



Stage 2  
February 4, 2021

## VCS Stage 2 On-Campus Safety Protocols

**UPDATES WILL OCCUR**

### K - 12 Overall Objective

*To continue working towards the mission and vision of Vernon Christian School by Equipping students for a life of discipleship by providing excellent education in a Christ-Centred community.*

These protocols are based on materials developed by the Provincial Health Officer around risk mitigation measures for education providers.

### OBJECTIVE: At-School Safety Procedures

- To provide a consistent approach to how we manage in the building
- To provide a consistent approach to how we enforce and monitor physical distancing
- To provide a clear approach to who and how students will be monitored and supervised
- To reduce anxiety in the workplace

### Access to the School

Before accessing the school, it is important to be familiar with the following processes:

#### Stay Home When Required to Self-Isolate

The following students, staff or other persons **must stay home and self-isolate**:

- A person confirmed by public health as a case of COVID-19; or
- A person confirmed by public health as a close contact of a confirmed case or outbreak of COVID-19; or
- A person who has travelled outside of Canada in the last 14 days.

Anyone required to self-isolate will be supported by public health. Additional information is available from [BCCDC](https://www.bccdc.ca).

## Stay Home When Sick

**Staying home when sick** is one of the most important ways to reduce the introduction to and the spread of COVID-19 in schools. When COVID-19 is present in the community, the risk of introducing COVID-19 into schools is reduced if staff, students and parents/caregivers:

### Perform a Daily Health Check

- Parents, caregivers, school staff and other adults routinely entering the school should assess themselves daily for key symptoms of illness prior to entering the school.
- Parents and caregivers should assess their child daily for key symptoms of illness before sending them to school. **If their child is sick or is required to self-isolate as per public health direction, they should not come to school.**
- **For school staff, an active daily health check must be completed in line with the requirements of the Provincial Health Officer's Order on Workplace Safety.**
  - **Other adults in the school should also complete an active daily health check.**

The following resources can be used to support daily health checks for students & staff.

**For Students:** [K-12 Health Check app](#)

**For Staff:** [When To Get Tested for COVID-19](#)

Those experiencing symptoms of illness can also use the [BC Self-Assessment Tool](#).

These steps do not replace usual health care. Health questions can be directed to 8-1-1 or your healthcare provider. A full list of COVID-19 symptoms is available from [BCCDC](#). A daily health check is a tool to reduce the likelihood of a person with COVID-19 coming to school when they are infectious.

### When a COVID-19 Test is Recommended:

- If the COVID-19 test is **positive**, the person should stay home until they are told by public health to end their self-isolation. Public health will contact everyone with a positive test.
- If the COVID-19 test is **negative**, the person can return to school once symptoms have improved and they feel well enough.
- If a COVID-19 **test is recommended but is not done** because the person or parent chooses not to have the test or a health assessment is not sought when recommended, and the person's symptoms are not related to a previously diagnosed health condition, they should stay home from school until 10 days after the onset of symptoms, and then may return if feeling well enough.

If a **COVID-19 test is not recommended** by the health assessment, the person can return to school when symptoms have improved and they feel well enough.

### **Further Directives:**

- Students or staff may still attend school if a member of their household develops new symptoms of illness, provided the student/staff has no symptoms themselves. If the household member tests positive for COVID-19, public health will advise the asymptomatic student/staff on self-isolation and when they may return to school.
- Students and staff who experience symptoms consistent with a previously diagnosed health condition can continue to attend school when they are experiencing these symptoms as normal. If they experience any new or unexplained symptoms they should seek assessment by a health-care provider.

### **Visitor Access/Community Use**

Visitor access during school hours will be prioritized to parents and those supporting activities that benefit student learning and well-being (e.g. public health nurses, program volunteers, etc.). VCS will keep a list of the date, names, and contact information for any visitors who enter the school.

- Appointments must be made prior to arrival.
- All visitors must perform a [Daily Health Check](#) prior to entering.
- All visitors must sanitize upon entry (sanitizer provided)
- All parents/guardians and visitors are required to wear masks both outdoors and indoors while on campus at Vernon Christian School.
- At this time, community groups are not permitted to rent any facilities at VCS.

## **VCS Campus Cohorts**

Reducing the number of in-person, close interactions an individual has in a day with different people helps to prevent the spread of COVID-19. This can be accomplished in K-12 school settings through cohorts. Cohorts will be smaller in our elementary school due to the recognition that younger children are less able to consistently implement personal measures such as hand hygiene, reducing physical contact and recognizing and articulating symptoms of illness.

**Elementary Campus (Gr.K-6) cohorts will be comprised of no more than 60 people per quarter, semester, or term:**

1. Kindergarten 41 students and staff
2. Grade 1 & 2 = 43 students and staff
3. Grade 1-2 & 3-4a = 46 students and staff
4. Grade 3-4b & 3-4c = 51 students and staff

5. Grade 5 = 25 students and staff
6. Grade 5-6 & 6 = 49 students and staff

**Secondary Campus (Gr.7-12) cohorts will be comprised of no more than 120 people per quarter, semester, or term:**

1. Grade 7-9 Cohort = 108 students and staff
2. Grade 10-12 Cohort = 112 students and staff

#### **To Remember:**

- Within the cohort minimized physical contact should be encouraged, but a two-metre physical distance does not need to be maintained.
- Consistent seating arrangements are encouraged within cohorts where practical.
  - Secondary Campus: face-to-face seating arrangements will be limited where possible.
- The composition of cohorts will remain consistent for all activities that occur at VCS, including but not limited to learning and breaks (lunch, recess, classroom changes, etc).
- Elementary Campus: students can socialize with peers in different cohorts if they are outdoors and can minimize physical contact or if they are indoors and can maintain physical distance. Cohorts will be given designated outdoor spaces for their break activities.
- Secondary Campus: students can socialize with peers in different cohorts if they can maintain physical distance. Students must maintain physical distance when socializing with peers in different cohorts.

## **Daily Schedule & Traffic Flow**

#### **Start-time (M/W/F)**

- Elementary Campus (EC): 8:10-8:20am drop-off & 8:25am bell
- Secondary Campus (SC): 8:20-8:30am drop-off & 8:35am bell

#### **Start-time (Tu/Th)**

- EC: 8:40-8:50am drop-off & 8:55am bell
- SC: 8:50-9:00am drop-off & 9:05am bell

#### **Exit & Entrance Plans**

- Secondary Campus (supervised by staff):
  - South entrance & portables: Gr. 7-9
  - Main entrance: Gr. 10
  - North entrance: Gr. 11-12
- Elementary Campus (supervised by staff):
  - External door use in each classroom
    - Students' personal items will be kept in the hallway cubbies after start-of-day hand washing/sanitizing is completed

- Eating only within classroom
- **All exterior doors will be locked 10 min. after school start:**
  - EC students report to classroom door if late
  - Guests & SC Students: contact front office for access and sign-in with data collecting

#### **Mid-day Breaks:**

- Elementary - Staggered breaks:
  - Break 1:
    - K-2 → OUT 10:20-10:40, EAT 10:40-10:55
    - 3-6 → EAT 10:25-10:40, OUT 10:40-11:00
  - Break 2:
    - K-2 → OUT 12:00-12:30, EAT 12:30-12:45
    - 3-6 → EAT 12:15-12:30, OUT 12:30-1:00
- Secondary - Staggered breaks for each cohort:
  - Break 1(Monday/Friday):
    - Gr 7-9 Cohort 10:05-10:15
    - Gr 10-12 Cohort 10:20-10:30
  - Break 1(Tuesday/Thursday):
    - Gr 7-9 Cohort 10:15-10:25
    - Gr 10-12 Cohort 10:30-10:40
  - LUNCH (M/T/Th/F)
    - Gr 7-9 Cohort: 11:40-12:10
    - Gr 10-12 Cohort: 12:15-12:45
  - Break 2:
    - Gr 7-9 1:35-1:45
    - Gr 10-12 1:50-2:00
  - Wednesday
    - Chapel 9:55-10:35
    - (staggered cohorts and/or virtual)
    - MS Lunch: 11:55-12:25
    - HS Lunch: 12:30-1:00

#### **Day-End Staggered Dismissal:**

- Elementary Campus
  - 2:45pm:

- Kindergarten - parents pick-up students at exterior door (physical distancing is encouraged)
    - Grade 1-2 - option to either have children proceed directly to parking lot or have parents pick up at playground
  - 2:50pm: 3-6 dismissal - students report to parent in parking lot
  - 2:45-3:00: teachers supervise & support dismissal & outdoor transition
- Secondary Campus - 3:00pm

### Parking Lot Drop-off/Pick-up Times:

Please follow these drop-off and pick-up times as they apply to you:

#### Drop-off (M/W/F)

- Elementary Campus: 8:10-8:20am
- Secondary Campus: 8:20-8:30am

#### Drop-off (Tu/Th)

- Elementary Campus: 8:40-8:50am
- Secondary Campus: 8:50-9:00am

#### Pick-up

- Elementary Campus Students Only: 2:45-3:00pm\*
- Secondary Campus Students Only: 3:10-3:25pm\*

#### **\*If you have children at both campuses:**

- Drop-off: arrive at the **Elementary Campus** scheduled drop-off time
- Pick-up: arrive at the **Secondary Campus** scheduled pick-up time

### Mask-Use Policy for Parent Community

With the exception of waiting in vehicles or helping children load/unload, all parents/guardians and visitors are required to wear masks both outdoors and indoors while on campus at Vernon Christian School.

**In the Building**

## Areas of Occupancy

Students will be grouped into cohorts as outlined by the Ministry's of Health and Education. Teachers will arrange desk areas where students are seated in a way to minimize physical contact. The majority of their days will be spent in these rooms and outside with their cohorts. If appropriate, directional signage will be used to help control the flow of traffic.

### Elementary Building

Space	Protocol	Procedure	Notes
<b>Outdoor Space</b>	Elementary students can socialize with peers in different cohorts if they are outdoors and can minimize physical contact.  Teachers and EAs will be on site to limit physical contact.	Students will be encouraged to limit physical contact.	Outdoor play spaces such as the play field, playground, and paved court outside of the gym are safe to use.
<b>Non Essential Rooms</b>	All non essential rooms are closed.		The copier room is essential and will remain open. Please remember to spray and wipe down after each use (disinfectant has been provided)..
<b>Administration Areas</b>	Reserved for VCS staff only. Parents and students shall not enter administrative areas without an appointment.	Parents to call ahead of time to set up an appointment with administration.	
<b>Student Classroom Space</b>	Limited physical contact will be promoted while in the classroom and will be monitored by teachers and EAs.  There is no evidence that COVID-19 is transmitted on textbooks, paper, or other paper-based products. Schools can share books or paper-based educational resources with students.		Each cohort group will remain in their classroom throughout the day, with the exception of physical education, library, bathroom use, and recess times.
<b>Common Areas (hallways)</b>	Limited to required transitions (bathroom, fountain, learning space, etc.)	Students maintain physical distance (2m) when indoors. If a student is unable	

		to physically distance, the student should socialize within their learning group	
<b>Staff Room</b>	<p>Stagger break times to prevent crowding.</p> <p>No more than 12 staff members at a time. Prepare, clean the area, and leave.</p> <p>Please bring your own dishes and utensils from home.</p> <p>Refrain from consuming communal foods.</p>	<p>Wash hands before and after preparing food.</p> <p>Surfaces in this room will be cleaned daily by janitorial staff.</p> <p>Leave door OPEN.</p>	Students are not permitted in the staff room.
<b>Restrooms</b>	<p>All washrooms will be open for use.</p> <p>After using the restroom. <b>Wash hands thoroughly.</b></p>	Will be cleaned <b>twice</b> daily.	If possible, EA to escort primary students to the restroom, and wait in hallway.
<b>Drink Fountains</b>	Drink fountains will be open for use. Hand washing before and after is emphasized		Staff & students encouraged to bring their own bottles from home.

### Secondary Building

Space	Protocol	Procedure	To Remember
<b>Non Essential Rooms</b>	All non essential rooms are closed.		The copier room is essential and will remain open. Please remember to spray and wipe down after each use (disinfectant has been provided).
<b>Student Classroom Space</b>	<p>Students will be assigned to cohorts. Minimizing physical contact will be promoted within learning groups, being monitored by teachers as EAs.</p> <p>There is no evidence that COVID-19 is transmitted</p>		



	on textbooks, paper, or other paper-based products. Schools can share books or paper-based educational resources with students.		
<b>Common Areas (hallways, Commons-room)</b>	<p>Students can socialize with peers in different cohorts if they can maintain physical distance of 2m.</p> <p>Non-medical masks are required by all staff &amp; students in these spaces.</p>		<p>Secondary school students are expected to be capable of consistently maintaining physical distance when it is required.</p> <p>If a student is unable to physically distance, the student should socialize within their cohort or where they can be supported to physically distance.</p>
<b>Staff Room</b>	<p>No more than 12 staff members at a time.</p> <p>Prepare, clean the area, and leave.</p> <p>Please bring your own dishes and utensils from home.</p> <p>Refrain from consuming communal foods.</p>	<p>Wash hands before and after preparing food.</p> <p>Surfaces in this room will be cleaned daily by janitorial staff.</p> <p>Leave door OPEN.</p>	<p>Students are not permitted in the staff room.</p> <p>Staff &amp; students encouraged to bring their own bottles from home.</p>
<b>Administration Areas</b>	Reserved for VCS staff only. Parents and students shall not enter administrative areas without an appointment.	Parents to call ahead of time to set up an appointment with administration.	
<b>Restrooms</b>	<p>All standard student washrooms will be open for use.</p> <p>After using the restroom, <b>Wash hands thoroughly.</b></p>	<p>To limit hallway traffic, one student restroom break per class is permitted.</p> <p>Will be cleaned <b>twice</b> daily.</p>	
<b>Drink Fountains</b>	Drink fountains will be open for use. Hand washing before and after is emphasized		Staff & students are encouraged to bring their own bottles from home.

## Student Care Spaces - Additional Info

Space	Protocol	To Remember
<b><i>Building</i></b>	Enter - wash hands or sanitize - every time	<p><b>Gym:</b> OPEN, limited to cohort groups only. If multiple cohorts use the gym on a given day, cleaning will be done in between groups.</p> <p><b>Changerooms:</b> OPEN, limited to cohort groups only.</p> <p><b>EC Kitchen:</b> CLOSED</p> <p><b>SC Food Rm:</b> OPEN, limited to cohort groups only.</p> <p><b>SC Autoshop:</b> OPEN, limited to cohort groups only.</p> <p><b>SC Computer Lab:</b> OPEN, limited to cohort groups only.</p> <p><b>SC Lockers:</b> OPEN.</p>
<b><i>Learning and Playing</i></b>	<p>Physical distancing and limited physical contact practices while in the classroom will be followed.</p> <p>Limit use of frequently-touched items that can't be easily cleaned. Laminated materials will be cleaned and disinfected daily iif multiple people touch them.</p> <p>Wash hands or sanitize every time upon entering the room.</p>	
<b><i>Outdoor Spaces</i></b>	<p>Outdoor exercise time is encouraged.</p> <p>Sharing of sports equipment within cohort groups only.</p> <p>Walks and running on the field are okay with monitored physical distancing.</p>	<p><b>Playground:</b> OPEN for K-6 students during designated outdoor play times and before/after school while supervised by teachers/EAs.</p> <p><b>Gaga Pit:</b> OPEN, limited to cohort groups only.</p>

		<b>Sports Court:</b> OPEN for activities that do not require physical contact.
<b>Eating</b>	<p>Students will eat in their designated rooms or outdoors <b>where permitted.</b></p> <p>Ensure washing of hands before and after eating, for both staff and students.</p> <p>Sharing of all food and drinks, including homemade foods like birthday treats or bake sale items, will not be permitted.</p> <p>Food waste: students and staff must put waste in the designated garbage bins immediately upon finishing lunch/snack time..</p>	<p>Do not leave food and food waste 'out in the open'. Pack away or discard in the garbage bins, and then wash hands</p> <p>Microwaves will be <b>unavailable</b></p>

## General Ventilation and Air Circulation

At this time, there is no evidence that a building' ventilation system, in good operating condition, would contribute to the spread of the virus. **Good indoor air ventilation alone cannot protect people from exposure to COVID-19; however, it may reduce risk when used in addition to other preventive measures.**

- **The VCS maintenance team will ensure that heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) systems are regularly maintained and in good working order.**
- **Where possible, opening windows if weather permits and HVAC system function will not be negatively impacted.**

## Student Management & Hygiene

### Hygiene

Hand washing is one of the best ways to minimize the risk of infection. Proper hand washing helps prevent the transfer of infectious material from the hands to other parts of the body, particularly the eyes, nose, and mouth or to other surfaces that are touched. If a sink is not available (eg. when entering the school at the start of the day), alcohol-based hand sanitizer will be provided. Students will be required to wash hands frequently but

especially:

- Immediately upon entering the school and before leaving at the end of the day
- Immediately after sneezing, coughing, using a tissue
- Immediately after using the toilet
- Whenever hands are visibly dirty
- When moving between different learning environment (eg. outdoor-indoor transitions)
- Before and after eating, drinking, food preparation, handling contact lenses, etc

**REDUCE THE SPREAD OF COVID-19.**  
**WASH YOUR HANDS.**

- 1**  
Wet hands with warm water
- 2**  
Apply soap
- 3**  
For at least 20 seconds, make sure to wash:  
palm and back of each hand  
between fingers  
under nails  
thumbs
- 4**  
Rinse well
- 5**  
Dry hands well with paper towel
- 6**  
Turn off tap using paper towel

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Public Health Agency of Canada Agence de la santé publique du Canada

Canada

Students may bring their own sanitizer or plain soap if they are on the list authorized by Health Canada or have a medical condition that requires specialized soaps. (See the [List of Hand Sanitizers Authorized by Health Canada](#) for products that have met Health Canada's requirements and provide details to the office.)

## Physical Distancing & Limited Physical Contact

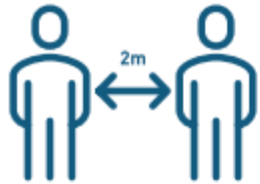
### Elementary Students:

When interacting with peers outside of their learning groups, students should:

- Minimize physical contact when outdoors;
- Maintain physical distance (2m) when indoors. If a student is unable to physically distance, the student should socialize within their learning group or where they can be supported to physically distance.

### Secondary Students:

- When interacting with their peers outside of their learning group, students should maintain physical distance (2m).
- Secondary school students capable of consistently maintaining physical distance **are expected to do so**. If a student is unable to physically distance, the student should socialize within their learning group or where they can be supported to physically distance.



### What does Social Distancing mean?

This means making changes in your everyday routines in order to minimize close contact with others, including:

- ▶ avoiding crowded places and non-essential gatherings
- ▶ avoiding common greetings, such as handshakes
- ▶ limiting contact with people at higher risk (e.g. older adults and those in poor health)
- ▶ keeping a distance of at least 2 arms lengths (approximately 2 metres) from others, as much as possible

### Leaving Campus

Students with their own personal vehicle will not be permitted to leave and return to campus throughout the day. Personal appointments (e.g. medical) are exempt from this and must be communicated to their teacher for approval prior to leaving.

### Personal Protective Equipment:

#### Non-Medical Masks and Face Coverings

Per the Provincial COVID-19 Health & Safety Guidelines for K-12 Settings, **K-12 Staff and Middle/Secondary students are required to wear non-medical masks** indoors at school except when:

- Sitting or standing at their seat or workstation in a classroom or learning space,
- There is a barrier in place,
- Eating or drinking
- Outside and away from crowding

Elementary students' mask use should be based on their personal or family/caregiver's choice.

### **Further directives**

- It is expected that all Middle/High School students wear their masks at drop-off before they enter the school and at the end of the day while waiting for parent pick-up. This will help us support student safety at high congestion points outside of school entrances.
- VCS has provided 2 reusable, non-medical masks per student.
- If a student has their own face mask that they would prefer to wear while at VCS, they may do so.

Students are not required to wear a mask if they do not tolerate it (e.g. for health or behavioural reasons). VCS will support student mask use through positive and inclusive approaches. VCS does not require a health-care provider note (i.e. a doctor's note) to determine if a person does not tolerate a mask.

Face shields are a form of eye protection for the person wearing it. They may not prevent the spread of droplets from the wearer. **Face shields should not be worn in place of masks**, except for those communicating using lip-reading, when visual facial cues are essential, or when people may be unable to wear a mask. Clear masks that cover the nose and mouth are another option when visual communication is necessary.

### [Guide: How to Wear a Face Mask](#)

#### **If Student Develops Symptoms at School:**

Staff must:

- Immediately separate the symptomatic student from others in a supervised area.
- Provide the student with a non-medical mask or tissues to cover their coughs or sneezes. Throw away used tissues as soon as possible and perform hand hygiene.
- Avoid touching the student's body fluids (e.g., mucous, saliva). If you do, practice diligent hand hygiene.
- Contact the student's parent or caregiver to pick them up as soon as possible.

- Where possible, maintain a distance of 2 metres from the ill student. If not possible, staff may wear a mask if available and tolerated, or use a tissue to cover their nose and mouth.
- Once the student is picked up, practice diligent hand hygiene.
- Workers responsible for facility cleaning must clean and disinfect the space where the student was separated and any areas used by them (e.g., classroom, bathroom, common areas).

**Anyone experiencing symptoms of illness should not return to school until they have been assessed by a health-care provider to exclude COVID-19 or other infectious diseases AND their symptoms have resolved.**

## Safety for Staff

Unless they are part of the same cohort, staff and other adults should maintain physical distance from each other at all times. This includes during break times and in meetings.

### Physical Distancing

- Within the cohort minimized physical contact should be encouraged, but a two-metre physical distance does not need to be maintained.
- If staff members from different cohorts need to meet in person, ensure there is a 2 metre space between each worker.
- Manage the flow of students in hallways and other public spaces (eg. one-way systems for restroom usage, water bottle refill).
- Assemblies and other school-wide events will occur within the cohort and will not exceed the maximum cohort size in the setting, plus the minimum number of additional people required (e.g. school staff, visitors, etc.).

Staff outside of a learning group must practice physical distancing when interacting with the learning group. For example, a learning assistance teacher or a counsellor can work with students from multiple learning groups, but they should maintain physical distance from students and other staff as much as possible. **When physical distancing is not possible, these staff members should wear a mask.**

In situations where staff outside a learning group cannot practice physical distancing, other measures beyond mask wearing must be explored, such as reconfiguring rooms, securing an alternate space to allow for physical distancing, installing a physical barrier made of transparent materials, or providing virtual services where possible.

Staff should remain on site and not leave during break and lunch times.

### Hygiene

- Janitorial staff to ensure that hand washing supplies are available at all times (eg. soap, paper towels and, if needed, alcohol-based hand sanitizer).
- Follow handwashing signage that is posted at each washing station and wash hands frequently.
- **After touching shared surfaces (door handles, copier, staff fridge, etc)** please use the disinfectant spray provided and spray/wipe, and then wash your hands or use hand sanitizer accordingly. Please also remember to spray/wipe shared students resources (eg. toys, Chromebooks, etc)

### Masks/Face Shields

Staff are **required to wear non-medical masks** indoors at school except when:

- Sitting or standing at their seat or workstation in a classroom or learning space,
- There is a barrier in place,
- Eating or drinking
- Outside and away from crowding

A mask must also be worn by staff whenever they are outside of their learning group and physical distancing cannot be maintained (e.g. itinerant teachers/specialists interacting with multiple learning groups). VCS will provide reusable, non-medical masks to all staff.

Supporting students with complex behaviours, medical complexities or receiving delegated care may require staff providing health services or other health care providers to be in close physical proximity or in physical contact with a medically complex or immune suppressed student.

- People providing these services at VCS should wear a mask (medical or non-medical) when providing services and physical distance cannot be practiced, or the service cannot be provided from behind a physical barrier. Additional PPE over and above that needed for routine practices and the use of a medical or non-medical mask is not necessary.
- Those providing health services at VCS may be receiving different guidance related to PPE from their regulatory college or employer. Health service providers are encouraged to work with their employer to confirm what PPE is recommended for the services they provide in school settings.

### Guide: How to Wear a Mask

#### Cohorts

When staff are interacting with people outside of their learning group; physical distance cannot be consistently maintained; and none of the strategies outlined above are viable options, staff are required to wear a nonmedical mask, a face covering or a face shield (in which case a non-medical mask should be worn in addition to the face shield).



## **If Staff Member Develops Symptoms at Work**

Staff should go home as soon as possible.

If unable to leave immediately:

- Symptomatic staff should separate themselves into an area away from others.
- Maintain a distance of 2 metres from others.
- Use a tissue or mask to cover their nose and mouth while they wait to be picked up.
- Staff responsible for facility cleaning must clean and disinfect the space where the staff member was separated and any areas used by them (e.g., classroom, bathroom, common areas).
- Staff members who develop symptoms are expected to receive a COVID-19 test from the local public health authority.

**Anyone experiencing symptoms of illness should not return to school until they have been assessed by a health-care provider to exclude COVID-19 or other infectious diseases AND their symptoms have resolved.**

## **School Cleaning & Disinfecting**

Regular cleaning and disinfection are essential to preventing the transmission of COVID-19 from contaminated objects and surfaces. VCS will be cleaned and disinfected by the janitorial staff in accordance with the BCCDC's Cleaning and Disinfectants for Public Settings.

This includes:

- General cleaning and disinfecting of the premises should occur at least **once** a day.
- Frequently-touched surfaces should be cleaned and disinfected at least **twice** a day. These include door knobs, light switches, toilet handles, tables, desks, chairs, keyboards, water fountains, manipulatives and toys.  
**Teachers/EAs: Please continue to spray/wipe frequently-touched classroom surfaces throughout the day.**
- The removal of frequently touched items that are not easily cleaned (e.g., fabric or soft items, plush toys)
- Clean and disinfect any surface that is visibly dirty.
- Use common, commercially-available detergents and disinfectant products and closely follow the instructions on the label.
- Limit items that are not easily cleaned (e.g., fabric or soft items);
- Empty garbage containers daily.
- Wear disposable gloves when cleaning blood or body fluids (e.g., runny nose, vomit, stool, urine). Wash hands before wearing and after removing gloves.

**Helpful Resources:**

[Public Health Guidance for K-12 Schools](#)

[Provincial COVID-19 Health & Safety Guidelines for K-12 Settings](#)

[COVID-19: Return to School](#)