

Healthy and Safe Schools – School Winter Plan Kindergarten to Grade 8

Effective January 10, 2022 / Revised: January 14, 2022

The following is the School Winter Plan 2022 for Kindergarten to Grade 8 students and school personnel in New Brunswick public schools. Throughout the winter months, schools and school districts may move in and out of the following alert levels. If schools or communities are experiencing a high number of COVID-19 cases and an increase in transmission, Regional Public Health will work with schools and school districts to carry out a detailed risk assessment to determine if a move to stricter guidelines are required.

The risks assessment looks at a number of factors including but not limited to:

- how prevalent cases are within the greater community;
- whether the case involves a presumed variant;
- how many close contacts the individual who tested positive has had and how early the case was detected;
- the layers of protection that were in place while they were at school such as masking or assigned seating;
- the use of shared spaces between the individual who tested positive and others (lockers, hallways, buses, breakrooms, etc.); and
- the COVID-19 vaccination rate of the school or greater community.

Note: If one new or worsening symptom develops, a student or a school personnel is not permitted to attend school until they have a negative point-of-care-rapid-test (POCT).

If a student or a school personnel has a constant and recurring symptom, for instance seasonal allergies, they may continue to attend school after they have received a negative POCT. The test can be done once for the same recurring symptom, as long as that symptom is not worsening and no new symptoms develop, at which point a retest will be necessary.

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Learning	All students are learning at school.	All students are learning at school.	All students are learning at school unless otherwise directed by Public Health.
Class: Indoors in the Classroom	Masks are required for all students and staff within the class. Masks	Same as Level 1	Same as Level 1

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	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
	may only be removed when seated for eating and drinking.		
Class: Indoors in Common Areas (K to Grade 6)	Physical distancing of two (2) metres between other class is required. Masks are required for all students and staff in all common areas and may only be removed when seated for eating and drinking.	Same as Level 1	Same as Level 1
Class: Indoors in Common Areas (Grades 7 and 8)	Masks are required for all students and staff in all common areas and may only be removed when seated for eating and drinking. Schools may decide to group students in grades 7 and 8 for operational purposes. However, the class groups are permitted to mix whenever necessary.	Same as Level 1	Same as Level 1
Class: Outdoors	Physical distancing is not required between classes. Masks are required when students and staff are outside with other classes. If physical distancing can be maintained between classes, masks may be removed.	Same as Level 1	Same as Level 1

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	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
At Home Screening	<p>Students and school personnel will screen for symptoms at home every day. They will screen for symptoms such as fever, cough, runny nose or any other symptoms that may have developed or worsened.</p> <p>If a new or worsening symptom develops, a student or a school personnel is not permitted to attend school until they have a negative point-of-care-test (POCT).</p> <p>If a student or a school personnel has a constant and recurring symptom, for instance seasonal allergies, they may continue to attend school after they have received a negative POCT test. This test can be done one time for the same reoccurring symptom, as long as that symptom is not worsening and no new symptoms develop, at which point a retest will be necessary.</p>	<p>Same as Level 1</p> <p>All student and school personnel may be required to undergo regular testing (POCT) at home as directed by Public Health.</p>	<p>Same as Level 2</p>
Handwashing and Disinfecting	<p>Proper handwashing and sanitization is required for all students before and after outdoor play, before and after meals, and after the using the washroom.</p> <p>School personnel will monitor students to ensure they are</p>	<p>Same as Level 1</p>	<p>Same as Level 1</p>

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	<p>washing and sanitizing their hands correctly.</p> <p>Signs will be posted throughout the school to remind everyone to properly wash and sanitize their hands.</p>		
Cleaning and Disinfecting	<p>Cleaning and disinfecting guidelines will continue as outlined in the Safe and Healthy School.</p>	Same as Level 1	<p>Same as Level 1</p> <p>Sharing of materials and equipment will not be permitted.</p>
Physical Education	<p>Physical education classes will be taught outdoors whenever weather permits. If taught indoors, students and school personnel are required to wear a mask while participating inside their class.</p>	<p>Masks are required.</p> <p>Physical education classes will be taught outdoors whenever weather permits.</p> <p>If indoors, physically distanced skills and drills within a class grouping.</p> <p>Contact and team sports activities are not permitted.</p>	<p>Masks are required.</p> <p>Physical education classes will be taught outdoors whenever weather permits.</p> <p>If indoors, physically distanced skills and drills within a class grouping.</p> <p>Contact and team sports activities are not permitted.</p> <p>Shared materials will not be permitted (balls, rackets, etc.).</p> <p>Low intensity activities are required when physical education is indoors.</p>
Music Education (K to Grade 6)	<p>Music education classes will be taught outdoors whenever weather permits. If taught indoors, students and school personnel are required</p>	Same as Level 1	Same as Level 1

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	<p>to wear a mask while participating within their class.</p> <p>Singing will be limited to 30 minutes per period.</p> <p>The use of wind instruments will not be permitted for K-6.</p>		
<p>Music Education (Grades 7 and 8)</p>	<p>Music education classes will be taught outdoors whenever weather permits. If taught indoors, students and school personnel are required to wear a mask while participating within their class.</p> <p>Singing and the use of wind instruments will be limited to a combined 30 minutes per period.</p> <p>Grade 7 and 8 students will maintain a physical distancing of four (4) metres (including instrument) when using a wind instrument.</p> <p>If using a wind instrument that is covered with an instrument mask, the physical distancing can be reduced to two (2) metres.</p> <p>If physical distancing cannot be maintained, wind instruments will not be permitted.</p>	<p>Music education classes will be taught outdoors whenever weather permits. If taught indoors, students and school personnel are required to wear a mask while participating within their class.</p> <p>The use of wind instruments is not permitted.</p>	<p>Same as Level 2</p>
<p>Learning Groups</p>	<p>Learning groups are permitted outside of the class. The number of</p>	<p>Same as Level 1</p>	<p>Same as Level 1</p>

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(for example: resource support, extra learning support)	<p>students being mixed should be limited and be consistent as much as possible.</p> <p>Physical distancing of two (2) metres must be maintained between students from other classes.</p> <p>Schools will ensure that groups are not changed for a minimum period of two (2) weeks. Changes to learning groups can be made every two (2) weeks.</p> <p>Attendance for learning groups will be recorded and kept for a period of four (4) weeks.</p> <p>Masks are required.</p>		
Itinerant Teacher and Supply Teachers	<p>Itinerant teachers and supply teachers will be required to wear a mask. Masks may only be removed when seated for eating and drinking.</p>	<p>Itinerant teachers and supply teachers will be required to wear a mask. Masks may only be removed when seated for eating and drinking.</p> <p>When possible, itinerant teachers and supply teachers are required to maintain two (2) metres physical distancing from students in a class.</p>	Same as Level 2
Parents	<p>Meetings with parents should occur virtually wherever possible, with in-person meetings for essential purposes only.</p>	Same as level 1	Same as level 1

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	For all in person meetings, parents will require an appointment before entering and a mask is required.		
Visitors (includes contractors, professionals as well as visiting artists, post secondary representatives or job fairs)	<p>Visitors must provide proof of vaccination before entering the school building.</p> <p>Contractors will follow the “GNB COVID-19 Vaccination Policy Requirements for Contractors, Sub-contractors, Vendors, Suppliers” for proof of vaccination.</p> <p>Visitors will require an appointment before entering and a mask is required.</p> <p>Visitors will maintain a physical distancing of two (2) metres from students at all time.</p>	Visitors are not permitted in the school building unless identified as essential.	Same as level 2
Transportation	<p>Transportation will continue as per the guidelines in the Safe and Healthy School.</p> <p>When possible, students are encouraged to sit in the same seats and with the same students.</p>	Same as Level 1	Same as Level 1
Assemblies (multiple classes in the same indoor space; this does not include eating while sitting in the cafeteria)	Assemblies are permitted, provided physical distancing of two (2) metres between other classes can be maintained.	Virtual only.	No assemblies permitted.

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	It is highly recommended that these events are organized virtually.		
Concerts and Festivals (K to Grade 6) (Cultural concert, music festivals, etc.)	<p>Concerts and festivals are permitted during school hours. It is highly recommended that these events are organized virtually.</p> <p>Singing and the use of wind instruments will not exceed 30 minutes.</p> <p>Physical distancing of two (2) metres between other classes is required.</p> <p>Proof of vaccination will be required for all parents and visitors</p> <p>Masks are required for all parents and visitors. Physical distancing of four (4) metres between all parents/visitors and students is required.</p>	Virtual only	Concerts and festivals are not permitted
Concerts and festivals (Grades 7 and 8) (Cultural concert, music festivals, etc.)	<p>Concerts and festivals are permitted during school hours. It is highly recommended that these events are organized virtually.</p> <p>Singing and the use of wind instruments will not exceed 30 minutes.</p> <p>Physical distancing of two (2) metres between other classes is required.</p>	Same as Level 1	Concerts and festivals are not permitted

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	<p>Proof of vaccination will be required for all parents and visitors.</p> <p>Masks are required for all parents and visitors. Physical distancing of four (4) metres between all parents/visitors and students is required.</p>		
<p>After-school events (K to Grade 6) (Barbecues, family events, etc.)</p>	<p>After-school events that are not part of the curriculum are permitted.</p> <p>The events will be required to follow all guidelines within the Mandatory Order and Public Health's Winter Action Plan. If inconsistent, the Mandatory Order prevails.</p>	<p>After-school events that are not part of the curriculum are not permitted.</p>	<p>Same as Level 2</p>
<p>After school events (Grades 7 and 8) (Barbeques, family events, dances, etc.)</p>	<p>After school events that are not part of the curriculum are permitted.</p> <p>The events will be required to follow all guidelines within the Mandatory Order and Public Health's Winter Action Plan. If inconsistent, the Mandatory Order prevails.</p>	<p>Same as Level 1</p>	<p>After school events are not permitted.</p>
<p>Cafeterias</p>	<p>Cafeteria services are permitted.</p> <p>Physical distancing of two (2) metres is required between each class.</p> <p>Where possible, school schedules for lunch should be arranged so</p>	<p>Further to Level 1 directives, a maximum capacity of 50% within cafeterias.</p>	<p>Same as Level 2</p>

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	<p>that less students and school personnel are in the cafeteria.</p> <p>Where sufficient distancing cannot be maintained, schools should explore using other school spaces for eating lunch wherever possible.</p>		
Field Trips	<p>Indoor and outdoor field trips are permitted by class.</p> <p>Students must remain with their class.</p> <p>Students and school personnel must follow the Mandatory Order while on field trips.</p>	Field trips are not permitted.	Same as Level 2.
Student Support Committees (Gender and Sexuality Alliances)	<p>Student Support Committees outside of the class are permitted.</p> <p>Masks are required.</p>	<p>Student Support Committees outside of the class are permitted.</p> <p>Masks and physical distancing are required.</p>	Same as Level 2.
School Committees/Clubs (Student Led Committees, Art Club, Chess Club, etc.)	<p>School committees and clubs are permitted.</p> <p>Masks are required.</p>	<p>Unvaccinated students under the age of 12 cannot participate in indoor or outdoor school committees.</p> <p>Vaccinated students 12 years of age and older can participate or be involved in any form of indoor or outdoor school committees.</p> <p>Masks are required.</p>	School committees and clubs are not permitted.

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Extracurricular and Intramural Sports Activities	<p>Unvaccinated students under the age of 12 can participate in indoor or outdoor extracurricular and intramural sports activities.</p> <p>All students 12 years of age and older will be required to be vaccinated to participate or be involved in any form of indoor or outdoor extracurricular and intramural sports activities.</p> <p>Students and school personnel may remove their masks ONLY when playing sports activities.</p>	<p>Suspension of indoor and outdoor extracurricular and intramural activities for unvaccinated students under the age of 12.</p> <p>All students 12 years of age and older will be required to be vaccinated to participate or be involved in indoor and outdoor extracurricular and intramural sports activities.</p> <p>Activities are limited to skills and drills practice, in small groups.</p> <p>Masks are required at all times.</p>	<p>Extracurricular and intramural sports activities are not permitted.</p>
Choir, Drama, Band Improv Club and Other Extracurricular Activities	<p>Unvaccinated students under the age of 12 can participate in indoor or outdoor extra-curricular activities.</p> <p>All students 12 years of age and older will be required to be vaccinated to participate or be involved in any form of indoor or outdoor extracurricular activities.</p> <p>Masks are required.</p> <p>Singing and the use of wind instruments will be limited to a combined 30 minutes per period.</p> <p>Students who are vaccinated may use wind instruments. They will maintain physical distancing of four</p>	<p>Suspension of indoor and outdoor extra-curricular activities for all students under the age of 12.</p> <p>All students 12 years of age and older will be required to be vaccinated to participate or be involved in any form of indoor or outdoor extracurricular activities.</p> <p>Masks are required.</p> <p>The use of wind instruments is not permitted.</p> <p>Music festivals, concerts or events are not permitted.</p>	<p>Extra-curricular activities are not permitted.</p>

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	<p>(4) metres (including instrument) when using a wind instrument.</p> <p>If using a wind instrument that is covered with an instrument mask, distancing can be reduced to two (2) metres.</p> <p>If physical distancing cannot be maintained, wind instruments will not be permitted.</p>		
Spectators	<p>Spectators are permitted outside school hours and will follow the guidelines in the Safe and Healthy School and the Mandatory Order. This includes showing proof of vaccination.</p> <p>If the requirements in the Safe and Healthy School and the Mandatory Order are inconsistent, the Mandatory Order prevails.</p>	<p>Same as Level 1</p> <p>Spectator capacity will be reduced to 50%.</p>	<p>Spectators are not permitted.</p>
Community Use of School	<p>Community Use of Schools will follow the guidelines in the Safe and Healthy School and the Mandatory Order. If inconsistent, the Mandatory Order prevails.</p>	<p>Community Use of Schools will follow the guidelines in the Safe and Healthy School and the Mandatory Order. If inconsistent, the Mandatory Order prevails.</p>	<p>Community Use of Schools will not be permitted.</p>