



Student Exclusion due to COVID19-Related Illness* (updated Aug. 27, 2021)

Each student is a beloved child of God. In keeping with our core value of creating an atmosphere of love and respect that fosters an inclusive sense of Christian community, the steps herein will be administered with grace and love. No student will be shunned or shamed for exhibiting signs of sickness, and such behaviour will not be tolerated from staff or students. However, the health, safety and well-being of students and staff are a top priority as Redeemer Christian High School (the School) plans to reopen for the 2021/22 school year.

The School appreciates and requires cooperation and partnership in reopening. The School is commencing reopening based on the assurance that all persons entering School premises have taken proper precautions to prevent the transmission of COVID-19. Indeed, the successful return to School and remaining open will require diligence by all parents, guardians, staff, students, and visitors.

The best understanding of the present evidence is that COVID-19 can be transmitted by persons who do not exhibit symptoms. There is no guarantee that COVID-19 will not be contracted by persons entering School premises; however, active steps will be taken to remove students/staff with symptoms of COVID-19 from the school in order to minimize the potential spread of the virus through the school.

Health and Safety Training

- Staff and students will be trained in reducing the spread of COVID-19 and in taking care of themselves.
 - i. Self-screening for symptoms
 - ii. Physical distancing
 - iii. Hand hygiene and cough etiquette
 - iv. Wearing face coverings appropriately
 - v. Promoting mental wellness

Training for Screening

- All teachers and staff members will be provided with information on the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 so that appropriate action can be taken if they or a student develops symptoms during the day. Students will be monitored for symptoms and signs of COVID-19 using the Ministry of Health's COVID-19 Reference Document for Symptoms.
- Students will be taught to identify symptoms of COVID-19 and will be instructed to speak to a staff member immediately if they are experiencing symptoms.

Screening

- Staff, Students, Visitors, will complete the screening tool before coming into school. https://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/docs/COVID-19_school_outbreak_guidance.pdf
- Upon entry into the building, students will be asked if they completed the self-screening that day. They will practice hand hygiene (using a hand sanitizer or by washing their hands with soap and water) before going to their locker. If a student has not self-screened before arriving at school, a staff member will go through the screening questions with him/her. Students with symptoms will either wait outside or in a designated room (209) until their parent or guardian arrives at school. The staff will complete their self-screening upon arrival.

Procedures for Students Exhibiting Symptoms

- The School will have COVID-19 Personal Protection Kits at school for employees to use for personal protection while caring for a student exhibiting symptoms (see COVID-19 Personal Protection Kit below).
- If a student develops symptoms of COVID-19 while at school, the employee who has made the identification will proceed with the child to the designated waiting room where the child will await parent pick-up under staff supervision. The employee will alert the principal and/or his/her designate who will confirm the symptoms and contact parents or emergency contact for transportation home.

Note: Any employee in addition to the employee who made the identification must wear full Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) from the COVID-19 Personal Protection Kit if unable to maintain physical distance from the child.

- The student will be given tissue and reminded of hand hygiene and proper respiratory etiquette and disposal of soiled tissues.
- The student will be provided with a surgical/procedural mask.
- The caregiver should avoid contact with the child's respiratory secretions and must perform meticulous hand hygiene.

Disinfection of Infected Locations

The principal and/or delegate will work with the employee and the custodial staff to identify areas that the student exhibiting symptoms was in contact with (items used by the individual and any surface within two meters of the ill person). All identified areas will be disinfected using the School's stated cleaning norms.

- All parties who will be involved in disinfecting will wear gloves, mask, and other required PPE.
- While the identified areas are being cleaned, those using the area will be asked to proceed to an unused portion of the building, or outside temporarily until it is safe to return.
- If possible, disposable cleaning equipment will be used.
- All items that cannot be cleaned (paper, books, etc.) will be stored in a sealed container for seven days.

COVID-19 Identification, Testing, Isolation, and Return to School

When a student has been confirmed with having COVID-19, the School will contact the Ottawa Public Health Department as soon as possible.

If a COVID-19 positive case is identified in the School, Ottawa Public Health Department will provide direction on who else in the school may need testing and/or monitoring/isolation at that time.

Staff/children who are being managed by the Ottawa Public Health Department (e.g. confirmed cases of COVID-19, household contacts of cases) must follow instructions from Public Health to determine when to return to School.

For further questions about COVID-19 in the school, staff/families may contact Ottawa Public Health.

- The guidelines will be followed as outlined in the document, COVID-19 Guidance: School Case, Contact and Outbreak Management
https://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/docs/COVID-19_school_outbreak_guidance.pdf

- OPH testing and clearing case guidelines:
https://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/docs/2019_testing_clearing_cases_guidance.pdf

Continuation of School

Classroom teachers will provide course materials to students so that they can learn from a distance when they are temporarily away due to health monitoring and/or recovery.

Role of the Public Health Department

- Determining if an outbreak in a school exists
- Managing the outbreak in collaboration with the school and other relevant partners
- Determining when the outbreak can be declared over

Signs and Symptoms of COVID-19

A person may exhibit **any** of the following signs or symptoms:

- Fever (temperature of 37.8°C or greater)
- Chills
- New or worsening cough
- Barking cough, making whistle noise when breathing
- Shortness of breath
- Sore throat
- Difficulty swallowing
- Runny nose (not related to seasonal allergies or other known causes or conditions)
- Stuffy or congested nose (not related to seasonal allergies or other known causes or conditions)
- Lost sense of taste or smell
- Pink eye (conjunctivitis)
- Headache that is unusual or long lasting
- Digestive issues, such as nausea/vomiting, diarrhea, stomach pain
- Muscle aches that are unusual or long lasting
- Extreme tiredness that is unusual (fatigue, lack of energy)
- Falling down often
- For young children, sluggishness or lack of appetite

COVID-19 Personal Protective Kit

Prepared in advance and contains (at a minimum)

- Gloves
- Mask
- Eye protection
- A gown for staff member
- Sanitizer and wipes
- Alcohol-based hand rub
- Resealable plastic bags/containers for above if not single use

Note: If not single use, all equipment must be sealed up until they can be sanitized with appropriate products. Instructions on proper use of PPE should be available on the outside of the kit.

*taken sections from the policy, STUDENT EXCLUSION DUE TO COVID19-RELATED ILLNESS written by the Community Christian School Board of Directors 2020