



COMMUNICABLE DISEASE PLAN

January 2023

Purpose Secondary School's Communicable Disease Plan has been created to help ensure the health and safety of students and their families. This plan follows the [K to 12 guidelines](#) as set out by the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health and BCCDC [K to 12 guidelines](#).

Facility

All HVAC systems are operated and maintained as per standards and specifications and are working properly. HVAC filters are also changed regularly as per standards and specifications.

The school is cleaned and disinfected regularly, focusing on regular cleaning of washrooms, classrooms, shared spaces, and equipment during the day. Deep cleans will occur in December, spring and summer.

For staff and students, hand cleaning facilities are available and accessible throughout the school and are well maintained.

PPE Expectations

As per the Provincial Health Order, masks are now optional.

Vaccines

Vaccines are not mandatory; however we strongly encourage all eligible members of our student, staff, and parent community to be fully vaccinated. This is the best way to help ensure the safety of everyone.

It is important to note that the personal health information of each of our students and staff members is private. Because the nature of this information is personal, we do not share the vaccination status of our staff or students. We can, however, say that we are very proud that the vast majority of our staff and eligible students have voluntarily shared with us their decision to get vaccinated. To reiterate, the school strongly encourages all members of our student, staff, and parent/guardian community to get vaccinated.

Health & Hygiene

Parents/guardians will be required to conduct a daily health check on their children to ensure they are in good health each day before arriving at school. If a child presents any symptom of illness, during the school day, parents/guardians will be contacted for pick up. Parents/guardians will be required to pick their child up as soon as possible and keep them at home until symptom free.



Hand washing will continue to be encouraged throughout the day. Hand sanitizing dispensers are available throughout the school. Disinfecting soap and paper towels are available in the washrooms.

Illness

Stay Home When Sick/What To Do When Sick: Staff and students are regularly reminded to stay home when they are sick.

Self-Management: Each person/family is responsible for conducting a daily health check before attending school everyday. A health check means a person regularly checking to ensure they (or their child) are not experiencing symptoms of illness (including but not limited to COVID-19 symptoms) that would limit their ability to participate fully in regular activities before coming to school to prevent spread of communicable diseases, such as COVID-19, within school settings.

Individuals with symptoms: Staff, children, or other persons in the school setting who have symptoms of being ill are to stay home until they are symptom free. If any staff, children, or other persons test positive for COVID-19 they should follow the guidance on the BCCDC website as to how long they should self-isolate. They can return to school when they no longer need to self-isolate as long as symptoms have improved, and they are well enough to participate in regular activities.

Absences: If a child will be away from school, parents/guardians are to phone the school at 778-727-3410 or email Johnny Chang, the Administrative Liaison Officer at johnny.chang@purposesociety.org.

If Illness Develops at School: Students who develop symptoms of illness at school are taken to the student services office and parents/guardians will be advised and required to pick up their child as soon as possible. If staff become ill, they will be relieved of their duties and coverage will be provided.

If Illness Develops Off School Property: Students who become ill on field studies or off campus will be separated from other students as much as possible. Parents/guardians will be advised and required to pick up their child as soon as possible from their trip/field study. If staff become ill, they will be relieved of their duties and coverage will be provided.

Returning to School After Illness: Health care provider notes (i.e., a doctor's note) are not required to confirm the health status of any individual, beyond those required to support medical accommodation as per usual practice.

Visitors, TOC's, Itinerant Staff, Etc.

Processes are in place to ensure itinerant staff, teachers-on-call, and visitors are made aware of the school's communicable disease plan and their responsibility to follow measures at all times.