



Deputy Minister's office (E-1)
PO Box 2703, Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2C6

November 19, 2020

Dear Parents/guardians,

RE: Reminder in the event of a COVID-19 case connected to a school

With recent surges in COVID-19 cases in most areas of Canada, I wanted to remind you about the steps we take if there is a COVID-19 case connected to a student, staff or visitor to a school.

The health and safety of students, staff and our communities remains our first priority. Schools continue to follow their operational plans to meet the health and safety guidelines for school settings set by Yukon's Chief Medical Officer of Health. This includes staying home when sick, regular handwashing, physical distancing and mask use when distancing is not possible and following the traffic light poster to self-monitor and stay home when needed.

If there is a positive case of COVID-19 in a community, Yukon Communicable Disease Control and the Chief Medical Officer of Health lead the response. They start contact tracing and identify and notify anyone who may have been in close contact with the positive case, including any parents/guardians of students, and teachers/staff/visitors in the school. They also work with the Chief and Council of the local First Nation and the Mayor in the community to ensure they are involved in the process.

If there is a connection to a student, staff or visitor to the school, we work closely with Yukon Communicable Disease Control and the Chief Medical Officer of Health to ensure necessary measures are in place to protect the health and safety of students, staff and the community. A case connected to a school does not mean the entire school will close or that all students and staff need to self-isolate. Yukon Communicable Disease Control provides direction on who may have to stay home and self-isolate and who is safe to continue going to school. If you are not contacted by Yukon Communicable Disease Control, it has been determined you or your child is not at risk.

Thank you for your ongoing efforts to practice the safe six and keep our communities safe.

More information:

- Read the attached FAQ and Roles and Responsibilities documents on what happens if there is a COVID-19 case connected to school
- Read about health and safety in schools: yukon.ca/en/health-and-wellness/covid-19-information/health-and-safety-schools-covid-19

- Review the traffic light poster to monitor for symptoms and staying home when sick:
yukon.ca/en/health-and-wellness/covid-19-information/industry-operating-guidelines-covid-19/can-your-child-go

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nicole Morgan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Nicole Morgan
Deputy Minister of Education