

January 17, 2021

Subject: COVID-19 *Outbreak declared* at École St-Denis

Dear Parent/Guardian/Staff:

This letter is to inform you that Public Health Sudbury & Districts has declared an outbreak of COVID-19 at our school. The individuals who tested positive for COVID-19 are currently self-isolating and being monitored by Public Health Sudbury & Districts while the investigation continues.

The declaration of an outbreak¹ is made by the Medical Officer of Health in accordance with provincial guidance.

Effective immediately, the declaration of an outbreak means that individuals in following cohorts are dismissed unless told otherwise by Public Health Sudbury & Districts:

- **METJB**
- **METJC**
- **2A**
- **2b**
- **3A**

As this is a rapidly evolving situation, please continue to check our school or board website for updated information. Public Health will continue to assess the outbreak and the risk to the school community and may advise additional measures. The situation will be monitored closely, and we will provide timely updates on the following (for example, number of affected individuals, cohorts, and school reopening timelines for outbreaks).

Public Health Sudbury & Districts is working closely with our school to manage the outbreak. We have provided Public Health with requested information including a list of all student and staff contacts and any other close contacts. Public Health will directly contact all parents of children and all school personnel who have been identified as close contacts. If you are not called by Public Health Sudbury & Districts, please continue to follow the general advice in this letter.

Sudbury

1300 rue Paris Street
Sudbury ON P3E 3A3
t: 705.522.9200
f: 705.522.5182

Elm Place

10 rue Elm Street
Unit / Unité 130
Sudbury ON P3C 5N3
t: 705.522.9200
f: 705.677.9611

Sudbury East / Sudbury-Est

1 rue King Street
Box / Boîte 58
St.-Charles ON POM 2W0
t: 705.222.9201
f: 705.867.0474

Espanola

800 rue Centre Street
Unit / Unité 100 C
Espanola ON P5E 1J3
t: 705.222.9202
f: 705.869.5583

Île Manitoulin Island

6163 Highway / Route 542
Box / Boîte 87
Mindemoya ON POP 1S0
t: 705.370.9200
f: 705.377.5580

Chapleau

101 rue Pine Street E
Box / Boîte 485
Chapleau ON POM 1K0
t: 705.860.9200
f: 705.864.0820

toll-free / sans frais

1.866.522.9200

phsd.ca

In general, if your child is dismissed from school as part of this situation your child must self-isolate immediately until and including January 29, 2021. Your child should also seek COVID-19 testing as soon as possible; if the test is negative, retesting should occur if symptoms develop.

In general, if your child is not dismissed from school as part of this outbreak, the following applies:

- Simply passing by an infected person in the hallway is not considered close contact, and the risk of spreading the virus this way is extremely low.
- Continue to use the COVID-19 Screening Tool for Children in School and Child Care (<https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>) to monitor your child for symptoms and follow the direction provided.

Remember to follow the critical ongoing COVID-19 prevention measures:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water or alcohol-based hand sanitizer
- Sneeze and cough into your sleeve
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth
- Stay home and isolate (<https://www.ontario.ca/page/covid-19-stop-spread>) if symptoms appear
- Practice two-metre physical distancing
- Wear a mask in indoor public spaces and outdoors, especially when physical distancing of two metres cannot be maintained

It is understandable that this situation may make caregivers anxious and some will choose to keep their child at home as a precaution. Please advise the school if you choose to do this so that we may make arrangements for continued learning when possible.

As noted, Public Health Sudbury & Districts will directly contact all parents of children and staff who have been identified as close contacts.

If you have any questions regarding COVID-19 or the measures taken to address COVID-19, please visit www.phsd.ca/COVID-19 or contact Public Health Sudbury & Districts at 705.522.9200 (toll-free 1-866-522-9200).

Thank you,

Stacey Gilbeau, RN, BScN

Director, School Health, Vaccine Preventable Diseases and COVID Prevention Division