



Covid-19 Protocol

Masks

All staff, participants and visitors are required to wear masks in all indoor areas, including:

- In the bathroom
- In a car

Exceptions to the mask policy include... Please provide written permission:

- A person who cannot tolerate wearing a mask for health or behavioural reasons
- A person unable to put on or remove a mask without the assistance of another person
- If the mask is removed temporarily for the purposes of identifying the person wearing it
- If the mask is removed temporarily to engage in an educational activity that cannot be performed while wearing a mask. For example:
 - Playing a wind instrument
 - Engaging in high-intensity physical activity
- If a person is eating or drinking
- If a person is behind a barrier
- While providing a service to a person with a disability or diverse ability (for example, a hearing impairment), where visual cues, facial expressions and/or lip reading/movements are important

Mask wearing remains a personal or family/caregiver choice for these students.

We will honor others and not discuss covid choices while in-person or online. Send any issues to jamie@wildcraftplay.com.

Keeping your distance

Strict physical distancing is no longer required. Schools can continue to create space between people, including:

- Managing flow of people in common and narrow areas, to minimize crowding and allow people to pass through easily
- Preventing crowding at pick-up and drop-off times
- Reminding students and staff about respecting others' personal space, using visual supports, signage, prompts and video modelling as necessary
- Using available space to spread people out where possible
- Keeping parents outside as much as possible

Ventilation if we ever go indoors

ASHRAE recommends a combination of the following practices:

- Regular inspection and maintenance of HVAC systems
- Increased supply of outside air to dilute indoor contaminants
- Upgraded filtration, including installing MERV-13 filters where possible
- Use of other air cleaning or treatment technologies
- Management of energy use and air distribution through building automation control systems

Cleaning and disinfecting

General cleaning of shared objects, cleaning and disinfecting of frequently touched surfaces will be conducted at least once in every 24-hour period and when visibly dirty.

Students and staff who become sick at Wild Craft Play

If a student or staff member develops symptoms at school:

- They will be given a mask and separated from their classmates or colleagues.
- Separated children will be supervised and cared for
- 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
- Custodial staff will clean and disinfect the areas the person used

COVID-19 exposure at school

If a student or staff member is confirmed to have COVID-19, and were potentially infectious while they were at school:

- Public health will investigate to determine if there were any potential close contacts within the school

If it is determined that there are close contacts within the school, public health will:

- Notify the school administrators and request information to assist with contact tracing
- Provide guidance on what steps should be taken

Public health may then:

- Recommend 14-day self-isolation if necessary
- Recommend self-monitoring for symptoms if necessary
- Provide follow-up recommendations if necessary

Schools will ensure students who required to self-isolate are able to continue their educational program. Together, schools and public health officials will determine if any other actions are necessary.

Parents, caregivers and families will be notified by public health if your child was determined to be a close contact of a COVID-19 positive person.

Local public health orders

Local public health orders may be put in place for entire regions or communities, including schools, or for specific settings or activities within a health authority region.

A local Medical Health Officer may issue a recommendation for an individual school, a group of schools, a school district or all schools within the health authority region, to implement specific additional health and safety measures during times of increased risk.

Additional regional measures are likely to be similar to those in place during the 2020/2021 school year and could include:

- Limits on gatherings and events
- Modifying room arrangements or using more activities that maximize space between people and reduce face-to-face contact
- Limiting visitors
- Increasing mask use

Rapid response teams

Our rapid response teams are in place to support Wild Craft Play 'sCool. The team will work with health authorities to respond to COVID-19 exposures.

Our rapid response team has a representative that will:

- Work with health authority staff to review significant exposure events, make recommendations and support to enhance their communicable disease plans when needed
- Review public COVID-19 communicable disease plans and related policies
- Support with communications to students, staff and families regarding communicable disease prevention
- Conduct safety assessments
- Support with implementing pandemic recovery plans, including a focus on mental health and wellbeing and addressing impacts on learning

Music and physical education programs

Students can participate in music and physical education programs, with additional safety measures in place.

- Masks aren't required when doing activities that cannot be performed while wearing a mask, like playing a wind instrument or participating in high-intensity physical activity
- Students aren't required to wear masks while singing outside
- Shared equipment will be cleaned and disinfected and students are encouraged to wash their hands before and after use
- Students will be asked not to share equipment that touches the mouth, like an instrument mouth piece or mouthguard, unless cleaned and disinfected in between uses

Sports, clubs and extracurricular activities

Activities like archery and swordplay and cycling can continue. We will follow local, regional and provincial public health recommendations and [orders for community gatherings and events](#).

- Sport and extracurricular activities will be held outside
- Students will be encouraged to wash their hands before and after using equipment and cover their mouths when coughing or sneezing
- Students will be asked not to share equipment that touches the mouth unless cleaned and disinfected in between uses

Snacks and Meal Time

Snack time, students are asked not to share food.

If creating a group meal, follows food safe in line with current public health guidelines.

Playgrounds

Playgrounds are a safe environment. There is no evidence of COVID-19 transmission in playgrounds. The following measures should be taken when using playgrounds:

- Ensure students wash their hands before and after outdoor play
- Minimize direct contact between students

More information on playgrounds is available from the [BCCDC](#).

Assemblies, concerts and gatherings

Larger indoor activities like a performance must follow [current province-wide and regional restrictions](#). Participants should be seated throughout the area in such a way as to use all available space in the room.

Added supports for students and staff

Mental Health

As a result of the pandemic, we know students, educators, staff and administrators are living with anxiety, stress and other mental health needs.

Wild Craft Play 'sCool is committed to expand existing programs and introduce new supports to address the mental health needs of students and staff.

In spring 2021, a mental health working group was established with representatives from the BC Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils (BCCPAC), primary care, government, Indigenous educators and rights holders, administrative and union groups and other stakeholders in education. The working group is outlining key principles and developing resources to ensure the mental health needs of students and staff are being met.

- [Key principles and strategies for mental health promotion in schools \(PDF, 638KB\)](#)

Online learning

In the winter, Wild Craft Play 'sCool will be offering online learning.