

# St. Patrick Secondary Communicable Disease Plan

## Updated January 2022

The school's safety plan is based on [Public Health Communicable Disease Guidance for K-12 Schools](#) with [the Addendum Published December 31, 2021](#) and [Provincial COVID-19 Communicable Disease Guidelines for K-12 Settings](#)

The purpose of this to inform St. Patrick Regional Secondary staff, students and parents of the Operations and Health & Safety Plan. The St. Patrick Administration worked with the Critical Response Committee to develop this safety plan.

The safety plan document is a living document and is based on the current guidelines of the provincial restart plan during this COVID 19 pandemic. As we get feedback and updates from WorkSafeBC, the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health, the CISVA and FISA, this document will also be updated and revised. Revisions will be published on our website, [www.stpats.bc.ca](http://www.stpats.bc.ca)

The key points of our plan are as follows:

1. Vaccines:
  - Vaccines are the most effective way to reduce the risk of COVID 19 in schools and communities
  - Vaccination is encouraged, but not mandatory; disclosing vaccination status is not required
2. Hand Hygiene:
  - Students and staff will be reminded to practice good hand hygiene. Hand sanitizing stations continue to be easily accessible throughout the school.
3. Limit the number of people at the workplace and ensure physical distance whenever possible:

### Visitors

- **School visitors, including parents, will be discouraged as much as possible, with educational visitors being prioritized.**
- **Visitor access during school hours prioritized to those entering to support activities that benefit student learning and well-being**
- **Visitors will be limited and are asked to make phone contact rather than coming in. Visitor's can sign up for appointments via the [Office Appointment link](#)**
- **Visitors will need to call before entering to be screened outside before entry.**
- **Visitor logs will be maintained**

## Daily health check

- No one should come to school if they are sick, or if they have been directed to self isolate by Public Health
- School will remind everyone of the importance of doing a [daily health check](#)

**Parents/Guardians are asked to sign and return the Declaration form attached to this email.**

## 4. Gatherings and events

- Gatherings and events should adhere to the relevant local, regional, provincial, and federal Public Health recommendations that apply to the community. **See Addendum below from Dec 31, 2021**

## 5. Using masks

St. Patrick will follow the provincial mandates as they are updated during the school year.

At the beginning of the school year, all staff, adult volunteers and visitors, and all students 12 years and older in “bricks and mortar” schools should wear a non-medical mask or face covering (a “mask”) at all times while indoors at school, subject to the following exceptions:

- If a person is unable to wear a mask because they don't tolerate it (for health or behavioural reasons\*);
- If a person is 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;

Those wearing masks must still seek to practice physical distancing. There must be no crowding or congregating of people, even if masks are worn. Masks should not be used in place of the other measures detailed in this document.

## **Addendum based on Updates December 29, 2021**

### **Administrative Measures**

*Entrance and Exits Strategies are in place to prevent crowding during class transition times*

- Students will be allowed in the building at 8am. Classrooms will be open 15 minutes before house and students should go right to class rather than congregate in hallways.
- See Appendix A and B for an updated time table and Lunch procedures.

*Space Arrangement In indoor spaces, people have enough room to carry out intended activities without involuntary physical contact.*

- Classrooms are being reconfigured to meet the needs of current guidelines. Where possible space has been increased and students will avoid seating arrangements that are face to face.
- Hallways and stairwells have dividing lines to keep students and staff from direct mingling.

*Staff Meetings, in-service and professional development activities, will occur virtually*

*Staff Room Gathering:*

- Staff should avoid gathering in the staff room
- The staffroom limit will be 7 un-masked staff members while eating

### **Gatherings & Events**

*School gatherings and events (e.g., assemblies, and masses) will be held virtually, whenever possible.*

*If gatherings and events must be in-person (e.g., inter-school sports game, theatre productions), the number of people in attendance is minimized as much as possible, does not exceed 50% operating capacity, and spectators are not present*

- All home games for athletics will be limited to the teams and officials - no spectators will be allowed including drivers.
- The Theatre Production has been postponed to April or May

*Extracurricular Activities Sports tournaments are paused during January*

- Athletics will follow the direction of the PHO and BC School Sport and not participate in any tournaments. Practices and individual play days/games between just two teams will continue when possible.

### **Hand Hygiene**

*Hand cleaning facilities are available and accessible throughout the school and are well maintained*

## **Environmental Measures**

*Learning Space Configuration Learning spaces are arranged to maximize the space available and to avoid people directly facing one another (where possible)*

## **Personal Measures**

See points 1-3 above.

## **Personal Protective Measures**

- Everyone at school (without exemptions), wear masks in accordance with the [PHO Order on Face Coverings](#)
- See guidance in point 5 above regarding mask wearing.
- Masks will be provided for those who have forgotten or need a fresh mask.

## **Supportive School Environments**

### **Personal Prevention Practices**

- *Strategies are in place to routinely support students to practice personal prevention measures like wearing a mask and hand hygiene (e.g., signage, including in morning announcements, etc.).*
- *Personal Space Strategies are in place to encourage staff and students to consider and respect others personal space. Personal space is the distance from which a person feels comfortable being next to another person.*
- *Positive and inclusive approaches aligned with existing school/sector practices to address behaviour/personal practices will be used*

## APPENDIX A - ADAPTED DAILY TIMETABLE JANUARY 2022

### Monday/Tuesday/Thursday (70 minute classes)

	Grades 10-12	Grades 8/9	
8:30-8:55	House/C block	House/C block	8:30-8:55
9:00-10:10	C	C	9:00-10:10
10:15-11:25	D	Break	10:10-10:25
11:25-11:40	Break	D	10:30-11:40
11:45-12:55	A	A	11:45-12:55
12:55- 1:35	Lunch	Lunch	12:55-1:35
1:40-2:50	B	B	1:40-2:50

### Wednesday/Delayed Start Schedule (65 minute classes)

	Grades 10-12	Grades 8/9	
9:00-9:20	House/C block	House/C block	9:00-9:20
9:25-10:30	C	C	9:25--10:30
10:35-11:40	D	Break	10:30-10:45
11:40-11:50	Break	D	10:50-11:55
11:55-1:00	A	A	11:55-1:00
1:00-1:40	Lunch	Lunch	1:00-1:40
1:45-2:50	B	B	1:45-2:50

### Friday/Assembly Schedule (55 minute classes)

	Grades 10-12	Grades 8/9	
8:30-8:55	House/C block	House/C block	8:30-8:55
9:00-9:55	C	C	9:00-9:55
10:00-10:40	Mass/assembly	Mass/assembly	10:00-10:40
10:45-11:40	D	Break	10:40-10:55
11:40-11:55	Break	D	11:00-11:55
12:00-12:55	A	A	12:00-12:55
12:55- 1:35	Lunch	Lunch	12:55-1:35
1:40-2:35	B	B	1:40-2:35

- All students will report to their C block class for House
- Students on TA will report to their TA supervisor
- Students with a Learning Support block will report to the SLC
- Students on Exploration will report to the cafeteria

## **APPENDIX B - LUNCH PROCEDURES JANUARY 2022**

### **Students**

- Students will eat their lunch in their A block Classroom
- Only grade 12 students on Exploration or TA block will be permitted to eat in the cafeteria as they do not have a classroom.
- Students will be permitted to purchase lunch from the cafeteria. They will be called down by grade and then must return to their classrooms.
- The only exception to eating in the classroom will be students who choose to eat outside, weather permitting.
- Grade 11 and 12 students will be permitted to leave campus for lunch.

**Lunch time extra curricular activities such as clubs will only take place virtually**

### **Staff**

Staff should refrain from gathering for lunch. The following are places for staff to eat their lunch with a maximum occupancy:

- In their classrooms
- Staffroom - 7 people
- 206 - 4 people
- Yoga room - 3 people
- PHE office - 3 people
- Cafeteria - no staff limit

## APPENDIX C - CONTINUITY OF LEARNING JANUARY 2022

### NON-CLOSURE EVENTS

In the event that a teacher is absent but is able to work from home, the teacher may choose to run a class remotely to the students who are present at school. A Teacher Teaching On Call (TTOC) or other staff member will be assigned to the room to supervise in person and ensure student safety..

Teachers are not permitted to live stream classes from the school. Absent students who are not able to attend in-person classes remotely must communicate with their teacher or check online platforms for missed work.

### SCHOOL CLOSURE

#### DEFINITIONS

- **Health closure** of a school is determined by the local health authority due to the COVID19 case count in, or related to, a school.
- **Functional closure** of a school is determined by the school or school district due to a lack of staff to provide the required level of teaching, supervision, support, and/or custodial to ensure the health and safety of students. This would likely be due to a high absenteeism of all staff or certain employees required for a school to function and the inability to replace those absences.

#### GENERAL GUIDELINES

##### **Health Closure**

The school is prepared to go to a Remote Learning Model for a class, grade or the school if Vancouver Coastal Health deems this necessary. *See guidelines for remote learning below.*

##### **Functional Closure**

Administration, in consultation with CISVA, will determine when the school is not able to safely operate and maintain in person classes. This decision will be a result of staff absenteeism due to illness or self isolation and the lack of availability of TTOCs and other teaching staff. The school will determine levels of closure that could include: one single, multiple grade levels, the entire school.

Administration has identified that the school can still operate with 10 or less teacher absences in one day. Any more than 10 teachers away will require an immediate closure and move to remote learning which our staff and students have practiced. The choice to teach synchronously or asynchronously will be left to the teachers' discretion.

If a long term functional closure is necessary the following procedure will be followed:

**Remote learning will take place.** Staff and students will follow the adapted timetable as outlined above. The choice to teach synchronously or asynchronously will be left to the teachers' discretion.

**Attendance during Remote Learning** - All learners will be required to be present during House Block and for all classes. Teachers will be required to take attendance note that learners are present on-line (PO). This measure will also provide the school with daily check-ins on student well-being.

## **COMMUNICATION PLAN FOR SCHOOL CLOSURE**

### **School to family communication:**

Scenario 1: Administration determines the day-of that there are not enough teachers to safely operate and maintain in person classes.

In this case the administration will communicate the closure in the same way as a snow day. Emails will be sent to all families, notices will go out on social media and announcements posted on the school website. These communications would be sent out by 7am at the latest.

Scenario 2: A longer term functional closure is determined necessary.

In this case the administration will have the time to consult with the Health Authority and CISVA to create a plan. These communications will be sent out the day before the long term closures.

### **Student teacher communication:**

In the event of any remote learning, students should regularly check their school email and refer to their teachers online educational platforms, ie. Google Classroom, Schoology, etc.