



## Lummi COVID-19 Guidance for 2021-2022 School Year

Schools are fundamental to child and adolescent development and well-being. They provide children with academic instruction, community and culture, support for developing social and emotional skills, safety, reliable nutrition, physical/speech and mental health therapy, and opportunities for physical activity.

This document provides recommendations to both prevent and respond to COVID-19 related events at Lummi Nation School. The goal is to assure the health and safety of students and staff and allow resumption of full-time in-person instruction for the 2021-2022 school year.

The following mandatory mitigation measures will be key:

- a. Compulsory COVID-19 vaccination for all eligible staff and students
- b. Face coverings
- c. Ventilation
- d. Cleaning and disinfecting
- e. Response plan for cases of COVID-19

In addition to the required mitigation measures above, physical distancing is recommended to the greatest extent possible. Physical distancing recommendations should not prevent the school from offering full-time, in-person learning to all students/families in the Fall.

School administrators and staff will work in partnership with Lummi Public Health. This plan will be updated according to the most recent guidance from Lummi Public Health, Washington Department of Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the Washington Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI).

### **1. Compulsory COVID-19 vaccination for all eligible staff and students**

- a. Vaccination is the most effective prevention strategy available for allowing schools to resume full in-person instruction. Vaccines are currently available to all over the age of 12.
- b. It is recommended the school make COVID-19 vaccination an employment requirement.
- c. It is recommended the COVID-19 vaccine be added to the list of required childhood vaccinations for K-12 school entry for those students that are eligible to receive the vaccine.

### **2. Face coverings**

- a. All school personnel, volunteers, visitors, and students must wear cloth face coverings, or an acceptable alternative (e.g., surgical mask), while on campus grounds or on LNS busses.
- b. Considering the new Delta variant, masks will be required at all times while on campus (exception for sports; see sports guidance below). If students need a break from their mask, provide well marked outdoor areas (i.e., a demarcated circle with 6 feet diameter) for students to take their mask off.

### **3. Recommended school roles:**

(Assigned duties should be modified to best fit current staffing at LNS)

- a. Screening/front desk staff
  - i. Ensure students and staff are using masks upon entrance



- ii. Communicate with COVID coordinator about students/staff who are ill or report COVID exposures.
- b. COVID coordinator(s)
  - i. Liaison to Lummi Public Health and point of contact for Lummi community regarding health and safety protocols at school
  - ii. Gather preliminary information for positive screens and suspected cases
  - iii. Maintain a Case and Close Contact List, and assist Public Health with internal LNS contact tracing
  - iv. Notify parent/guardian/emergency contact of sick student and ensure they are released to the appropriate person
  - v. Notify Infection Control Lead or maintenance team of areas needing cleaning/disinfecting
- c. School nurse(s)
  - i. Liaison to Lummi Public Health and point of contact for Lummi community regarding health and safety protocols at school
  - ii. Conduct preliminary assessment of symptomatic students
  - iii. Supervise isolation area for sick students
  - iv. Conduct COVID-19 testing as needed
- d. Infection control lead
  - i. Follows cleaning and disinfecting protocols provided by LIBC (informed by Public Health)
  - ii. Assures affected areas are not used until cleaning is complete (close off area, post signs)
  - iii. Assures isolation area is disinfected daily
  - iv. Assures cleaning staff are provided with proper PPE

#### 4. Screening Procedures:

- a. Families, students, and staff should be educated on self-screening at home prior to coming to school. If the answer is yes to any of the screening questions below, they should not come to school (*and should seek guidance from their health care provider, Public Health, the school COVID coordinator, or school nurse*).
- b. Screening questions should be posted as a reminder at the entrance.
- c. Everyone entering the building must be wearing a properly fitting mask.
- d. Temperature checks have not been proven to be useful screening methods and are not required.
- e. Screening questions:
  - Do you have any of these symptoms that are not caused by another condition?
  - 1. Fever (100.4F or higher)
  - 2. Chills
  - 3. Cough
  - 4. Shortness of breath
  - 5. Loss of taste or smell
  - 6. Headache, fatigue
  - 7. Muscle or body aches
  - 8. Sore throat
  - 9. Congestion or runny nose
  - 10. Nausea or vomiting
  - 11. Diarrhea



12. If you are not fully vaccinated, have you been in close contact with anyone with COVID19 in the past 14 days? Close contact is being within 6 feet for 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period with a person; or having direct contact with fluids from a person with COVID-19 with or without wearing a mask (i.e., being coughed or sneezed on).
13. Have you had a positive COVID-19 test for active virus in the past 10 days, or are you awaiting results of a COVID-19 test?
14. Within the past 14 days, has a public health or medical professional told you to self-monitor, self-isolate, or self-quarantine because of concerns about COVID-19 infection?

#### **5. Approach to students or staff with symptoms of COVID-19**

- *Please refer to Table 1 on page 5 when determining if a student/staff member should be tested.*
  - a. If a student or staff member has symptoms of COVID-19 while at school:
    - i. Separate the person from others
    - ii. Notify the COVID Coordinator
    - iii. The person should go to the isolation room where the nurse can provide COVID testing
    - iv. The family will be notified that the student must be picked up.
    - v. (?) There will not be school transportation available for staff or students who are ill.
  - b. Close contacts:
    - i. If a person at LNS is positive for COVID-19, the COVID coordinator will notify Lummi Public Health and assist in internal contact tracing. Public Health will arrange testing and quarantine of close contacts. A close contact is someone who has been within 6 feet of a person with confirmed COVID-19 for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period.
  - c. If a student or staff member calls out sick with symptoms of COVID-19:
    - i. Advise them to contact Public Health or their doctor for COVID testing, guidance on isolation, and returning to school.

#### **6. COVID-19 Testing**

- a. COVID testing will be available at the Lummi Tribal Health Center for staff and students experiencing symptoms of COVID-19.
- b. Rapid tests can also be conducted onsite by the school nurse or other designated staff.
- c. COVID testing may be done without a parent/guardian present if the student provides assent. For younger children who may be apprehensive, testing can be done when the parent/guardian arrives to pick up the student.
- d. Lummi Public Health will receive results and notify the guardian or staff member.

#### **7. Return to School**

- a. The guidance below is subject to change as guidelines from Lummi Public Health, WA DOH, and CDC are updated.
- b. After COVID-19 symptoms:
  - i. The amount of time someone should stay home if they have COVID-19 symptoms depends on:
    1. Which symptoms they have (class A or B)
    2. Results of the COVID-19 test
    3. If a health care provider diagnosed them with something other than COVID-19 that explains all symptoms
- c. After COVID-19 exposure/close contact and NO SYMPTOMS:



- i. NOT fully vaccinated
  - 1. Quarantine for 14 days after last contact
- ii. Fully vaccinated
  - 1. Do not need to quarantine if the exposure occurred outside of the household.
    - a. If a positive case resides in the same household and is unable to isolate away from other household members, quarantine will be indicated. Guidance will be provided by Lummi Public Health.
  - 2. Will be required to get a negative test 3-5 days after exposure.
  - 3. SHOULD watch for symptoms for 14 days after last contact
  - 4. If symptoms develop, isolate and follow Public Health guidance

## 8. Sports Guidance

- a. Screening Test Requirement for High-Contact Indoor Sports\*
  - i. To ensure safe participation in athletics, LNS must institute screening testing protocols for athletes, coaches, trainers, and other personnel who work with athletes who are not fully vaccinated participating in high-contact indoor sports.
  - ii. Screening tests should be conducted on a weekly basis.
  - iii. Lummi Public Health will work with LNS to determine the best approach- this testing can be self-administered onsite and dropped off to Lummi Public Health weekly?
- b. Outdoor sports
  - i. People are not required to wear face coverings while engaged in outdoor training or competition in any type of sport.
  - ii. Unvaccinated individuals should wear face coverings outdoors in crowded public settings, including sporting events, where there is decreased ability to consistently maintain physical distance between non-household members.
- c. Indoor sports
  - i. All individuals are required to wear masks, regardless of vaccination status, indoors in K-12 schools, childcare facilities, camps, or other youth settings in areas where children are present or expected to be present.
  - ii. All athletes, including unvaccinated people, are not required to wear face coverings while engaged in indoor training or competition *for low and moderate contact sports.* \*
    - 1. All youth athletes should resume wearing face coverings when not actively training or competing.
  - iii. Unvaccinated athletes are required to wear face coverings *indoors for high contact sports.* \*

\* *High-contact sports include Basketball, Boxing, Ice hockey, Martial arts, Wrestling, Football Rugby, Lacrosse (boys/men), Rowing/crew (with 2 or more people).*

## 9. Meals

- a. LNS can choose from either of the following CDC-recommended models:
  - i. [Meals in the Classroom](#)
  - ii. [Meals in the Cafeteria](#)

## 10. Transportation

- a. Create distance between children on school buses (for example, seat children one child per row, skip rows), when possible.
- b. Children in the same household can sit in the same seat to increase capacity.
- c. Masks are required for bus drivers and all students on bus.



- d. Open windows to improve ventilation when it does not create a safety hazard. More

*Adapted from WA State DOH K-12 COVID-19 Requirements for Summer 2021 and the 2021-2022 School Year, WA DOH Evaluation and Management of Persons with New Unexplained Symptoms of COVID-19, CDC Healthy Schools, King County Schools COVID-19 Response Toolkit, and WA State DOH Sports and Fitness Guidance during COVID-19.*

**Table 1: Symptoms Consistent with COVID-19**

Class A Symptoms	Class B Symptoms
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Fever (subjective or greater than or equal to 100.4 F)</b></li><li>• <b>Chills</b></li><li>• <b>Cough</b></li><li>• <b>Loss of sense of taste and/or smell</b></li><li>• <b>Shortness of breath</b></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Fatigue</b></li><li>• <b>Headache</b></li><li>• <b>Muscle or body aches</b></li><li>• <b>Sore throat</b></li><li>• <b>Congestion or runny nose</b></li><li>• <b>Nausea or vomiting</b></li><li>• <b>Diarrhea (at least 2 loose stools in 24 hours)</b></li></ul>

