontal cross breezes Risk mitigation strategies are identified for excessive heat events or times of poor air quality 	
Personal Measures		
Daily Health Checks	<p>Parents and students are reminded of their responsibilities to complete a Daily Health Check and are provided with resources on how to complete one (i.e., the K-12 Health Check app).</p>	<p>EXISTING MEASURES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The most current Daily Health Check can be found on our School Website and PAC Facebook page, and will be updated as they are updated by the Ministry of Health The K-12 Health Check app and paper copy of the Daily Health Check will be promoted and provided in our monthly school newsletter <p>NEW MEASURES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Paper copies of the most current Daily Health check will be sent home with students on January 10th</i>
Stay Home When Sick	<p>Staff and students are reminded to stay home when they are sick.</p>	<p>EXISTING MEASURES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This practice will be promoted on our school website, PAC Facebook page and in our monthly newsletter
Symptoms Develop at School	<p>Practices are in place to appropriately respond when a staff member, student, or other person develops symptoms of illness while at school.</p>	<p>EXISTING MEASURES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Administrator and/or Teacher in Charge will be notified of student or staff illness immediately upon onset of symptoms School staff or other persons will be asked to leave the school immediately, school secretary will contact Absence Support to update staff absence and request TTOC if needed, students of absent staff will be supervised internally until TTOC arrives or internal coverage is provided Students who become ill at school will be escorted to the COVID Isolation Room/medical room by a staff member. Student will be provided with a clean mask and hand sanitizer. Student will be screened, using the Daily Health Check, by Admin/TIC/Secretary. Admin/TIC will make the decision to call home or send back to class. If decision is to send student home, office staff will request student items be brought to the office and student will remain in the COVID Isolation Room until an adult arrives for pick up. Student and adult will leave by the main entrance to reduce exposure to others.

		<p>Student will be asked to remain home for 24 hours after symptoms improve or disappear and no new symptoms arise. COVID Isolation Room will be cleaned and sanitized by Admin/TIC or other designated staff i.e. school secretaries.</p> <p>NEW MEASURES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vaccinated students who have COVID symptoms will be asked to remain home for a minimum of 5 days and until symptoms disappear. Non-vaccinated students will be asked to remain home for a minimum of 10 days and until symptoms disappear
Personal Protective Equipment		
Masks	<p>Everyone at school (without exemptions), wear masks in accordance with the PHO Order on Face Coverings</p> <p>Schools work with those with mask exemptions to explore potential strategies to reinforce and enhance other safety measures, as described in the COVID-19 Planning Resource: Mask Exemptions.</p> <p>Masks are available for those who have forgotten theirs.</p>	<p>EXISTING MEASURES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Admin will update the mask exemption list when contacted directly by parents and provide updated information to school staff and the transportation department (Diversified) Classroom teachers will update parents about any non-compliance issues as they would in normal circumstances School staff will refer non-compliance to Admin after exhausting existing strategies <p>NEW MEASURES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students with mask exemptions will be placed in seating arrangements where they are not face-to-face with anyone and preferably at the front of the classroom where they are not breathing or talking towards other students. For group work, students with mask exemptions will work side-by-side with others and utilize as much space as possible between group members. When face-to-face conversations are required, students with mask exemptions will be provided with a plexiglass barrier. In music classes where singing is required, students with mask exemptions will be strategically placed to increase distance from other students without causing stigmatism and interfering in learning, and will be provided with a plexiglass barrier. Disposable masks and hand sanitizer are available at all entrances
Supportive School Environments		
Personal Prevention Practices	<p>Strategies are in place to routinely support students to practice personal prevention measures like wearing a mask and hand hygiene (I.e. signage, including in morning announcements, etc.)</p>	<p>EXISTING MEASURES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daily reminders on morning announcements and at periodic school wide assemblies (via zoom) Regularly reinforced/reiterated by school staff <p>NEW MEASURES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Signage for hand hygiene, coughing/sneezing etiquette, small spaces, room occupancy limits, one-way entrance/exit, one-way directional markings, etc., are visible and posted in appropriate spaces
Personal Space	<p>Strategies are in place to encourage staff and students to consider and respect others' personal space. Personal space is</p>	<p>NEW MEASURES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> School staff are expected to model personal space strategies to students i.e. stepping back when someone is in their personal space

	the distance from which a person feels comfortable being next to another person	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Signage for respecting personal space are visible and posted in appropriate spaces</i>
Positive and Inclusive Approaches	Positive and inclusive approaches aligned with existing school/sector practices to address behaviour/personal practices are used	<p>EXISTING MEASURES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classroom teachers will work with students and parents regarding any ongoing non-compliance issues as they would in normal circumstances • School staff will refer non-compliance to Admin after exhausting existing strategies
Communication		
Community	Strategies are in place to communicate with community for above changes	<p>EXISTING MEASURES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All information will be posted to the school website, the PAC Facebook page, the school newsletter, and emailed directly to parents whose emails are currently on file, as updates are made

Other information:

Parents are asked to provide their child(ren) with reusable/disposable masks for school. We have a limited supply of disposable masks on hand.

Water bottle filling stations are turned on but water fountain bubblers are not. Students need to have their own labeled water bottle for school. Please make sure your child(ren) has one. There are a limited number of disposable cups provided to classrooms. Students without water bottles will be provided with **1 disposable cup/day**.

Students may not share any food items brought from home unless shared items are specifically requested by the classroom teacher. This is due to allergies (known and unknown) and preventing the spread of germs. Shared items will be in individual packages or distributed by adults only (fruits/veggies served by the classroom teacher)

Classroom windows will be opened when weather allows. Classroom doors will be open to reduce high touch of door knobs.

Classes are permitted to combine for learning purposes/learning activities but must utilize the space available to prevent crowding i.e. Big Buddies and Little Buddies can continue if they utilize both classrooms for space/ two or three classes could come together for physical activities in the gym.

DAILY HEALTH CHECK

KEY SYMPTOMS OF ILLNESS	WHAT TO DO
Fever (above 38°C)	If yes to 1 or more of these symptoms: Stay home. Contact a health care provider or call 8-1-1 about your symptoms and next steps.
Chills	
Cough	
Difficulty breathing	
Loss of sense of smell or taste	
OTHER SYMPTOMS	WHAT TO DO
Sore throat	If yes to 1 symptom: Stay home until you feel better.
Loss of appetite	
Headache	If yes to 2 or more of these symptoms: Stay home for 24 hours. If symptoms don't get better or get worse, contact a health care provider or call 8-1-1 about your symptoms and next steps.
Body aches	
Extreme fatigue or tiredness	
Nausea or vomiting	
Diarrhea	
INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL:	WHAT TO DO
Have you returned from travel outside Canada in the last 14 days?	If yes: Fully vaccinated students, staff and other adults who have travelled outside of Canada may qualify for the fully vaccinated traveller exemption . Students, staff and other adults who are not fully vaccinated and have travelled outside of Canada CANNOT attend school for 14 days after arrival, as part of federal requirements .
CLOSE CONTACT	WHAT TO DO
Have you been notified by public health that you are a close contact of a person confirmed to have COVID-19?	If yes: Follow the instructions provided by Public Health.

You can also check your symptoms with the [K-12 Health Check](#) or the [BC Self-Assessment Tool](#).

Call 8-1-1 with any questions about symptoms of illness. If you have severe symptoms, like difficulty breathing (struggling to breathe or you can only speak single words) or chest pain, call 9-1-1 or go to the nearest Emergency Department.

Visit the [BC Centre for Disease Control website](#) for more information on COVID-19.