



Chilliwack Adventist Christian School

46018 Riverside Dr.  
Chilliwack, BC  
V2P 3K8

**CACS Communicable Disease Health and Safety Plans  
School Operations - updated January 2024**

## **PREAMBLE**

The purpose of this document is to outline the policies, protocols and procedures to follow while the school is required to follow requirements and recommendations as authorized by the Canadian Federal Government, Provincial Government, BC Ministry of Education, and WorkSafe BC. It represents the best practices as outlined in such documents as:

- BC Ministry of Education’s ‘Provincial COVID-19 Health and Safety Guidelines for K-12 Settings (<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/communicable-disease-prevention-in-k-12-schools>)
- BC Ministry of Health’s ‘BC Centre for Disease Control’ (<http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19>)
- Standards of WorkSafe BC
- Operating Guidelines for School Districts and Independent School Authorities

The purpose of this document is to provide staff, visitors, parents and students with the following information:

- Regarding health and safety policies, protocols and procedures being implemented to assure a safe school environment.
- To communicate the expectations as to the method/scope/focus of the continuity of learning
- To communicate to all stakeholders (parents, students, and staff) expectations for communicable Disease Prevention

In the case of any variance between the guidelines in the Provincial COVID-19 Health Safety Guidelines for K-12 Settings document and the guidance in the BCDDC’s Public Health Communicable Disease Guidance for K-12 Schools and this document, schools and school districts should follow the guidelines outlined in the Provincial COVID-19 Health Safety Guidelines for K-12 Settings document..

## Communicable disease activity at school

Communicable diseases circulate in our communities. As long as cases occur within our communities, K to 8 students and staff members may be affected. CACS has communicable disease prevention measures in place and will contact public health if they have concerns about communicable disease transmission within schools and require additional support.

Please see our handbook for further information regarding communicable disease.

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## Prevention measures

Prevention measures are in place to reduce the spread of communicable diseases. These include effective personal practices like health awareness, staying home when sick and regular hand cleaning. The BC ministry of health recommends that students and staff should:

- Follow routine immunization schedules
- Practice health awareness
- Stay home when sick

## Health awareness

Health awareness reduces the likelihood of a person coming to school when they are sick. This includes checking regularly for symptoms of illness to make sure you or your child don't come to school while sick.

Students, staff and other adults should follow [public health guidance](#) and the recommendations of their health care provider when they are sick. Health information is also available from [Healthlink BC](#) or by calling 8-1-1.

## Masks

The decision to wear a mask or face covering is a personal choice for everyone. People can choose to continue to wear a mask throughout the day or during specific activities. This choice will be supported and treated with respect.

## Ventilation

To help with indoor air quality, two portable air filters have been provided for each classroom.

## Cleaning and disinfecting schools

Regular cleaning and disinfection can help prevent the spread of communicable diseases. General cleaning of schools will occur regularly, with frequently touched surfaces cleaned in line with regular practices and when visibly dirty.

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## Communicable disease protocols

### Students and staff who become sick at school

If a student or staff member develops symptoms at school:

- Make arrangements for student/staff to go home as soon as possible.
- CACS is not able to separate students from the classroom when a child is ill (due to supervision issues); however, we will do our best to isolate within the classroom until the child is picked up by a parent/guardian/emergency contact.
- Students may choose to wear a mask if they are experiencing respiratory symptoms.
- The student's parent or guardian will be contacted and asked to have their child picked up as soon as possible
- Staff will be asked to go home as soon as possible
- CACS staff will clean and disinfect the areas the person used
- The person should stay home and follow public health advice on when to return to activities. Most people can return to school when their symptoms have improved and they feel well enough to participate in regular activities.

### Public health orders

Public health orders may be put in place for the province, entire regions or certain communities. This can include schools, or specific settings or activities.

Public health orders are implemented at the discretion of the local Medical Health Officer or the Provincial Health Officer in response to the broader risk of communicable disease transmission in the community.

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### School visitors

Regular visitor rules are in effect. Please see the CACS handbook.

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### Mental health

Resources on Mental Health for K-12 are available on the [erase website](#).

