

Notice of a Positive COVID-19 Case in School and Advisory to Monitor for Symptoms on the Extended Symptom List

November 24, 2021

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that KFL&A Public Health has been notified that a **student at James R. Henderson Public School has tested positive for COVID-19**. Please note that if you are receiving this letter **only**, this individual was **NOT** identified in your student's classroom/cohort. Those in the affected cohort(s) will be notified and given specific guidance.

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 be at risk of COVID-19 from this exposure. Not all students will be affected by this situation.

What should you do?

- **Only students who received the close contact cohort letter need to be tested at this time.** It is not necessary to have students in unaffected cohorts tested if they do not have symptoms of COVID-19.
- If you receive an additional letter or are contacted by KFL&A Public Health, follow the guidance provided.
- **Monitor for symptoms:**
 - Continue to monitor for symptoms of COVID-19 and screen all students daily as most cases of COVID-19 are acquired in the home setting. Go to covid19.ontario.ca/school-screening. **We are also asking you to use the extended symptom list included in this letter for monitoring symptoms.**
 - If **anyone** in your household including your student has or develops symptoms of COVID-19 listed on the extended symptom list below, 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 that are NOT fully vaccinated* isolate until the person with symptoms receives a negative COVID-19 test result or an alternative diagnosis from a health care professional.
 - If no one in your household has symptoms and no one has been advised to isolate, everyone can continue to go to work, school, or childcare, if they pass the daily screening and do not have any symptoms on the extended symptom list.

Extended symptom list for ALL household members

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| • Fever (37.8°C/100°F) and/or chills | • Sore throat |
| • Cough or barking cough | • Difficulty swallowing |
| • Shortness of breath | • Runny or stuffy nose |
| • Decrease or loss of taste or smell | • Abdominal pain |
| • Nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea | • Headache |
| • Fatigue | • Conjunctivitis (pink eye) |
| • Muscle aches and pain | • Decreased or lack of appetite |

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, testing, and vaccination. On the website you can also find the COVID-19 dashboard which provides up to date information on COVID-19 in KFL&A.

Thank you for your patience as we investigate cases to minimize risk to the school and community.

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 (located at Beechgrove Complex – 51 Heakes Lane), or
- Call 613-354-8254 for the Napanee Assessment Centre (located at LACGH Westdale Campus – 12 Richmond Park Dr).

**Fully vaccinated refers to individuals who have completed a full COVID-19 vaccine series more than 14 days ago.*

***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.*