

Victoria Japanese Heritage Language School

Communicable Disease Prevention Plan



Updated August 2023

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Victoria Japanese Heritage Language School Communicable Disease Prevention Plan

Purpose: The intent of the Communicable Disease Prevention Plan is to inform the Victoria Japanese Heritage Language School (VJHLS) members regarding the Operations and Health & Safety processes to prevent transmission of communicable disease. This plan is meant to cover all regular communicable diseases including but not limited to COVID-19, norovirus, and seasonal influenza.

VJHLS will monitor and review communicable disease related information as per all relevant local, regional, provincial and federal public health recommendations and orders, as well as WorkSafeBC directions. Additional measures may be implemented if risk levels and guidance, orders, notices and recommendations are revised.

Please note that “school members” refers to all VJHLS students, staff, volunteers and visitors including those involved in drop-off/pick-up in this CDP Plan.

Resources:

The BC Centre for Disease Control
Public Health Communicable Disease Guidance for K-12 Schools
Public Health Guidance for Child Care Settings

Provincial COVID-19 Communicable Disease Guidance for K-12 Settings

WorkSafe BC: Communicable disease prevention

Communicable Disease Preventative Measures

1. STAY HOME WHEN SICK

Practice health awareness by checking regularly for symptoms of illness.

- All school members should stay at home when sick.
- Parents/caregivers are responsible for assessing their children for symptoms of a communicable disease prior to attending Camosun Campus.
- The [COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool](#) can be used to determine if you need testing.

2. VACCINES

- Maintain appropriate immunizations based upon public health guidance.

3. HAND HYGIENE

Rigorous hand washing with plain soap and water reduces the spread of illness. Everyone should practice diligent hand hygiene.

- Wash or disinfect your hands upon arrival at school, and after using the washroom.
- School members are encouraged to carry their own sanitizer to ensure they are prepared.

4. RESPIRATORY AND PERSONAL HYGIENE

- Cough or sneeze into your elbow or a tissue. Throw away used tissues and immediately perform hand hygiene.
- Refrain from touching your eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands.

5. RESPECT PERSONAL SPACE

- Personal space is the distance from others which a person feels comfortable with. School members should respect each others' personal space at school.

6. CLEANING AND DISINFECTING

Regular cleaning and disinfection can help prevent the spread of infectious agents.

- General cleaning and disinfecting of the premises is done by Camosun College.

7. NON-MEDICAL MASKS

Wearing a face mask in public indoor spaces including classrooms is based on personal choice, and in consideration of others. VJHLS will continue to have masks available for those who have forgotten theirs but would like to wear one, or who become ill at school.

8. GATHERINGS AND OTHER EVENTS

Any activities organized by VJHLS will adhere to this CDP Plan and follow all relevant local, regional, provincial and federal public health recommendations and orders. VJHLS will adopt best practices for communicable disease prevention specific to each activity.

Gatherings and other events should be organized with the following considerations:

- Respecting student and staff comfort levels regarding personal space.
- Using space available to spread people out as much as possible, respecting room occupancy limits, and ensuring enough space is available to prevent involuntarily physical contact between attendees (e.g. overcrowding).

9. WHAT TO DO IF A SCHOOL MEMBER DEVELOPS SYMPTOMS AT SCHOOL

- VJHLS will have masks available for those who are sick and the people assisting them.
- VJHLS will provide a space where they can wait comfortably and that is separated from others.
- Younger children will be supervised when separated.
- Make arrangements for the school member to go home as soon as possible. (e.g. contact student's parent/caregiver for pick-up).
- Clean and disinfect the areas the school member used.