

Updated COVID-19 Protocols ... updated October 18, 2021



There are several updates to COVID-19 protocols in schools, as required by the Government of Alberta, and that new information is bolded below for easy reference. We continue to include the unchanged protocols in this document, as they pertain to keeping our schools as safe as possible for students and staff.

- **Notification of positive cases - When Chinook's Edge is notified by Alberta Health Services (AHS) of a positive case in an individual who attended school while infectious, the school will notify parents of the possible exposure and provide any direction received from AHS.**
- **K-6 Cohorting: Students Grades K-6 will be assigned to a cohort and maintain this cohort wherever possible (including lunch and recess breaks).**
- **According to AHS guidelines, if there are multiple cases in K-6 classes the class may move to online learning temporarily.**
- **AHS now defines Outbreak status in schools as 10 or more cases (not 10 percent absenteeism). Chinook's Edge will follow any additional direction from AHS regarding Outbreaks in a school.**
- Masks have been mandated for students in grades 4-12 and all school staff. Chinook's Edge will follow the same mask routine in classrooms as last year. For details on Alberta Health mask requirements, including information on mask exemption conditions, please [refer to this link](#). **Masks are not required if seated, and facing forward in the classroom.**
- **Schools will maintain physical distancing, through such measures as staggering hallway breaks, recess, traffic flow signage, and limiting bathroom occupancies.**
- **Schools will maintain drop off/pick up protocols to support distancing, and designate entrances for cohort groups of students. Parents/guardians will remain outside during pick up/drop off times.**
- All CESD School staff meetings and school council meetings will be postponed or moved online.
- **Visitors - by appointment only, will be permitted in school buildings. Appointments with external consultants are permitted if approved by the Principal. All visitors must wear masks.**
- Sports, music and fine arts activities for *students* will be permitted.
- **All K-6 Band, and Music Concerts will be postponed or moved to an online format until further notice. Grade 7-12 Choir, Band Concerts, Drama, and other Fine Arts productions i.e. Performance Activities may move forward with specific restrictions, including physical distancing, duration of performance, capacity limits.**
- **Athletic event spectators - 1 parent spectator per athlete will be permitted for grade 7-12 indoor athletic events. All events must adhere to 1/3 fire code capacity.**
- Outdoor school celebrations and events during the school day will be limited to students and staff temporarily.
- Sharing resources, manipulatives, technology and other materials amongst cohorts is permitted.
- Any food brought from home for sharing must be distributed by school staff - purchased/prepackaged food from home only at this time, nothing homemade. School Nutrition programs may continue.
- Community use of schools will be paused during these temporary measures.
- Field trips may continue if they meet the provincial guidelines.
- Parent Teacher Interviews will be held virtually until further notice. Special circumstances must be discussed with the Principal.
- Full school assemblies will continue to be postponed until further notice.
- All Division Office meetings will move to an online format until further notice.
- [COVID-19 testing for Albertans with symptoms](#) remains available at assessment centres.
- Please continue to refer to this [Alberta Health Daily Checklist](#) to monitor your child for symptoms of COVID-19.
- Chinook's Edge is strongly recommending that our staff get vaccinated.
- **Provincial Government links which may be helpful:**
 - [Status of COVID-19 in schools throughout Alberta](#)
 - [COVID-19 positive cases by zone](#)
 - [Interactive aggregate data](#)