

Notice of a Positive COVID-19 Case in School

March 13, 2021

A Positive Case of COVID-19, suspected to be a Variant of Concern (VOC), has been identified in your school

Dear Families,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that KFL&A Public Health has been notified that **a student at Winston Churchill Public School has tested positive for COVID-19**. This case is being investigated as a Variant of Concern (VOC), meaning that this strain of virus could spread more easily. Please note that if you are receiving this letter only, the positive COVID-19 case was **NOT** identified in your student's cohort.

We recognize that receiving this information may be stressful and we want to ensure you understand the process going forward. KFL&A Public Health and the school are taking all necessary steps to prevent further spread of the virus both in the school and the community.

KFL&A Public Health is working with the school to identify cohorts of students and staff who may have been in close contact with the COVID-19 positive person at school or during school transportation, if applicable. Not all students will be affected by the positive case.

A previously dismissed class cohort identified as contacts of a contact of a positive COVID-19 VOC has been cleared to return to school as we have determined there is no further risk to that cohort. Those students may return to school next week provided they pass daily COVID-19 screening.

What should you do?

- Continue to monitor for symptoms of COVID-19 and screen your student daily as most cases of COVID-19 are acquired in the home setting.
- It is **not** necessary to have your student tested at this time if they do **not** have symptoms of COVID-19. **Testing now may lead to unnecessary or repeat testing.**
- If anyone in your household has or develops symptoms of COVID-19, they must self-isolate and should book an appointment at an assessment centre for testing as soon as possible. It is required that all household members isolate until the person with symptoms receives a negative COVID-19 test result or an alternative diagnosis from a health care professional.
- If you receive an additional letter or are contacted by KFL&A Public Health, follow the guidance provided.
- **If you do not receive an additional letter or call from the school or KFL&A Public Health, your student can continue going to school, if they pass the daily screening.**

What will KFL&A Public Health do?

- Public Health Nurses will contact individuals who test positive for COVID-19 and will be in contact with the school.*

- KFL&A Public Health will identify and contact all individuals (including students and staff) who had close contact with the person who tested positive. *
- KFL&A Public Health will provide direction to close contacts and the school to protect students and staff and prevent the spread of COVID-19.

What will the school do?

- The school will provide KFL&A Public Health with contact information for identified individuals.
- The school will clean and disinfect all areas in the school where the exposure may have occurred.
- The school will work with KFL&A Public Health to develop a plan to protect all students and staff and prevent the spread of COVID-19.

When can individuals who test positive for COVID-19 return to school?

- Individuals who test positive for COVID-19 may return to school following specific guidance provided by KFL&A Public Health.

For more information go to the KFL&A Public Health website at kflaph.ca, where you will find fact sheets and information on COVID-19 symptoms and screening, self-monitoring, self-isolation, and testing. On the website you can also find the COVID-19 dashboard which provides up to date information on COVID-19 in KFL&A.

Sincerely,

KFL&A Public Health

How to get tested for COVID-19 in KFL&A:

- Visit kflaph.ca/Assessment for information on locations, hours of operation, and how to book online, or
- Call 613-548-2376 for the Kingston Assessment Centre (Beechgrove Complex-51 Heakes Lane), or
- Call 613-354-8254 for the Napanee Assessment Centre (LACGH Westdale Campus-12 Richmond Park Dr).

**Note: Personal health information may be provided to schools only for the purpose of contact tracing. Schools must protect the personal information of their students and staff. The name of the individual who tests positive for COVID-19 and their contacts will not be disclosed publicly.*