



Return to School Frequently Asked Questions

All schools will resume in Orange Level Critical Effective Jan 17

Mask Requirements Have Changed

- Non-medical masks are required indoors, including in the gym and on school buses for all K to 12 students
- Three-ply masks are recommended
- The focus should be on wearing a mask that fits the face well and has three layers
- Masks can be provided by schools to students if forgotten/needed
- For information on masks, visit: www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/fundamentals/masks.html#choose.
- Masks may be removed indoors for eating, drinking and short, infrequent mask breaks

Contact Tracing

- Schools will no longer provide close contact notification
- Students and staff that may have been exposed at school can continue to attend as long as they are asymptomatic
- The school community will be informed through letters when increased COVID 19 Activity is evident

Vaccine Clinics

- Public Health will continue to offer after-school vaccination clinics throughout January and beyond for first and second vaccine access to all students as well as booster shots
- Community immunizations clinics are also available in Portage la Prairie
- The best defence is to be fully vaccinated

Extra-Curricular

- Extra-curricular activities outside of school hours will continue to follow applicable health orders and guidelines
- Tournaments are currently paused.
- Middle School and High School extra-curricular sports continue

Rapid Tests

- Rapid tests have been distributed to students aged 5 to 11
- Parents that have rapid test kits should test their child before returning to school on January 17
- Parents are encouraged to test periodically or when the child is symptomatic
- Rapid antigen test kits will be provided for staff for testing once they are available to the division

All Schools Will Continue to Encourage Everyone to Focus on the Fundamentals

- Self-monitor
- Stay home when feeling ill
- Follow the isolation chart and close contact chart
- Proper hand hygiene
- Distancing whenever possible

January 17, 2022