

SD35 (LANGLEY)

COVID-19 Procedures for Managing Illness

January 11, 2022

As shared with the community in the District's Continuity of Learning Plan, Fraser Health's process for contact tracing, case management, and exposure notifications is changing. The former processes that have been in place previously will not continue. This resource will help guide students, staff, and families on public health procedures related to COVID-19. It is important to note, these guidelines/procedures may change.

1. I am a student or staff who is sick and was at school on a given day. What should I do?

Stay at home until your symptoms are gone. Seek medical attention if needed. Use the [BC COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool](#) to determine guidance and recommendations for testing.

If you have any concerns, feel very sick, or your symptoms are not improving, contact your family doctor/nurse practitioner or call 8-1-1.

Students/staff should report their absence at school/work to their administrator. As per Ministry guidance, students and staff do not need to disclose if their absence is specific to COVID-19; however, those who test positive for COVID-19 should be diligent in ensuring their school is aware their absence is illness-related.

2. I am a student or staff who tested positive for COVID-19 either through a rapid test or PCR test. What should I do?

Individuals who test positive for COVID-19 should follow advice from the BC Centre for Disease Control, found [here](#). Please note, guidance and recommendations vary depending on an individual's vaccination status.

As per the BCCDC, if you test positive for COVID-19, you need to do the following:

- ▶ [Complete an online form to report your test result](#)
- ▶ [Self-isolate and manage your symptoms](#)
- ▶ [Let your close contacts know](#)

Students/staff should report their absence at school/work to their administrator. As per Ministry guidance, students and staff do not need to disclose if their absence is specific to COVID-19; however, those who test positive for COVID-19 should be diligent in ensuring their school is aware their absence is illness-related.

3. Why is there no contact tracing or exposure notifications in K-12 schools?

The Omicron variant spreads rapidly and, as such, contact tracing is a less effective measure in the timely management of COVID-19. Public Health is no longer able to contact everyone who tests positive.

As Public Health is not contacting every person who tests positive, school exposures will not be issued by Public Health for individual cases. In the event of a declared outbreak, Public Health will issue a public notification.

Public Health will continue to work with schools if, for example, there is a significant increase in absenteeism that is atypical for the time of year and actions are to be taken, such as notification to the parents and guardians of the affected grade or school community.