

Superintendent Letter to Families
Greater Victoria School District No. 61

Communications & Community Engagement
community@sd61.bc.ca

Subject line: Preventive measures during influenza season

November 16, 2022

Dear families,

We hope that you are keeping well and the fall season has gone smoothly. As respiratory virus season is here, we would like to kindly remind everyone of healthy habits to help prevent the spread of illnesses in our schools.

As we know, schools are a reflection of the communities we serve—and often, when there is an increase in illness within our communities, schools risk having a similar experience. We all have an important role in keeping our learning environments safe and healthy spaces for all students and staff.

We ask that all families continue with daily health checks to assess if your child or children are feeling well enough to attend school. If they are not feeling well, please keep them at home.

The most effective measure to protect against influenza and COVID-19 is vaccinations. Families are encouraged to get their seasonal flu vaccine and COVID-19 booster shots.

In addition to vaccinations, other important preventive measures include:

- Washing your hands regularly
- Staying home if you're feeling sick
- Coughing and sneezing into your elbow; using a tissue and not your hands
- Avoiding close contact with people who are sick
- Avoiding sharing food, drinks or personal items
- Avoiding touching your eyes, nose or mouth throughout the day
- Wearing non-medical masks as an additional layer of protection

For daily health checklists and the School District's Communicable Disease Plan, visit: <https://www.sd61.bc.ca/covid-19/>.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Sincerely,

<insert signature>

Deb Whitten
Superintendent

<insert one learning banner>