



408 Wembley Drive, Sudbury, Ontario P3E 1P2 | Tel: 705.674.3171 | Toll Free: 1.888.421.2661 | rainbowschools.ca

March 10, 2022

**RE: UPDATE ON COVID-19 HEALTH AND SAFETY MEASURES
AS DIRECTED BY THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION**

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The Chief Medical Officer of Health for Ontario has announced that most COVID-19 health and safety measures in schools will end on Monday, March 21, 2022 - the first day of school following the March Break. This will align schools with the broader community.

There will be no mandatory masking, cohorting, distancing and confirmation of screening. Gatherings, such as in-person graduations, will be permitted once again. Schools will also re-open for visitors who must pass the school screening tool prior to entry.

IMPORTANT:

Before leaving home, students are still required to screen for COVID-19 daily using the [COVID-19 school and child care screening tool](#). There is a link on rainbowschools.ca.

The online screening tool reflects the most current guidance. Recent changes include isolation requirements when a household member has symptoms or has tested positive for COVID-19. There is also updated guidance related to travel. When completing the screener, please scroll down and follow the directions outlined below the results banner.

**If you are sick, stay home.
If you are well, come to school.
When in doubt, wait it out.**

While masking will no longer be mandatory in the community, on school buses, and in elementary and secondary schools, staff, students and families may wear a mask should they choose to do so. Individuals should assess their situation to determine what is best for their own circumstance.

Personal choice to wear a mask or not wear a mask will be respected and supported.

Schools will continue to have Ministry issued masks available for students for the remainder of the school year. Staff will also have access to masks.



408 Wembley Drive, Sudbury, Ontario P3E 1P2 | Tel: 705.674.3171 | Toll Free: 1.888.421.2661 | rainbowschools.ca

Hand hygiene, respiratory etiquette, ventilation and enhanced cleaning and disinfecting remain in place. Schools will also continue to report student and staff absences to the Ministry of Education until at least April 14, 2022. This data is published online at ontario.ca.

Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) kits will be provided in accordance with provincial guidance. Students with COVID-19 symptoms can return to school after two negative RATs 24 hours apart and no symptoms for 24 hours (48 hours for nausea, vomiting, and/or diarrhea.)

Friday, March 11, 2022 is a Professional Activity Day for staff, which will give students an early start to the March Break from March 14 to 18, 2022.

At home or abroad, please continue to follow health and safety measures.

For local guidance, visit [Public Health Sudbury & Districts](#).

For families who travel out of the country, the Government of Canada has guidance, travel advisories and resources at [COVID-19 and International Travel](#).

On behalf of all Rainbow Schools, we appreciate your ongoing support.

Let's continue to be kind and considerate as we respect personal choice when school resumes on Monday, March 21, 2022.

While masking will no longer be required, remember that screening for COVID-19 before leaving home for school will continue.

Please complete the screener daily, scroll down and follow the guidance. Please stay home when you are sick.

I would like to wish all of our students and families a healthy and happy March Break. Whether you participate in indoor activities or go outside to enjoy fresh air, have fun.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "B. Bourget".

Bruce Bourget
Director of Education