

## Communicable Disease Plan

Artemis Place will continue to meet the standards, guidelines and protocols set out by the Provincial Health Officer, the BC Centre for Disease Control and WorkSafe BC and will follow updated measures as required. Pandemic response guidelines can be found on the Ministry of Education's [Safe and Healthy Schools Page](#).

### Vaccines

- Public health strongly encourages all eligible students and staff to be fully vaccinated (i.e., receive 2 doses) against COVID-19 to protect themselves and those around them.
- For more information go to [www.getvaccinated.gov.bc](http://www.getvaccinated.gov.bc).

### Daily Screening

- Parents, Guardians and/or caregivers are responsible to assess their children daily before coming to school. Utilize the [provincial K-12 Health Check app](#)
- Staff, students and guests are also responsible to self-assess daily.
- Staying home when sick is one of the most important ways to reduce transmissions.

### Personal Hygiene

- Rigorous hand washing or hand sanitizing upon entering/re-entering the building and upon departure, and before and after handling shared objects.
- Engage in regular handwashing throughout the day and especially after eating, toileting, sneezing/coughing for at least 20 seconds with soap and water
- Staff/students wear masks when inside all areas of the building; except when eating or drinking and refrain from touching their eyes, nose or mouth to avoid transmission.
- If masks aren't tolerated for health or behavioral reasons a parent or guardian must write a letter to the school requesting this exemption. Doctor notes are not required.
- Refrain from sharing food/drinks, utensils, cigarettes, vapes, personal items, etc.
- Store personal items in a locker.
- Practice respiratory etiquette, coughing/sneezing into elbow and utilize tissues, throwing tissues away immediately.

### Safe Social Interactions

- Staff and students are encouraged to respect others' personal space, to avoid crowding and to utilize spaces to spread out to help in reducing transmission.
- All guests inside the building, including parents/guardians, must wear masks and respect others' personal space.

### Transmission Prevention

- Guests are to be kept to a minimum in the school and are required to do a self-assessment prior to entry, complete contact tracing upon arrival. Visitor access should be limited to those areas required for the purpose of the visit (e.g. school office for drop-off/pick-up of items)
- If any student or staff has symptoms, they **are not permitted** in the building, or arrangements will be made for that person to return home. If unsure, self-isolate and use the [BC COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool](#) or call 811.
- Staff and students required to self-isolate because of symptoms or a positive Covid-19 test must stay home and follow the directions of public health.
- If a student develops symptoms while at school the student will be separated from others in a supervised or visible area and parent/guardian will be contacted.
- Surfaces and equipment utilized by this student should not be used by others until they have been cleaned and disinfected.

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### Environmental Modifications

- Artemis Place is cleaned and disinfected according to Public Health regulations at least once per day and visibly dirty surfaces are cleaned and disinfected as needed.
- Any bodily fluids that require cleaning shall be cleaned while wearing disposable gloves and washing hands before and after using gloves.
- Tracking of all visitors in the building shall continue, to ensure accurate contact tracing.
- Garbage containers are to be emptied daily into the large bin.
- Laundry baskets are lined with a plastic liner and laundry shall be washed in hot water.
- Regular maintenance shall be scheduled with the school's heating and ventilation system and meet the standards and specifications detailed by [Worksafe BC](#).

### Physical and Health Education Programming

- Participants should be spread out as much as possible within the available space, and outdoor activities are encouraged.
- Masks are required indoors when a barrier is not present.
- Students are not required to wear a mask during high intensity physical activities.
- Shared equipment can be used if it has been disinfected as per the guidelines and students should wash hands before and after touching using shared equipment.

### Transportation

- BC Transit requires everyone riding the public bus to wear a mask.
- Masks must be worn by all passengers in and before loading into the Artemis Place van. The driver is exempt from wearing a mask while driving. The driver and riders are expected to use hand sanitizer prior to boarding the van. Loading and unloading the van shall be from back to front and then from front to back, respectively.
- Riders should spread out if there is space available and open the windows as needed.
- High touch surfaces in the vehicle are to be disinfected after each trip and this is the responsibility of the driver or designate.
- If staff are driving students in personal vehicles, it is required that masks are worn in the vehicle. Students are required to use hand sanitizer prior to entering a staff vehicle.

### Food Services

- Food services and meal programs can continue to be provided as regularly offered.
- Sanitizers and disinfectants used on food contact surfaces shall be approved for use in a food service application and are appropriate for use against COVID-19 and regular cleaning & disinfecting practices for food services will continue.
- Donated food can continue to be accepted in line with regular food safety precautions for accepting food donations.
- Continue to emphasize that food and beverages should not be shared.
- Students should wear masks and practice hand hygiene before accessing food. Signs are posted to remind students to practice hand hygiene prior to touching shared items.

### Communication

- Staff shall follow the Artemis Place Covid-19 Communication Plan.
- Administration, in consultation with Public Health determines how and when information should be shared about potential and confirmed cases of Covid19 within the school population.
- Schools are not to provide notification to staff or students' families if a staff member or student becomes ill at home or at school, including if they display symptoms of Covid-19, unless directed to by Public Health.