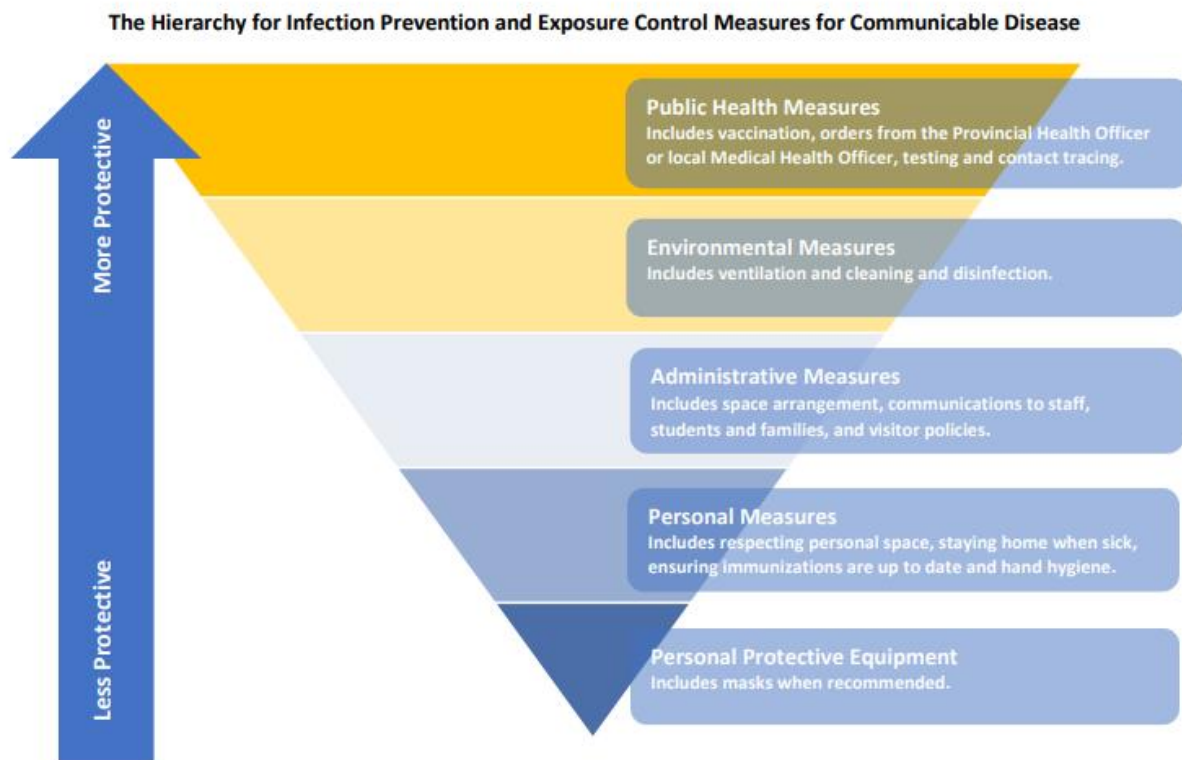




Maranatha Christian School – Communicable Disease Management Plan (Updated October 2, 2024)

Section 1: Infection Prevention and Exposure Control Measures (Prevention Measures)

As per the BC Centre for Disease Control guidelines, the hierarchy for the Infection Prevention and Exposure Control Measures for Communicable Disease is as follows:



Maranatha adheres to reducing the risk of Communicable Disease transmission in our school setting by following public health recommendations and mandates as well as local and regional health recommendations and mandates.

Section 2: Public Health Measures

VACCINES

Currently vaccines are recognized as the most effective way to reduce the risk of COVID-19 in schools. At this point vaccines are **recommended** for staff and students (aged 12 and up) in the school setting.



Maranatha Christian School – Communicable Disease Management Plan (Updated October 2, 2024)

PUBLIC HEALTH CASE MANAGEMENT

Maranatha will continue to maintain daily attendance records for staff, students, and visitors (including itinerant staff, teachers on call, parent/caregivers, and volunteers), and keep accurate class and bus lists to assist with contact tracing if necessary. This includes attendance records for all school supported activities, including extra-curricular activities and field trips. Daily attendance records will be kept for 45 days as per public health's guidelines.

SCHOOL EXPOSURES AND NOTIFICATIONS

If an exposure occurs at the school, public health will work with the school to identify who may have been exposed and determine what actions should be taken, including identifying if other students or staff have been exposed. Public health will consider vaccination status when investigating school exposures. You are more likely to be asked to self-isolate if you are NOT fully vaccinated. To ensure privacy, public health will only disclose a case of COVID-19 related to the school if the person attended the school when they were infectious. School administrators and staff will not provide notifications of school exposures unless directed to do so by the school medical officer.

Section 3: Environmental Measures

VENTILATION AND AIR EXCHANGE

Maranatha will continue to ensure that all mechanical heating, ventilation, and air conditions (HVAC) systems are maintained as per standards and specifications set out by Public Health.

CLEANING AND DISINFECTION

General cleaning will occur once a day, including frequently touched surfaces and infrequently touched surfaces. If a student/staff member becomes sick while at school, the general area in which they have been present, will be cleaned and disinfected at the time of the occurrence.

Section 4: Administrative Measures

GATHERINGS AND EVENTS

School extracurricular activities and social events will adhere to local/regional and provincial health guidelines. Local/regional guidelines supersede provincial guidelines, thus currently, any school activities will be limited to 50 people indoors with masks on and 100 people outdoors.



Maranatha Christian School – Communicable Disease Management Plan (Updated October 2, 2024)

SPACE ARRANGEMENTS

Classroom desks will be arranged to maximize social distance in the classroom. Cohorts are no longer recommended. Maranatha will continue to use floor markings and posters to direct traffic flow. For school assemblies, and multiple class gatherings, students and staff will be spread out in the available space. Room capacity limits will be respected.

VISITORS

Visitors are currently not allowed to enter the building unless for educational purposes. Visitor's must follow Maranatha's Communicable Disease Plan, including a daily health check and not entering the school if they are sick. Maranatha will keep a list of the date, names, and contact information of all visitors who enter the school for 45 days following their visit.

CURRICULUM, PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

Students are not required to wear a mask when participating in physical education activities. Students in grades K-9 are required to wear a mask to and from the gym. Staff are required to always wear their masks (unless behind a barrier). Furthermore, all staff and students grade K-9 must wear a mask when singing. They are only allowed to remove their masks in music programs if they are playing a wind instrument (i.e., recorder).

TRANSPORTATION

Schools are allowed to return to regular seating and onloading/offloading practices on buses. All students grade K-9 must wear a mask on the bus. The bus will also be cleaned and disinfected once a day.

FOOD SERVICES

Food services are allowed to return to regular operational and food safety practices.

WATER STATIONS

The water fountains will be available to students again. They will be cleaned and disinfected once a day.



Maranatha Christian School – Communicable Disease Management Plan (Updated October 2, 2024)

Section 4: Personal Measures

DAILY HEALTH CHECK

By sending your child to school, or entering the premises, you are acknowledging that you have performed a daily health check at home and do not display any symptoms of COVID-19.

Parents/caregivers and students can utilize the provincial Health Check app (<http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19>) for daily assessment of symptoms. (This is also downloadable on iPhone or Android).

Students and staff are asked to stay home when new symptoms of illness develop. The key symptoms to watch for are fevers, chills, cough, shortness of breath, loss of sense of smell or taste, nausea, vomiting and diarrhea.

- If the staff or student (or their parent) indicates that the symptoms are consistent with a previously diagnosed health condition are not unusual for that individual, they may return to school. No assessment or note is required from a health care provider.
- For mild symptoms without fever, students and staff can monitor at home for 24 hours. If symptoms improve, they can return to school without further assessment.
- **If symptoms include fever, or if after 24 hours, symptoms remain unchanged or worsen, seek a health assessment. A health assessment can include calling 8-1-1, a primary care provider like a physician or nurse practitioner or going to a COVID-19 testing center.**

IF SYMPTOMS DEVELOP AT SCHOOL...

If symptoms develop at school, the individual will be moved to a separate, isolated location and given a mask. Note: Young children will not be left alone. Staff will wear a mask, maintain their distance, and remain with them. The parent/caregiver will be contacted to pick them up as soon as possible. Staff who are ill will be sent home. Once the individual has been picked up, the areas that they were in will be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected.

RETURNING TO SCHOOL AFTER ILLNESS

In general, a person can return to school when their symptoms have improved and they feel well enough to participate in all activities in school. If a person had COVID-19 or another communicable disease, they can return according to the guidance provided to them from public health. If you are unsure if you are well enough to attend school, you should call 8-1-1 or your health care provider. Medical notes are not required. Student and staff may attend school if a



Maranatha Christian School – Communicable Disease Management Plan (Updated October 2, 2024)

member of their household develops symptoms of illness, provided that students/staff have no symptoms themselves.

HAND HYGIENE

Handwashing with plain soap and water reduces the spread of illness. Student and staff should practice handwashing in line with BC Centre for Disease Control guidelines.

When Students Should Perform Hand Hygiene:	When Staff Should Perform Hand Hygiene:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When they arrive at school. • Before and after any breaks (e.g., recess, lunch). • Before and after eating and drinking (excluding drinks kept at a student’s desk or locker). • Before and after using an indoor learning space used by multiple classes (e.g. the gym, music room, science lab, etc.). • After using the toilet. • After sneezing or coughing into hands. • Whenever hands are visibly dirty. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When they arrive at school. • Before and after any breaks (e.g. recess, lunch). • Before and after eating and drinking. • Before and after handling food or assisting students with eating. • Before and after giving medication to a student or self. • After using the toilet. • After contact with body fluids (i.e., runny noses, spit, vomit, blood). • After cleaning tasks. • After removing gloves. • After handling garbage. • Whenever hands are visibly dirty.

RESPIRATORY ETIQUETTE

Maranatha will encourage students to use respiratory etiquette. Students/staff should cough or sneeze into their elbow or a tissue. They should refrain from touching their eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands; and they should refrain from sharing foods, drinks, and unwashed utensils.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

Students in grade K-9 and staff are required to wear non-medical masks in the classroom, at their desks, and in the hallways 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 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.



Maranatha Christian School – Communicable Disease Management Plan (Updated October 2, 2024)

- 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 (e.g., a divider, a cubicle, or in a room by themselves).
- While providing a service to a person with a disability or diverse ability where visual cues, facial expressions and/or lip reading/movements are important.