



Revision: January 4, 2022

Rationale

During the Covid-19 Pandemic and in its aftermath, Franklin School implemented strict WorkSafeBC Health and Safety measures to reduce the risk of transmission of communicable disease. Moving forward, if the public health authority declares a similar health and safety state of emergency, our school is prepared to re-implement the Health and Safety protocols and procedures that were implemented in response to Covid-19.

Communicable Disease Response Plan

- We will follow public health guidelines and any directives issued by the the provincial health authority. The primary reference document is [BC Communicable Disease K-12 Protocols](#).
- Students and staff are responsible to complete a Daily Health Check using the [K-12 Health Check app](#) and required to stay home when they are sick.
- If anyone develops even mild symptoms while at school they will be isolated until such time as they can be safely transported home and must stay away until they are symptom free.
- Signage to enforce mandatory hand cleaning and physical distancing measures.
- Everyone will be required to disinfect their hands before entering school property.
- Physical distancing with desks spaced at least 2m apart.
- [PHO Order on Face Coverings](#) requires all students, staff & visitors to wear a mask indoors, and masks are available for those who have forgotten theirs.
- School will maintain well-stocked cleaning supplies including disinfectant wipes, hand-sanitizer bottles and hand soap, cleaning and disinfecting products and accessible throughout the school.
- Thorough cleaning the school building at least once a day, including daily cleaning of high-contact surfaces like door knobs, toilet seats, keyboards and desks.
- Our schedule allows for students to commute via public transit during non-peak hours.
- Students will not be allowed to gather at lockers, kitchen, microwave area, or other common areas. All persons will avoid gathering in hallways or other common areas.
- Students or employees should not share food or personal items like phones, pens or pencils.
- Should it become unsafe to attend school in-person, Franklin teachers are prepared to transition to online learning using the Zoom platform to provide online instruction and preserve valuable learning time while students learn from home.
- No visitors, no sporting events, no extracurricular activities, no gatherings and events unless such activities and gatherings are held virtually via Zoom.
- We will revise this policy as required in accordance with the most up to date public health authority recommendations and guidelines, and we will discuss this policy and follow-up items at our monthly Health & Safety meetings.
- [Communicable Diseases Addendum](#) dated December 29, 2021.



January 4, 2022 Update

In response to the [Communicable Diseases Addendum](#) dated December 29, 2021 we will add these Additional Prevention Measures.

Reinforce Personal Prevention Practices

- Providing regular reminders to students, families, and staff about the importance of completing a daily health check, staying home when sick, and following public health recommendations.
- Having staff demonstrate and model how to practice personal prevention measures at school (e.g., wearing a mask, hand hygiene, etc.)
- Sharing trusted information from the BC Centre for Disease Control.

Additional Prevention Measures Schools Must Implement		
Prevention Measures		Implementation and Examples
Space Arrangement	Maximize space between people.	Different common space, classroom, and learning environment configurations (e.g., different desk and table formations). Limit and, whenever possible, avoid face-to-face seating arrangements.
	Implement strategies that prevent crowding during class transition and break times.	Stagger start/stop times, or recess/snack, lunch and class transition times. Regular learning activities that bring together multiple classes (e.g., examinations, physical education) should be spread out across multiple locations/spaces whenever possible, but do not need to be reduced in size.
Staff Only Spaces	Hold staff-only gatherings (e.g., staff meetings, in-service and professional development activities) virtually.	



School Gatherings And Events (including Extracurricular)

Hold school gatherings and events (e.g., assemblies, parent-teacher interviews, etc.) virtually.

If gatherings and events must be in-person (e.g., inter-school sports game, theatre productions), minimize the number of people in attendance as much as possible, do not exceed 50% operating capacity, and do not allow spectators.

For indoor spaces without a defined operating capacity, schools should determine a capacity limit that is at most half the number of individuals that would be within the space for that activity or event if prevention measures weren't in place.

Masks

The [PHO Order – Face Coverings](#) requires all students, staff and visitors to wear a mask indoors at school.

Everyone who is able to (i.e., does not have a mask exemption) must wear a mask.

Reminders communicated to students (and their parents/caregivers) and staff that includes:

- Wearing masks at school is required under a public health order.
- [Proper fit](#) is a key factor in mask effectiveness. Masks worn at school should fit well.
- Masks are most effective when everyone who is able to is wearing one.
- Those with mask exemptions continue to follow any strategies identified to reinforce and enhance other safety measures.
 - Those not able to wear a mask all day continue to be encouraged to wear one as much as they're able to.

Administrators and staff use positive and inclusive approaches, aligned with existing professional practices to address non-compliant behaviour for those able to wear masks. For those with mask exemptions, administrators and staff support other strategies identified to reinforce and enhance other safety measures (as outlined in the [Planning Resource: Mask Exemptions](#)).

For those with mask exemptions, alternative strategies identified are adjusted if needed, based on the additional prevention measures.

[Click here for a complete checklist of Additional Prevention Measures](#)