

Notice of a COVID-19 Outbreak at School

September 26, 2021

A COVID-19 outbreak has been declared at Loughborough Public School

Dear Families,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that KFL&A Public Health has **declared an outbreak of COVID-19 at Loughborough Public School**. As per provincial Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education guidance, an outbreak is declared in a school once it has been determined that two individuals have tested positive for COVID-19 with an epidemiological link (meaning these students/staff could have become infected with COVID-19 at school, either from each other or a common source), within a 14-day period. This could include transportation. Please note that if you are receiving this letter only, the positive COVID-19 cases were **NOT** identified in your student's classroom/cohort.

We recognize that receiving this information may be stressful and we want to ensure you understand the process going forward. KFL&A Public Health and the school are taking all necessary steps to prevent further spread of the virus both in the school and the community.

KFL&A Public Health is working with the school to identify cohorts of students and staff who are affected by the positive cases. Not all students will be affected by the outbreak.

What should you do?

- Continue to monitor for symptoms of COVID-19 and screen your student daily as most cases of COVID-19 are acquired in the home setting.
- It is **not** necessary to have your student tested at this time if they do **not** have symptoms of COVID-19. **Testing now may lead to unnecessary or repeat testing.**
- If anyone in your household has or develops symptoms of COVID-19, they must self-isolate and should book an appointment at an assessment centre for testing as soon as possible. It is required that all household members who are not fully immunized isolate until the person with symptoms receives a negative COVID-19 test result or an alternative diagnosis from a health care professional.
- If you receive an additional letter or are contacted by KFL&A Public Health, follow the guidance provided.
- **If you do not receive an additional letter or call from the school or KFL&A Public Health, your student can continue going to school, if they pass the daily screening.**

What will KFL&A Public Health do?

- Public Health Nurses will contact individuals who test positive for COVID-19 and will be in contact with the school. *
- KFL&A Public Health will identify and contact all individuals (including students and staff) who had close contact with the person who tested positive. *
- KFL&A Public Health will provide direction to close contacts and the school to protect students and staff and prevent the spread of COVID-19.

What will the school do?

- Provide KFL&A Public Health with contact information for identified individuals.
- Clean and disinfect all areas in the school where the exposure may have occurred.
- Work with KFL&A Public Health to develop a plan to protect all students and staff and prevent the spread of COVID-19.
- Reinforce public health measures with staff and students including masking, physical distancing, and symptom screening.
- Post outbreak signage at entrances and affected area(s).
- Inform outside agencies that use the school of the outbreak.
- Further restrict visitors to the school.
- Limit student activities to their required cohorts.

When can individuals who test positive for COVID-19 return to school?

- Individuals who test positive for COVID-19 may return to school following specific guidance provided by KFL&A Public Health.

For more information go to the KFL&A Public Health website at kflaph.ca, where you will find fact sheets, and information on COVID-19 symptoms and screening, self-monitoring, self-isolation, and testing. On the website you can also find the COVID-19 dashboard which provides up to date information on COVID-19 in KFL&A.

Sincerely, Noti

KFL&A Public Health

**Note: Personal health information may be provided to schools only for the purpose of contact tracing. Schools must protect the personal information of their students and staff. The name of the individual who tests positive for COVID-19 and their contacts will not be disclosed publicly.*