



# Updated Communicable Disease Guidelines for K-12 school settings

The Ministry of Education has issued a new update to the [Provincial COVID-19 Communicable Disease Guidelines for K-12 Settings](#). The updates reflect current Provincial Health Officer orders and guidance from the B.C. Centre for Disease Control. This update is effective Saturday April 16 to allow time for planning before the Easter long weekend.

This update continues the transition to sustainable communicable disease management. The key changes include:

- **Health Awareness:** an updated approach to daily health checks, with a focus on students, staff and visitors staying home if they are sick. Before coming to school, everyone should be checking regularly they are not experiencing symptoms of illness (including but not limited to COVID-19 symptoms).

- **Space Arrangements:** schools can resume to use classroom and learning environment configurations and activities

that best meet learner needs and preferred educational approaches.

- **A focus on personal practices**, including hand hygiene, respiratory etiquette, respect for personal space, not sharing food, beverages or other items that come in contact with the mouth, support for those who choose to use a mask, and daily health awareness.

As of April 8, school gatherings and events can return to 100 per cent capacity.

Further, as of April 8, showing the BC Vaccine Card is no longer required. However, individual businesses and organizations can choose to continue to require the BC Vaccine Card on their premises. Schools should continue to contact venues as part of event or field trip planning to understand what requirements may be in place.

Updated information is available on the [COVID-19 safe schools web page](#).