

Positive COVID-19 Case in School

December 10, 2020

Dear Families,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that KFL&A Public Health has been notified that **a staff member at Harrowsmith Public School has tested positive for COVID-19**. Please note that if you are receiving this letter, the positive COVID-19 case was **NOT** identified in your student's classroom/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 students and staff who may have been in close contact with the COVID-19 positive person at school. Not all students will be affected by the positive case. At this time, the school will remain open.

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 individuals the student or staff member was in contact with while at school, including before and after school care and on the bus, if applicable.
- The school will clean and disinfect all areas in the school where the individual may have been.
- 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.

What should you do?

- Continue to monitor and [screen](#) your student daily for symptoms of COVID-19 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 your student shows symptoms of COVID-19, immediately isolate them from others and go to an assessment centre for testing.
- If you 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.

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.
- Student/staff do not need to be retested or present a medical note to return to school.

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.

**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.*

Sincerely,

KFL&A Public Health