



## Health, Seniors and Active Living

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To: Superintendents of School Divisions  
Principals of Funded Independent Schools

Dear Educators:

### **Re: Confirmed COVID-19 Cases in School**

Public health officials have been working closely with Manitoba Education to plan a safe return to school this fall. This planning will help to reduce the risk to teachers, staff and students and limit the spread of COVID-19 in schools when a positive case is identified.

Public health investigations of confirmed cases are initiated within 24 hours of notification of confirmatory laboratory results, seven days a week. If there is a confirmed case of COVID-19 linked to a school, the school administrator will be advised by Public health officials if the case was present in the school during their infectious period. The school will not be notified if there was no exposure in the school.

When there has been COVID-19 exposure in a school, Public health officials will lead the response. They will identify and contact individuals who may have been exposed and provide instructions for self-isolation (quarantine). Testing may also be recommended. Support will be provided to assist with communication to staff and the broader school community. This includes key messages to share as well as a plan for determining the impact on operations.

Please refer to *COVID-19 Response in K–12 Schools and Early Learning and Child Care Centres* at [https://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/covid/docs/covid\\_response\\_k-12\\_schools.pdf](https://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/covid/docs/covid_response_k-12_schools.pdf) for detailed information on the notification process and public health response should there be a confirmed case of COVID-19 in school. A high-level overview of the response communication is at [http://manitoba.ca/asset\\_library/en/covid/K12ResponseManagement.pdf](http://manitoba.ca/asset_library/en/covid/K12ResponseManagement.pdf).

Thank you for your continued efforts to reduce the risk and spread of COVID-19 in school settings.

Sincerely,

**Dr. Brent Roussin, MD, JD, MPH, FRCPC**  
Manitoba Chief Provincial Public Health Officer  
Manitoba Health, Seniors and Active Living