

Dear school principals, staff, students, and families,

March 21, 2022

With the return to class this week, following new guidance, the HKPR School Health Team would like to review a few key topics that may arise.

Screening/Illness

- [School screening](#) should continue to be completed daily and the instructions followed.
- Staff/students should stay home if unwell.

Masking

- Masking for most individuals is no longer required.
- The School Health Team encourages kindness and respect for staff and students who choose to continue to mask.
- Masking is required in certain circumstances; please see the [Parent Resource - Child/Student with Symptoms](#) for further guidance
 - **Cases:** Individuals isolate at home for 5 days and must have symptoms improving before returning to school.
 - Until 10 days from the start of symptoms/positive test is reached, individuals must wear a mask in public places (including school/childcare). This generally means students/staff must wear a mask for 5 days following their isolation at home.
 - **Close contacts:** Individuals who are close contacts must wear a mask in public places and self-monitor for symptoms for 10 days (from last exposure to a positive case).
 - Both cases and contacts must avoid removing masks for activities such as sports and music during the designated masking periods; masks may be removed for eating.
 - See the [Parent Resource - Child/Student with Symptoms](#) for further details or if immunocompromised.
- **Travel:** Individuals must mask for 14 days after returning from international travel (regardless of vaccination status).

Key Reminders

- Encourage staff/students to do what makes them feel the most comfortable and safe for mask wearing.
- The School Health Team encourages discussions at home and school about inclusion, acceptance, empathy, patience, and awareness that everyone has a right to make their own decisions about masking now that the mandates have been lifted.
- Please remember The HKPR School Health Team is here for information and support for staff, students, and families. Please contact us at 1-866-888-4577 ext. 1508 with any questions or concerns.

Thank you, The School Health Team

PROTECTION · PROMOTION · PREVENTION

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