



September 15, 2021

Chinook Families and Staff,

You may be aware that a new Public Health Order regarding Mandatory Isolation provides exemptions from self-isolation for students who are close contacts to a case in their school, to reduce work absences for parents or caregivers and to ensure children can continue in-person learning. The order also allows fully vaccinated persons to be exempted from the requirement to self-isolate, as long as they have no symptoms.

**For positive cases, mandatory isolation remains in place for close contacts:**

- Close contacts are required to self-isolate for 14 days if not fully vaccinated;
- Monitor for symptoms for the isolation period;
- Get tested if not fully vaccinated or if symptoms develop.

**However, the new [Public Health Order](#) provides the following exemption for close contacts in schools:**

- Students who are close contacts **that do not have any symptoms and have not been fully vaccinated** may leave isolation **only for the purpose of attending in-class learning.**
- Students who are close contacts **must wear masks** (now required for these students in all indoor spaces) while attending school and classes, including at recess, for the isolation period. Public Health also requires schools to ensure the students are cohorted during that time period.
- **Unvaccinated students must isolate from extracurricular activities (school or non-school) and outings in the community** during the self-isolation period and must also follow the provincial self-isolation directions outside of school hours.
- All students will continue to be allowed to use Chinook transportation to and from school, as masks are required on buses.
- The fully vaccinated students may continue to participate in extracurricular activities with proof of vaccination. Providing vaccination records is voluntary and will be kept strictly confidential.
- If any student exhibits symptoms, they must stay at home, self-isolate and can return to school if symptoms are resolved for 48 hours (unless they test positive).

~~*If an unvaccinated student has been identified as a close contact from an exposure outside of the school (family, friends or extracurricular activity, etc.) they must remain in isolation and are not allowed to attend school until their isolation period is complete. Please report these absences to the school.\*Requirement removed by Government of Saskatchewan Sept 16, 2021.*~~

Protecting the health and safety of all students and staff remains our priority. During this time, all Chinook staff are focused on providing welcoming, effective and safe learning environments, while supporting the mental health and well-being of all students. Thank you for your patience and cooperation as we work through the ever-changing conditions around this pandemic.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Benesh".

Mark Benesh  
Director of Education