



## Current Illness Policy and Coronavirus Response Plan

### Purpose:

To manage the potential impact of a pandemic/epidemic on students and teachers by:

- Containing a provincial pandemic involving human to human transmission by reducing the spread within the school facility and between staff.
- Maintaining essential services if containment is not possible and classes need to continue remotely.
- In the event of human to human transmission developing to enable the school to be prepared to respond quickly and appropriately to minimize effects on students, teachers and other staff members.

### Policy:

#### Students Becoming Sick at School

1. The school does not have the facilities to provide adequate medical care for students becoming sick while in school. Therefore, they are sent home. **If a student is sick, they are to be kept at *until they are well enough to participate in the full school program*. If, students are sent and parents ask that they be excused from the regular school program — this includes PE and/or recess —parents are to provide the school with a medical certificate (note from doctor) stating the medical reason and the doctor's recommendation.**

**If a child is that sick, then it probably would be wiser for them to stay at home under parental and/or care of a doctor.**

2. When the child's temperature is 38°C or above, parents will be contacted.
3. Parents must make arrangements to pick up the child within one hour of notification.
4. If the parent is unavailable, the next emergency contact will be asked to come and pick up the ill child.
5. If no parent or emergency contact is available, an ambulance may be called to transport the child to receive emergency care.
6. Children must remain fever free, without the use of fever reducer medication for 24 hours. If a child is sent home with a fever, they will not be allowed to return the following day, as the 24-hour time period remaining fever free would not have elapsed.

While waiting for a parent pick-up, the child will sit in the foyer just outside the office until the parent arrives to transport him or her home.

**If a child becomes ill at school and the teacher and/or administration feel that the child is too sick to benefit from school or is contagious to other children, the parents will be called to come and take him/her home from school.**

### **Coronavirus Response:**

RRVJA School Administration monitors student health. If a child and/or family's symptoms and/or travel history match that of the advisory provided by the Centers for Disease Control, then the administration will report the suspected case to Communicable Disease Control Manitoba (CDC). As directed by Communicable Disease Control Manitoba (CDC), this information would then be disseminated to the school community.

The RRVJA School Board authorizes the administration, under the direction of the Communicable Disease Control Manitoba (CDC) to complete the following:

1. Complete daily temperature checks prior to entrance into school
2. Required quarantine absence until cleared by appropriate medical authority with written documentation regarding appropriate date to return to school

Protocols and policies may change with updated information. RRVJA will continue to follow the recommendations given Manitoba Schools or those at the direction of Communicable Disease Control Manitoba (CDC).

### **Masks:**

RRVJA will not be providing masks to students or staff. Faculty, Staff and students are welcome to bring their own from home, but at this time they are not required or encouraged.

### **Increased Cleaning:**

1. Additional cleaning supplies have been ordered
2. Teachers clean high traffic areas (example: desktops) during classroom changes or following each dismissal to break.
3. All school door handles and tables are disinfected daily with appropriate medical grade sanitizing wipes by the Janitorial Staff.
4. Hand sanitizer is available in each classroom beside tissue boxes
5. School-bus hand-railings are disinfected daily with appropriate medical grade sanitizing wipes by the Bus Drivers.

### **Social Protocols:**

1. Messages regarding physical contact, cough and sneeze etiquette, hand washing, the use of sanitizers and disinfectant wipes are being widely shared and circulated.
2. Cancel all field trips
3. Cancel all school performances and or large gatherings
4. Students will be reminded to avoid physical contact with each other. (Examples: No hugging or high fiving)
5. Students will be reminded to not share food items
6. Student will be reminded to refrain from making mouth contact with drinking water fountain
7. School Building occupants including students will be advised to minimize prolonged (10-minute threshold) close contact (within two metres) with other individuals; keep group work to less than ten minutes
8. Messages regarding physical contact, cough and sneeze etiquette, hand washing, the use of sanitizers and disinfectant wipes are being widely shared and circulated.

### **Meetings:**

- Keeping in mind the need for social distancing, all planned meetings should be reviewed by the organizer to determine if it can be postponed for several weeks or more, or if it can be conducted by conference call. Necessary meetings will proceed.
- No food should be served at meetings.

### **Policy regarding individual or family quarantine:**

1. If a parent has been placed in quarantine, children are to remain home during the quarantine period as well.
2. The faculty will ensure that educational access will continue through email or other means.
3. Appropriate accommodations will be made to ensure that it does not negatively impact the students' academic assessment and grades.
4. All employees and students who show flu-like symptoms are asked not to report to work or school and take the advice provided by MB Health including quarantine in residence.
5. RRVJA Staff who are directed to quarantine in residence are asked to have their health care professional or Health Links send a letter of confirmation to the MB-SK Education Director for verification purposes only.
6. If and when students or staff return to school after a short absence or trip, and are asymptomatic, they will be welcomed back into the school setting. Only those people who are symptomatic would be referred to the two virus testing sites. For more information on self-isolation and self-monitoring, visit: [www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/factsheets/coronavirus\\_selfisolation.pdf](http://www.gov.mb.ca/health/publichealth/factsheets/coronavirus_selfisolation.pdf).

### **Communications:**

- We urge all staff and our school community to follow all health and safety protocols.
- Communication to parents/guardians will continue to be sent through the schools using email and or OneCallNow
- Information specific to RRVJA Staff will be shared via brief meetings and or email communication.

### **School-wide quarantine plan:**

In the event of a community or school wide quarantine, the following steps would be taken:

1. The first five days of quarantine - no academic work would be available.
2. During this period, Grades 7 to 11 teachers will be transferring their lesson plans to an online format that is appropriate for the development and subject area instructed.
3. Grades Jk-6 teachers will use the week of March 16<sup>th</sup> to plan and provide enough work assignments for students for the absence from school. Teachers may also communicate work assignments using utilize Google Classroom and or Office 365 and or Zoom.
4. Parents will have the option to utilize computer equipment in their home.
5. Teachers will utilize Google Classroom and or Office 365 and or Zoom to place links, materials, and lessons online.
6. Utilization of Google Hangouts and or Office 365 and or Zoom to allow students to virtually attend instruction sections with their teachers.
7. Should teachers become unable to continue instruction due to illness, appropriate substitutes would be hired.
8. Teachers will take care to provide Question and Answer periods, and lesson design should encourage independent learning.

The MB-SK Education Department, Manitoba Department of Education and or the Manitoba Education Health will provide direction regarding attendance requirements in the event of a quarantine.

Red River Valley Junior Academy will continue to work with our partners (MB-SK Conference Education, MB Education and Communicable Disease Control Manitoba (CDC) regarding appropriate measures to take to ensure the health and safety of students, faculty and staff.