

April 2, 2021

This email contains important information. Please have it translated.

<u>ਇਸ ਈਮੇਲ ਵਿੱਚ ਮਹੱਤਵਪੂਰਣ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਹੈ।</u> ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਇਸਦਾ ਅਨਵਾਦ ਕਰੋ।

يحتوي هذا المستند على معلومات مهمة حول مدرسة طفلك. يرجى ترجمته

매우 중요한 공지문이니, 반드시 번역하여 내용을 숙지하십시오.

Hãy dịch nó sang tiếng Việt. Đây là một thông báo quan trọng.

Este documento contiene información importante sobre la escuela de su hijo/hija. Háganlo traducir por favor.

Dear Abbotsford School District Families,

Re: Updated Mask Guidelines in K-12 Schools

On Monday, the Province announced that updated mask requirements for all K-12 schools would be implemented across British Columbia. Earlier this week, we received the updated health and safety guidelines from the Ministry of Health and began updating our procedures around the new measures specific to face coverings in Abbotsford Schools.

Effective Tuesday, April 6th, all K-12 staff and all students in Grades 4 to 12 will be required to wear nonmedical masks in all indoor areas, including when they are at their workstations (desks), and on school buses—both within and outside of their learning group.

Exceptions include:

- To a person who is unable to wear a mask because they are unable to tolerate it (for health or behavioural reasons);
- To 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 (e.g. actively playing a wind instrument, high-intensity physical activity, etc.);
- 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 (including but not limited to a hearing impairment), where visual cues, facial expressions and/or lip reading/movements are important.

Additionally, the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education are strongly recommending wearing a nonmedical mask, consistent with the above exceptions, for students in Kindergarten to Grade 3. This includes wearing a mask indoors in schools and on school buses – both within and outside of their learning group.

With cases of COVID-19 rising in BC, the coming months will no doubt continue to challenge us all as we look towards successfully completing the school year. We must each stay vigilant about protection measures and support each other to the best of our abilities. Please continue to complete a Daily Health Check each morning, wear a mask, continue to wash your hands frequently, maximize physical distance – even outside, stay home when sick, and follow province-wide restrictions and advisories. We remain appreciative of parents' support in reinforcing these actions with their children.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kevin Godden,

Superintendent of Schools