

POLICIES & PROCEDURES

Policy: COVID-19
Policy #: 35
Date: September 12, 2022
Supersedes: October 28, 2020, February 17, 2021

OVERVIEW

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak, the goal of the Academy's President, Principal, Leadership and Teaching Team has been to establish a healthy and safe practice, to protect our families and staff. We have worked hard to prioritize the safety and well-being of all our families, teaching staff, corporate staff and students while planning for in-class instruction and personal connection between all involved.

In preparation for the 2022-2023 school year, FEIA has once again referenced the Ministry of Education, The Ontario Federation of Independent Schools, Health Canada, Ontario Ministry of Health, Niagara Public Health and continues to optimize our Policies and Procedures based on the ongoing guidance provided by these experts.

This policy/guide will provide our stakeholders with an overview of our plans to safely remain in-person in September and due diligence moving forward throughout the school year.

If you have any questions, please reach out to us through our Executive Administrative Assistant Trisha Sassi at: trisha.sassi@feia.ca and we will address them directly.

FACE MASKS/FACE COVERINGS

Provincial mask requirements have been lifted in most public settings in Ontario as of June 11, 2022,

FEIA is a mask-friendly community. It is not mandatory, but you are welcome to wear one if you feel more comfortable doing so.

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TESTING POSITIVE for COVID-19

If a student tests positive on arrival at FEIA:

- Federal guidelines state that if a fully vaccinated individual tests positive upon arriving in Canada, they must isolate for 10 days. If an individual is unvaccinated, they are required to isolate for 14 days.
- Unvaccinated individuals who enter Canada could face challenges leaving Canada. At present, you must be fully vaccinated to fly within and outside of Canada, including travel by train. After August 31, 2022, foreign nationals must be fully vaccinated to board a flight or train to depart Canada.

Fully vaccinated travellers who are **NOT** selected for randomized testing and develop symptoms of COVID-19 after entry or test positive for COVID-19 after entry will not be required to follow these federal guidelines. Instead, they will follow the provincial guidelines articulated below.

If a student tests positive during the school year:

Ontario has dropped its mandatory five-day isolation period for individuals who test positive for COVID-19. All individuals, regardless of vaccination status, should do the following:

- If you have symptoms of any respiratory illness, stay home until the symptoms have **improved for at least 24 hours**.
- If you have a fever, stay home until it's **completely gone**.
- If you have gastrointestinal symptoms, stay home until the symptoms have **improved for at least 48 hours**.
- After isolating at home, wear a mask in public for 10 days since the onset of symptoms.
- If sick, avoid non-essential visits to vulnerable or older people for a full 10 days starting the day after symptoms appear — including visits to high-risk settings such as long-term care homes and hospitals.
- If you're in the same household as someone who is sick or tested positive for COVID-19, mask in public spaces, even if you feel better, and avoid vulnerable individuals and settings for 10 days after exposure. Isolate immediately if you develop symptoms.

APPROVED COVID-19 VACCINES IN CANADA

Vaccines accepted by the Government of Canada for the purpose of travel to and within Canada:

- AstraZeneca/COVISHIELD (ChAdOx1-S, Vaxzevria, AZD1222)

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- Bharat Biotech (Covaxin, BBV152 A, B, C)
- Janssen/Johnson & Johnson
- Medicago Covifenz
- Moderna (Spikevax, mRNA-1273) including for children aged 6 to 11 years
- Novavax (NVX-COV2373, Nuvaxovid, Covovax)
- Pfizer-BioNTech (Comirnaty, tozinameran, BNT162b2) including for children aged 5 to 11 years
- Sinopharm BIBP (BBIBP-CorV)
- Sinovac (CoronaVac, PiCoVacc)

To qualify as a fully vaccinated traveller, you must have received, at least 14 calendar days by the day you travel:

- At least 2 doses of a vaccine accepted by the Government of Canada for the purpose of travel
- Or a mix of 2 accepted vaccines
- Or at least 1 dose of the Janssen/Johnson & Johnson vaccine

For more information, please visit the [Government of Canada website](#).

SANITATION AND CLEANING PROCEDURES/ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANING

Because of concern that infectious viral particles can land on surfaces with coughing, sneezing, talking, and laughing, FEIA has adopted extensive [cleaning and disinfection procedures](#) including:

- Signage posted throughout the school encouraging proper hand sanitization and how to practice covering coughs and sneezes.
- Continuous cleaning throughout the day, using state of the art disinfecting materials with special attention given to high-touch areas such as doorknobs, light switches, desks, chairs, technology devices, phones, toilets, faucets, and sinks.
- Making hand cleaning supplies readily available in all areas.
- Monitoring washrooms for adequate hand soap and disposable hand towels.
- Custodial staff routinely check/sanitize/record on-site throughout the day (three times – before entry, after lunch and at the end of the school day, and whenever necessary) for every classroom, all washrooms, office areas, gym, kitchen, and corporate office.

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Floors and hallways are done routinely prior to student entry and at the end of the school day or when necessary.

HEALTH SCREENING

DESIGNATED ISOLATION AREA

FEIA has a designated isolation area for students who are feeling ill.

The Wellness Room, which is equipped with its own bed, washroom, and quiet space is for FEIA students experiencing symptoms of illness.

Students with symptoms of infectious disease will not remain with their classmates. This will limit the chance of cross-contamination.

A staff member will provide supervision until the student returns to residence or is picked up by a parent, guardian, or designee. This staff member may wear protective gear – such as masks and gloves.

Unless there is a medical reason to prevent it, the ill student will continue to wear a mask until a parent, guardian or designee picks him/her up or they return to their room in residence.

The student will not be permitted to return to school until the student has been symptom free for 24 to 48 hours.

An important component of limiting the impact of COVID-19 in our school is parent's vigilance about their child's health. We want to affirm parent responsibility in monitoring their child's symptoms and overall health, as well as parental discretion in keeping their child at home whenever they are ill. FEIA continues to monitor student absences for trends or patterns.

QUARANTINE ISOLATION AREAS

FEIA has designated quarantine isolation areas for any resident student who is required to isolate.

Should one of our boarding students become ill and need to isolate, they will take up residence in an available room by themselves. They will be assigned a washroom that will only be used by them, and food will be delivered to the room.

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SCHOOL ATTENDANCE POLICIES FOR COVID-19

As in the past, but now more than ever, we require families to keep their children home when they are sick or not feeling well (i.e. fever, body aches, chills, sore throat, upset stomach, diarrhea etc.).

When a child is absent from school due to COVID-19 (or any other reasons) we are asking parents to:

- Email trisha.sassi@feia.ca on the day of the absence to inform the school of the student's symptoms.

Parents are asked to encourage their child, if possible, to use their class Brightspace to keep up with their course work.

FEIA will continue to enforce the above policies and procedures until such time as the federal Government releases us from, or changes, these requirements.



Principal's Signature