

Updated COVID-19 Protocols ... as of September 16, 2021



As per the provincial government's [COVID-19 measures](#) that were announced on September 15, Chinook's Edge is providing an update on how this impacts our schools during these temporary measures:

- Masks have been mandated for students in grades 4-12 and all school staff. (*Individuals who are unable to wear a face mask due to a qualifying health condition as determined by an authorized medical doctor, will qualify for a mask exemption*). List of qualifying conditions include: Sensory processing disorders, developmental delay, cognitive impairment, and mental illness including: Anxiety disorders, psychotic disorders, dissociative identity disorders, depressive disorders, facial trauma or recent oral maxillofacial surgery, contact dermatitis or allergic reactions to mask components, and clinically significant acute respiratory distress. CESD did inquire about individual school exemptions, but our schools do not qualify as 2 metre social distancing at all times is not possible. We also inquired about mask exemptions for grade 4 students in K-4 buildings, and did not receive exemptions approval.
- School staff meetings and school council meetings will be postponed or moved online.
- Visitors - by appointment only, will be permitted in school buildings. Appointments with external consultants (non CESD Staff) will be postponed during these temporary measures. All visitors must wear masks.
- Sports, music and fine arts activities for *students* will be permitted.
- Spectators - no spectators will be permitted for K-12 indoor athletic and performance events. (Previously planned activities, such as award ceremonies, that planned to take place prior to September 20 must adhere to 1/3 fire code capacity, attendees are limited to a single household or 2 close contacts if living alone and must be masked and maintain 2 metres physical distancing. All others must be moved online or postponed.)
- Outdoor school celebrations and events during the school day will be limited to students and staff temporarily.
- K-6 Cohorts - Please resume your school's classroom routines from last school year.
- Sharing resources, manipulatives, technology and other materials amongst cohorts is permitted.
- Community use of schools will be paused during these temporary measures.
- Field trips may continue if they meet the provincial guidelines.
- Parent Teacher Interviews will be held virtually until further notice. Special circumstances must be discussed with the principal.
- Full school assemblies will continue to be postponed until further notice.
- All Division Office meetings will move to an online format until further notice.
- [Isolation is still legally required](#) for people who have COVID-19 symptoms or tested positive.
- [COVID-19 testing for Albertans with symptoms](#) remains available at assessment centres.
- All other protocols that were in place for school start-up are unchanged:
 - Please continue to refer to this [Alberta Health Daily Checklist](#) to monitor your child for symptoms of COVID-19. Please let your child's teacher know of any pre-existing conditions your child may have, to ensure these won't be mistaken for COVID-19 symptoms.
 - Schools will continue to employ **good public health practices** to help reduce the risk of transmission of respiratory infections (including COVID-19, influenza and common colds) among students, staff and visitors. Details are available [here](#).
 - Chinook's Edge will be closely monitoring student absences and will report to Alberta Health Services if any of our schools experience a **10 percent or higher illness absenteeism rate**. If an outbreak occurs we may require masking if directed by AHS.
 - Any food brought from home for sharing must be distributed by school staff - purchased/prepackaged food from home only at this time, nothing homemade. School Nutrition programs may continue.
 - Chinook's Edge will continue to **clean and disinfect** high touch surfaces each day, and provide hand sanitizer in multiple areas throughout each school. Buses will continue to be sanitized after each route. Carpets may be used in classrooms; however, cloth furniture is not permitted due to difficulty in sanitizing.
 - AHS will be holding voluntary **COVID-19 vaccination clinics** in certain schools for students and staff. Details on this AHS vaccination program will be sent to parents - vaccinations will only happen with a student who has written parent consent. Chinook's Edge is strongly recommending that our staff get vaccinated.