



RETURN TO SCHOOL

2021-2022

Updated February 28, 2022

Division plans will evolve as required by emerging health risk assessments.



Introduction:

The CTTCS Return to School 2021-2022 plan has seen several revisions over the course of the school year. We would like to sincerely thank all our staff for going above and beyond to meet the needs of our students and their families as we worked to maintain in-school learning for students. We would also like to thank our students, families, and communities for your patience, understanding, and support.

Effective February 28, 2022, all public health orders were lifted, including the province-wide mandatory masking order and mandatory self-isolation periods for those individuals who contracted COVID-19.

The safety of our students and staff will continue to be our top priority. COVID-19 continues to be present in our communities, and as a result, CTTCS will continue to have guidelines in place to mitigate the risk of COVID-19. These guidelines include encouraging staff, students, and families to get vaccinated as soon as they are eligible, staying home when ill, ensuring hand hygiene and environmental cleaning protocols are consistently used, and creating “mask-friendly” schools and work environments for individuals who choose to utilize PPE. In addition to the guidelines outlined below, each school will communicate updates to guidelines and practices that may be location specific.

Our schools will continue to have the support and engagement of our Local Medical Health Officer (LMHO) in responding to any public health risks in school setting, including COVID-19. We will continue to meet regularly with our local medical health team and adjust our plan as necessary based both on their recommendations and guidance from the medical community.

Government Guidelines:

The Government of Saskatchewan released its [2021-22 Safe Schools Plan](#) on August 20. The areas of focus are:

- **Safe Attendance**
- **Safe Transportation**
- **Safe Access**
- **Safe Facilities**
- **Safe Classrooms**
- **Safe Activities**
- **Other Items**

Masking

- Effective February 28, 2022, wearing masks in schools, division facilities, and during division transportation is encouraged but optional.
- Medical masks will continue to be available at each division facility for those who choose to utilize.

Vaccinations

All staff and students are encouraged to be vaccinated.

Physical Distancing

With students – especially younger children – maintaining physical distance is challenging. Schools will encourage physical distancing when possible.

Schools may choose to continue the practice of staggered entrance and exit times, recess times, or use separate entrances.

Student Grouping

As much as possible, student groups will remain consistent in elementary schools to limit the number of student interactions during the school day.

Sacred Heart High School will implement a quint system, while Dreambuilders High School will utilize a trimester system to reduce student interactions.

Schools should minimize large gatherings where students are in close proximity to one another. Smaller grade specific or cohorted assemblies are recommended. Schools with smaller enrolments that can provide proper distancing can proceed with gatherings.

CTTCS 2021-22 Safe Schools Plan

Safe Attendance

Screening

- Staff and students should continue the practice of self-screening for symptoms consistent with COVID-19.
- All staff and students who are feeling unwell and/or exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 should remain home until they are symptom free.
- Self-administered rapid test kits are available to all families and can be accessed from school main offices (while supplies last).

Student & Staff Wellness

- Saskatchewan Health Guidelines best practices for hand hygiene, sanitization, and social distancing are strongly encouraged.
- All staff should direct any inquiries regarding personal wellness to their immediate supervisors and/or Human Resources to ensure individual needs are met in a timely and appropriate manner.

Human Resources

CTTCS Administrative Procedures related to COVID-19 provides guidelines for precautions and procedures. The administrative procedure will continue to be adjusted as necessary following the direction of the Chief Medical Health Officer of Saskatchewan in accordance with the most current Saskatchewan Public Health Guidelines.

[AP178 – Illness in Care](#)

CTTCS will ensure that all protocols and procedures for employees are within the context of provincial and local contracts.

Employee Assistance Program

CTTCS will continue to support all employees with its Employee Assistance Program. Updates will be provided by Human Resources for all staff to access:

- STF Members – Members Family Assistance Plan
- Catholic Family Services – 306-525-0521 cfsregina@cfsregina.ca
- Mental Health – 1-306-786-0558
- Canada Crisis Line: 1-800-668-6868
- SaskHealth Hotline: 811
- www.Saskatchewan.ca/Coronavirus
- 211 Saskatchewan <https://sk.211.ca/>

CTTCS 2021-22 Safe Schools Plan

Safe Transportation

- CTTCS will continue enhanced cleaning and disinfecting protocols.
- Attendance and seating plans will be maintained.
- Mask use is encouraged but optional.

CTTCS 2021-22 Safe Schools Plan

Safe Access

Safe and orderly environments have always been a primary consideration for operational plans. CTTCS will follow the guidelines and recommendations of the Chief Medical Health Officer and in consultation with Local Medical Health Officers to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19. With support from division personnel, every school will develop COVID-19 safety and emergency plans that are appropriate for the school community (staff, students, parents), the facility, and its playground/outdoor spaces.

Arrival and Departure to School

Current start and end times will be retained as per each school's bell schedule. Schools' site-specific plans will consider the following:

- Outdoor Spaces/Playgrounds
- Busing Arrival/Departure Protocols
- Parent or Guardian Drop-off/Student Arrival
- Family Backpack & drop-off Classroom Visit
- Student Access and Exit of Building

School Office/Visitors

- Visitors to the school will be required to self-screen for symptoms consistent with COVID-19.
- Registration applications are available online. Schools will schedule virtual or face-to-face registration interviews.

Recesses/Breaks and Mealtime

- Recesses/Breaks will be adjusted as needed to fit the needs of the school.
- Lunchroom Considerations
 - Assigned eating areas.
 - Sharing of food / utensils / etc. is not recommended.

Assemblies, Liturgies, Meetings

- Assemblies, liturgies, and meetings may be adjusted based on size, layout, and needs of the school.

CTTCS 2021-22 Safe Schools Plan

Safe Facilities

Facilities

- School-wide plans for enhanced cleaning and disinfection will continue to be in place.
- Adequate disinfectant and hand sanitizer as well as cleaning products and supplies will be readily available in all facilities.
- Signage will promote the monitoring of health and protocols/procedure for staff, students, or visitors who begin to feel unwell.
- Students will be responsible for their own school supplies. Sharing of personal items and food will be discouraged.
- Students are asked to bring a reusable water bottle. This water bottle is for personal use and must not be shared with others.
- Students will be able to use lockers for storing personal items.
- Schools will identify an appropriate area for anyone who is ill until they can leave the facility.

CTTCS 2021-22 Safe Schools Plan

Safe Classrooms

Hygiene

Schools will continue to promote appropriate hand hygiene.

Classroom Dynamics

Schools may consider plans for elementary grade classroom cohorting.

Assigned seating plans will be maintained.

Consideration for physical distancing is encouraged.

Instruction

Schools will deliver face-to-face instruction, the full Saskatchewan curriculum, and alignment with the new Interim Provincial Education Plan.

Teachers will continue to be supported with professional development in best practice instruction and assessment and the use of technology such as Google Classroom and SeeSaw.

CTTCS will work with families to provide assurance children will be returning to safe classrooms. CTTCS is prepared for a fluid transition between instructional models as may be required and directed by the Government of Saskatchewan and the SHA.

CTTCS 2021-22 Safe Schools Plan

Safe Activities

Extracurricular Activities

Clubs, activities, athletics, and extra-curriculars are permitted. Inter-school sports and activities will resume.

CTTCS recognizes that extracurricular activities are a critical part of a school's culture and identity. CTTCS will continue to follow the recommendations of the Government of Saskatchewan and the Saskatchewan Health Authority as they pertain to extracurricular activities as well as the Saskatchewan High School Athletic Association (SHSAA) and the East Central District Athletics Association (ECDAA), and affiliated sport governing bodies.

Additional general and sport-specific guidelines will be communicated by schools.

Co-Curricular Programming

Performing Arts programming (e.g., dance, drama, band, choir) will resume. If sharing instruments and accessories is required, they will be thoroughly cleaned and sanitized between users, and good hand hygiene practices will be followed.

CTTCS is committed to continue to provide quality educational experiences which adhere to current Government of Saskatchewan and SHA guidelines which allows the return of all activities.

Nutrition Programs

Assigned eating areas.

Sharing of food / utensils / etc. is not recommended.

Self-serve or family style meal service is not permitted at this time. Food is to be served in individual portions.

CTTCS 2021-22 Safe Schools Plan

Other Items

Vaccinations

Staff assume the shared responsibility of assisting one another in maintaining healthy and safe workplaces.

Staff are encouraged to avail themselves of all Ministry of Health recommended vaccinations.

Staff are encouraged to discuss the efficacy of recommended vaccinations with their personal health care providers.

Individuals aged 5 and older are currently eligible for vaccines.

Testing

Early case finding remains a cornerstone of the COVID-19 response.

Self-administered rapid test kits are available at each school at no cost to families (while supplies last).

The recommendation to seek testing and stay home at the first sign of symptoms will continue.

Appendix A

Return to Extra-Curricular Activities & Sport

Please note that this appendix is a living document. The instructional and safety strategies in place may change depending on the severity of health-related events within school and community.

From the onset of back-to-school discussions, Christ the Teacher Catholic Schools (CTTCS) has observed the value of extracurricular activities within the school setting. Extracurricular activities, including athletics, arts, leadership, and interest clubs, provide students with rewarding experiences, avenues for personal wellness and a sense of belonging and school engagement. The intention of this document is to provide a framework for CTTCS schools to provide extracurricular opportunities in a safe manner. This intent will be carried forward with a cautious, careful, and responsive approach that aligns with province, local and division COVID-19 response plans.

This framework has been created to provide overall guidance and consistency across the division.

CTTCS guidelines for extracurricular activities and sport recognize the following:

- Anyone experiencing COVID-19 symptoms should remain home.
- Participation in extracurricular activities is voluntary.
- A school's ability to present extracurricular activities is dependent upon that school's availability of staff members and coaches.
- Schools will regularly review their procedures and operations and make any necessary adjustments to align with the current CTTCS COVID-19 response plans.
- When competitions are allowed for extracurricular events, spectators of a participating student/students will be allowed to attend while adhering to the current CTTCS response plans and/or any applicable public health orders.
- Schools may limit spectators attending school extracurricular activities if required by current CTTCS COVID-19 response plans and/or any applicable public health orders.
- Sharing of any equipment should be minimized.
- Hand sanitizer should be available before, during and after extracurricular activities.
- Extracurricular activities can be withdrawn at any time by CTTCS upon consultation with Local Health Medical Officer or provincial health orders.

CTTCS Extracurricular Activities Parameters

Non-Sport Extracurricular Activities Guidelines:

- Promote participation outdoors whenever possible.
- All curricular and extracurricular clubs including music/band/fine arts/cooking clubs are allowed and are to follow all restrictions as per current CTTCS COVID-19 response plans.
- It is recommended that shared resources are to be sanitized between use.

CTTCS Extracurricular Activities Parameters

Sport-related Extracurricular Activities Guidelines:

- Coaches will limit the sharing of materials and equipment within practices & games.
- Participants will have their own personal water bottles.
- Spectators are encouraged to attend school sport events, when allowed, in accordance with the current CTTCS COVID-19 response plans. ***No spectator should attend an extracurricular event if feeling unwell.***
- Transportation is available for extracurricular sport. All current transportation restrictions as per current CTTCS COVID-19 response plans will be adhered to at the time of the event. When individual travel is arranged via private vehicles, schools will adhere to CTTCS' administrative procedure: [AP 553 Volunteer Drivers & Private Vehicle Usage](#).
- ECDA member schools will adhere to any rule adaptations and accommodations as facilitated and communicated by Athletics Director, who will act as a liaison for ECDA and SHSAA.
- If required, ECDA member schools will adhere to any geographic guidelines and restrictions. Such guidelines will be determined by the Athletics Director and the Superintendent in charge of Athletics, and they will align with current CTTCS COVID-19 response plans.
- High Schools opting in for SHSAA sanctioned play will register their teams in ExNet <https://www.shsaa.ca/> and follow the SHSAA season of play schedule.

