

[17-Dec-21]

To: Staff, Parents and Guardians of students at **Holy Trinity Catholic High School**

**RE: Notice of a COVID-19 Omicron variant of concern case in a school setting**

Public Health staff have identified a case of COVID-19 who attended the school named above while infectious. This person is confirmed to have the Omicron variant of COVID-19.

The new Omicron variant of COVID-19 has been designated as a variant of concern by the World Health Organization and the Public Health Agency of Canada. We do not yet have enough information to know if the Omicron variant spreads more easily or causes more severe illness than other variants and how it might affect our communities. Early notification and testing will help us reduce the spread of the disease while we learn more about this variant.

Please be aware of the following requirements and recommendations:

- All staff and students must continue to use the COVID-19 [Alberta Health Daily Checklist](#) daily to determine if they may attend school.
- If staff or students develop symptoms, they must isolate at home immediately. Complete the AHS [COVID-19 Self-Assessment](#) tool or call Health Link at 811 as soon as possible to arrange for COVID-19 testing.
- If there are additional recommendations for exposed groups, those people will be contacted directly.
- If staff or students require medical attention, please call ahead to the health care provider or call Health Link at 811 so that safe care can be provided.

COVID-19 is passed from person to person through tiny droplets of liquid, spread by coughing, sneezing, talking, laughing and singing. Indoor gatherings and crowded places increase the chance of spreading the virus through the air.

To help minimize spread of COVID-19, we recommend the following:

- Get immunized against COVID-19. Immunization protects the individual and those who are not immunized. The best way to protect children too young for COVID-19 vaccine is to ensure all adults and older children around them are immunized.
- If eligible for COVID-19 vaccine and not fully immunized, please [book an appointment](#) online or call 811.
- Ensure all immunizations are up to date, including annual influenza vaccine.
- All household members should wash hands often with soap and water thoroughly for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available and hands are not visibly dirty.
- Encourage household members to not touch their eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve when you cough or sneeze. Throw used tissues in the garbage and immediately wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Stay home if you're sick. [If your kids are sick](#), keep them home from childcare or school at the first sign of illness.
- Clean and disinfect surfaces that are touched often and shared by everyone in your home such as door knobs, light switches and bathroom taps.
- Wear a mask and keep your distance from others when in public places.
- Limit time spent in indoor, crowded public places when possible.

For further information, please call Health Link at 811, or visit the Alberta Health Services website for [COVID-19](#).

Thank you.

Public Health,  
Communicable Disease Control