

# Communicable Disease Prevention Plan

## Formerly Called the 'Health and Safety Plan'

The Communicable Disease Prevention Plan (CDPP) has been created for Studio9 by Cadence Trites, Principal, and Mike Guzzi, CEO. This document has been created in conjunction with information and guidelines from the B.C. Provincial COVID-19 Communicable Disease Guidelines for K-12, the B.C. Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC) Public Health Communicable Disease Guidance for K-12, the B.C. Ministry of Education K-12 Education Recovery Plan and the B.C. Ministry of Education COVID-19 Protocols for School & District Administrators and Staff. *Revised January 2022.*

### Background

The B.C. Ministry of Education has deemed in-person learning an important opportunity in the acquisition of knowledge for Kindergarten to grade 12 students to engage with peers, which supports social and emotional development. Based upon guidance from the BCCDC, the B.C. Ministry of Education has made the decision that due to information showing schools are low-risk sites for COVID-19 transmission, Kindergarten to grade 12 students can participate in class full-time in accordance with public health guidelines for schools.

Thus, students will return to Studio9 for in-class learning for the 2021-2022 school year. Studio9 continues to follow the four foundational principles established by the Ministry of Education at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic:

- Maintain a healthy and safe environment for all students, families, teachers and staff
- Provide the services needed to support the children of our essential workers (ESWs)
- Support vulnerable students who may need special assistance
- Provide continuity of educational opportunity for all students

### How will Studio9 be maintaining my child's safety this school year?

The Ministry of Education has mandated that all schools in B.C. must implement a Communicable Disease Prevention Plan of COVID-19 safety measures in order to protect staff and students alike. These include:

1. Continued use of student health screening measures, implemented by parents
2. Enhanced cleaning and disinfecting protocols
3. Additional hand washing and sanitizing stations
4. Floor markings and posters to address traffic flow
5. Physical barriers where required
6. Reminders for students and staff to implement 'personal space' (defined as the distance from which a person feels comfortable being next to another person) when interacting with one another
7. Preventing crowding at all times, particularly at the start and end of the school day

8. Avoiding close face-to-face contact whenever possible
9. Ensuring the use of masks when both students in grades Kindergarten to 12 and staff are indoors
10. Ensuring prevention measures are in staff-only areas as well as the school at large
11. Limiting the amount of visitors allowed inside of the school, with visitors informed of all communicable disease protocols and providing information for use in contact tracing

\*Please note that the term 'mask' in this document means a non-medical mask or face covering. Medical-grade masks are not recommended within school settings for general use. For staff students who choose to wear a face shield, a mask must be worn in addition to the shield.

### **Will remote learning still be available for my child who attends Studio9?**

At this time, Studio9 is only able to offer in-class instruction. Should your child be ill, away from the school for a small period of time, or asked to self-isolate by Interior Health, Studio9 will be able to support her/him with supplemental assignments to work on at home for up to two consecutive weeks. However, the nature of Studio9's program is conducive to regular attendance.

### **How will student mental health and well-being be attended to during this time?**

During the 2021-2022 school year, considerations will be made as to creating a mentally healthy environment with trauma-informed support for students who require this. Students may have experienced trauma during the COVID-19 pandemic, therefore it is important that staff and students feel supported in recognizing and reporting to signs of trauma. Studio9 is committed to utilizing trauma-informed practice when working with students/staff, which includes:

- Providing inclusive and compassionate learning environments
- Understanding coping strategies
- Supporting independence
- Helping to minimize additional stress/trauma by addressing individual needs of students and staff

In responding to situations of trauma, Studio9 staff will be using the Ministry of Education trauma-informed practice resources on the Erase website (<https://mytrainingbc.ca/traumainformedpractice/>).

Students will continue to receive the same level of care and compassion from Studio9 staff members as was prior to the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. Students will be carefully monitored by teachers and teaching staff as to changes in their baseline mental health and behaviour, and any discrepancies will be reported to their parents/guardians immediately. Studio9 staff will continue to support student personal practices using positive and inclusive approaches. Studio9 will avoid punitive measures or enforcement activities that exclude students from fully participating in school or that could result in stigma.

Studio9 will continue to recommend that staff and parents utilize the following mental health resources:

- Ministry of Children and Family Development: Healing Families, Helping Systems: A Trauma-Informed Practice Guide for Working with Children, Youth, and Families ([https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/health/child-teen-mental-health/trauma-informed\\_practice\\_guide.pdf](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/health/child-teen-mental-health/trauma-informed_practice_guide.pdf))
- Linda O'Neill- Trauma Informed in the Classroom (<https://web.unbc.ca/~loneill/onesheet.pdf>)

- North American Centre for Threat Assessment & Trauma Response: Education as a Special Consideration (<https://nactatr.com/news/files/EducationSpecialConsideration.pdf>)

### **What happens if there is an exposure to COVID-19 at Studio9?**

Studio9 will undertake the responsibility to continue to track and report daily attendance rates (staff and students away), and identify any illness-related absenteeism to the Ministry of Education through the attendance/reporting system MyEDBC. Studio9 will be comparing current attendance rates to the previous year in order to determine if any potential activity signals (a threshold that indicates further investigation is warranted by public health to determine if additional actions are required) related to attendance have been met. The potential activity signals are if our school attendance is 10% below historical levels, if fewer than 75% of the students in a homeroom class are in attendance, or where an abnormal number of students are away due to illness over 2-3 days.

When a potential activity signal is met, Studio9 will notify the Independent Schools Rapid Response Team. We may also notify the homeroom class or school community via email. Studio9 will also work with Medical Health Officers and Interior Health to support the distribution of public health information and/or take additional actions when directed by public health.

Students who have been asked by Interior Health to self-isolate will be supported in continuing their educational program for the period of time directed by Interior Health.

### **Communication**

Studio9 will not be providing any public statements or communications to staff/families of students about potential activity signals or suspected/confirmed COVID-19 school exposures unless directed to do so by the Independent Schools Rapid Response Team and/or Interior Health. In the case of a student or staff member who is affected by COVID-19, Studio9 will continue to seek out opportunities to foster compassion and empathy in the school community.

Recent public health guidance recommends that those who test positive for COVID-19 notify those whom they live with, or who they've had intimate contact with. While those who test positive do not need to notify the school or others at school, individuals may still wish to contact Studio9 for this purpose. To protect personal privacy, Studio9 will not be releasing individual contact information for the purpose of an individual seeking to notify others of their test result, nor will Studio9 be notifying others on an individual's behalf.

In the case that Studio9 must temporarily close due to lack of staff to provide the required level of teaching, supervision, support, and/or custodial care to ensure the health and safety of students (a functional closure), the decision to do so will be made in conjunction with our Medical Health Officer and the Ministry of Education. Parents/guardians will be provided with this information via email/text as soon as this decision is made, and details about the functional closure will be included.

## Safety

In addition to all other measures detailed in this document, the following measures have been taken to reduce the risk of spread of COVID-19 in our school community. Please note that the term “mask” in this document refers to a non-medical cloth or disposable mask that covers both the nose and mouth at all times when worn.

### Access to Campus

Only Studio9 employees, contractors, and students will be allowed on campus. We are unable to allow siblings, friends, grandparents or other guests to enter the campus. Volunteers/essential visitors will be minimized and must adhere to all Studio9 COVID-19 prevention policies and maintain personal space when interacting with others. All visitors, including parents/guardians, volunteers, essential visitors, Teachers On Call, and Teaching Assistants On Call, must wear a mask. Exceptions will be made for visitors who cannot tolerate masks for health or behavioural reasons. All visitors must complete a sign in sheet with their name, date, and contact information which is available at the office. All visitors must also provide active confirmation that they have no symptoms of illness, have completed a daily health check, and are not required to self-isolate before entering. All visitors must also provide up-to-date contact information at the office, which will be kept on file for 45 days after the visit.

Parents/guardians who need to access the office must make an appointment by calling the school at (250) 868-8816. When in the office, parents must maintain personal space with others at all times.

Specialists who are contracted to work with specific children with special needs must maintain personal space from all students and staff, as well as wear a mask when in the building.

At this time, there will be no access to other parts of the school including washrooms for visitors.

### Drop-off /Pick-up Times & Locations

This year, drop-off and pick-up locations will be separated by grade levels. It is imperative that upon arrival at school, students go immediately to their designated area and stay there for the remainder of time until class begins.

For students in grades K to 5, the drop-off/pick-up location is the front gates near Houghton Road and students must remain on the playground between 8:10 and 8:30 am. The entrance/exit door for grades K-5 students and staff is the doors located closest to the front gates/Houghton Road.

For students in grades 6 to 12, the drop-off/pick-up location is the parking lot gates, and students must remain grassy/paved area between the school and portables between 8:10 and 8:30 am. The entrance/exit door for grades 6-12 students and staff is the doors located closest to the office.

For all students, before class supervision will be available between 8:10 and 8:30 am. Students will not be allowed entrance to the school prior to 8:30 am, so please ensure that your child has used the washroom before coming to school. Students who do not wish to hold onto bags or other personal items prior to entering the school may place them at a designated outdoor location.

After-school supervision for all students will be available between 3:30 and 3:45 pm. Students will not be allowed re-entrance to the school after leaving the facilities at 3:30 pm, so teachers will encourage students to use the washroom prior to leaving for the day.

Parents, guardians, and others will not be able to enter the Studio9 grounds during drop-off/pick-up. Parents or other designates are asked to wait on the sidewalk outside of Studio9 for their child to be dismissed to them. Parents or other designates are kindly asked to ensure personal space and avoid crowding among each other and among students.

Students in grades 10 to 12 will be allowed off campus during lunchtime, but must sign in upon return. This sign-in will include information as to where the student visited during the lunch period.

We will not be able to accommodate late arrivals, nor can we accommodate changes in a student's drop-off schedule. We are counting on the support of parents/guardians or designate to ensure their children are dropped off and picked up on time daily.

Should parents/guardians or designate not pick up their child within the designated after school supervision time frame, an emergency contact will be called to pick up the child. Please make sure to provide up-to-date emergency contact information to the office.

## **Screening**

The first step in screening is the responsibility of parents/guardians to assess their children daily before sending them to school. Parents/guardians must assess their child each morning for symptoms of common cold, influenza, COVID-19, or other infectious respiratory disease before sending them to school. Parents/guardians, students, and staff must use the daily health check web link/app at <https://www.k12dailycheck.gov.bc.ca/healthcheck?execution=e1s1> prior to coming to school. Mobile apps are also available for download on this site.

Students and staff must adhere to the protocols as provided on the daily health check web link/app. This includes being asked to stay at home, self-monitor, self-isolate, or seek further medical advice. Staff must stay home and parents must keep their child(ren) home if they are sick.

When a staff member, student or other persons entering the school can return to school depends on the type of symptoms they experienced, as indicated on the daily health check web link (<https://www.k12dailycheck.gov.bc.ca/healthcheck?execution=e1s1>) and the BCCDC 'When to get tested for COVID-19' resource (<http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/testing/when-to-get-a-covid-19-test>).

Please note that we do not require a health-care provider note (i.e. a doctor's note) to confirm the health status of any individual, beyond those required to support medical accommodation as per usual practices.

We will continue to follow Interior Health instruction for reporting student and staff absenteeism due to health concerns.

Upon entering the building each morning, students will be asked if they have completed the daily health check. Students who have not completed the daily health check will be required to do so immediately, using their cell phone/laptop or assisted to do so by a staff member using Studio9 equipment.

Staff will also be required to complete the daily health check prior to entering the school, and sign in immediately when entering the school to confirm that they have completed the daily health check and are clear to attend work for the day.

**Both staff and parents/guardians of students must sign and return the form at the end of this document verifying that they understand and will abide by the daily screening process prior to sending their child to Studio9 each morning. This must be returned to [office@studio9.ca](mailto:office@studio9.ca) AT THE START OF THEIR ATTENDANCE AT STUDIO9 in order for your child to attend school.**

Any staff/students who have travelled outside Canada in the last 14 days and are not fully vaccinated (two doses of an approved COVID-19 vaccine administered more than 14 days prior to arrival) must stay home and self-isolate for 14 days prior to returning back to in-class instruction. New and returning international students are required to submit a self-isolation plan and completed the federal ArriveCAN application prior to arrival into Canada.

If a student or staff member develops symptoms of illness while at school, the following protocol will be adhered to:

- Provide the student/staff member with a non-medical mask if they don't have one (exceptions will be made for students/staff who cannot wear masks for health/behavioural reasons, or if the person is experiencing gastrointestinal symptoms and are at risk of vomiting).
- Provide the student/staff member with a space where they can wait comfortably and is separated from others; younger children must be supervised when separated, and supervising staff should wear a non-medical mask and face shield if they are unable to maintain physical distance.
- Make arrangements for the student/staff to go home as soon as possible; if the student's parent/guardian cannot be contacted the emergency contact will be called for pick-up.
- After the student leaves, the areas used by the student/staff member where their bodily fluids may have been in contact with will be cleaned and disinfected; a 'terminal clean' where the entire room is cleaned and disinfected is not necessary.
- A request that the student/staff seek guidance regarding testing for COVID-19 and stay home until symptoms have improved and they feel well enough to participate in all school-related activities will be made.

Students and staff who experience seasonal allergies or other COVID-19-like symptoms, which are related to an existing condition, can continue to attend school when they are experiencing these symptoms as normal (if any change in symptoms occurs, they should seek assessment by a health-care provider).

When a student or staff member can return to school after illness depends upon the type of symptoms that they experienced, if a COVID-19 test is recommended and the result of their test. Please see <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/administration/kindergarten-to-grade-12/safe-caring-orderly/k-12-covid-19-health-safety-guidelines.pdf#page=31> for more information.

## Hygiene

Hand washing will take place for both students and employees:

- after entering and before departing the school buildings
- before and after snacks and meals
- before and after breaks/outdoor play
- after using the washroom
- after using a tissue
- after coughing or sneezing
- when hands are visibly dirty
- when moving between different learning environments

Additionally, teachers will wash their hands:

- before and after applying any First Aid or medication to students or self
- before and after handling food or assisting students with eating
- after contact with bodily fluids (runny noses, spit, vomit, blood)
- after cleaning tasks
- after handling garbage
- after removing gloves

Students and staff must wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, doing so using their designated classroom sink or hand washing station.

Hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol will be available at entrance/exit points and throughout the school. WorkSafeBC hand washing signage will be posted near all sinks to communicate good hand washing practices. Students and staff will be asked to use hand sanitizer upon immediate entry to the school, and it will be used when hand washing is not readily available.

## Physical/Social Distancing

Physical/social distancing will not be enforced with students and staff during the 2021-2022 school year. However, students and staff will be reminded about respecting personal space. Available space to spread people out (for both learning environments and for gatherings/events) will be used whenever possible. Management of the flow of people in common areas, using floor markings/signs and other crowding preventions will be used.



Masks will be required for grades Kindergarten to 12 students and staff at all times when inside the school. Proper fit is a key factor in mask effectiveness; information regarding this can be found at <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/prevention-risks/about-non-medical-masks-face-coverings.html#a9>

Students are not required to wear a mask when eating/drinking or when there is a physical barrier in place in a classroom or learning environment. While this exception applies regardless of the physical distance between students or their specific seating configuration, Studio9 will configure classrooms and learning environments to maximize distance between students and avoid face-to-face seating arrangements where possible.

All staff are required to wear a mask while at school, except if there is a physical barrier in place; while eating/drinking; or outdoors.

In “staff only” spaces, staff are required to wear masks when indoors, unless eating or drinking. Adherence of personal space must occur in these areas, even when staff are wearing a mask. Staff and other adults are encouraged to reduce the number of close, face-to-face interactions with each other, even while wearing a mask. This includes break times and meetings.

Exceptions will be made for students, staff, and specialists/volunteers who cannot wear masks for medical reasons or behavioural reasons; when the person is unable to put on and remove a mask without the assistance of another person; when a mask must be removed temporarily for the purpose of identifying the person wearing it; when a mask must be removed temporarily to engage in an educational activity that cannot be performed while wearing a mask; or while providing a service to a person with a disability or diverse ability where visual cues, facial expressions, and/or lip reading/movements is important and a mask with a transparent window cannot be used. Those with mask exemptions should continue to follow any strategies identified to reinforce and enhance other safety measures. For example, students/staff members who require a mask exemption as they are unable to tolerate wearing a mask all day are encouraged to wear one as much as possible, and students/staff members who require a mask exemption must be diligent in maintaining personal space when interacting with others (not at the expense of being excluded). Studio9 will continue to use positive and inclusive approaches aligned with existing professional practices to address non-compliant behaviour for those unable to wear masks. Examples of strategies identified to reinforce and enhance other safety measures for those who cannot wear a mask can be found at <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/administration/kindergarten-to-grade-12/safe-caring-orderly/covid-19-planning-mask-exemptions.pdf>.

Studio9 will not require a doctor’s note to confirm that the student cannot wear a mask. No student will be prevented from attending or fully participating at school if they do not wear a mask.

Studio9 will be following the strategies below during in-class instruction and for all related school activities:

- Avoidance of all close greetings (e.g. handshakes and hugs), with regular reminders for students to keep “hands to self”
- Encouraging students and staff not to touch their faces



- Designated areas for pick-up, drop-off, and outdoor recess/lunch breaks
- Teachers are encouraged to take students outside more often for learning opportunities (including those that involve physical health/education) and breaks
- Spreading people out as much as it is practical to do so, including classroom/learning environment configurations to allow distance between students and adults, arrangement of desks/tables so students are not facing each other, and the use of assigned seating
- Managing the flow of people in hallways and bathrooms
- Minimizing admittance to inside the school for people other than staff and students
- Assemblies will be held within gym with students/staff spread out in the space as much as possible
- Parent/teacher and IEP meetings will be held virtually in order to minimize contact with those outside of the school setting
- Limiting attendees from outside of the school to the minimum number necessary (e.g. school staff, visitors etc.) to meet its purpose.
- Gatherings or events at the school, including social gatherings of students and/or staff, will comply with the PHO Order for Gatherings and Events.
- Staff meetings will be held virtually, when possible.

### **Cleaning/Disinfecting Standards & Routines**

On a continuous basis, a thorough cleaning and disinfecting has been undertaken of every classroom, hallway, and all common spaces in all buildings. Signage has also been placed around the school reminding students and staff of enhanced cleaning and hygiene standards and how to follow them.

During the school day, teachers will manage the cleaning routines inside their classroom, in addition to the regular cleanings provided by our custodian. Cleaning will occur at least once per day. These include:

- Cleaning high-contact surfaces such as desks, tabletops, door handles, toilet handles, faucet handles, light switches, hand railings, lockers, desks/tables (if used by multiple students in a Learning Group), keyboards, appliances, shared equipment, and bottle filling stations, using the disinfectant provided.
- Before and after snacks and lunch, tabletops will be sprayed with disinfectant and let sit for 30 seconds before touching.
- Reminding students and assisting them in regular cleaning of their personal supplies.
- Refraining from the use of shared equipment (equipment will be designated for staff only and will be disinfected after each use).
- Some frequently touched items like toys or manipulatives may not be able to be cleaned often (e.g. fabrics) or at all (e.g. sand, foam, Playdoh, etc.). These items can continue to be used, if hand hygiene is practiced before and after use.

Enhanced cleaning standards will be undertaken by our custodian each day after dismissal. This includes:

- General cleaning and disinfecting of the premises will occur at least once a day.
- Frequently-touched shared surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected at least once a day (e.g. door knobs, light switches, toilet handles, tables, desks, and chairs.)
- Cleaning and disinfecting any surface that is visibly dirty.

- Garbage containers will be emptied daily.
- Disposable gloves will be worn when cleaning blood or body fluids (e.g. runny nose, vomit, stool, urine).
- Hands will be washed before wearing and after removing gloves.
- Washrooms will be cleaned at least once a day.
- Frequent cleaning of areas/equipment commonly used by staff members (photocopier, staff room fridge door handles, etc.)

There is no evidence that the COVID-19 virus is transmitted via textbooks, paper or other paper-based products, including glossy and laminated products. As such, Studio9 will not need to limit the distribution of books or paper based educational resources to students because of COVID-19. There is no need for these items to be cleaned and disinfected or quarantined for any period of time, or for hand hygiene to be practiced before or after use.

## **Materials & Personal Belongings**

### Students and Staff:

Personal belongings may be brought to school, but students/staff are encouraged not to share items that come into contact with the mouth (e.g. food, drinks, unwashed utensils, and wind instruments). For students, please make sure to have supply items that teachers request via the school supply lists (see [www.studio9.ca](http://www.studio9.ca)) with your child, as sharing of items such as pencils, pens, colouring pencils or markers, rulers, calculators, or other materials is not encouraged. Students will once again be allowed to use the water fountains.

Lockers and hangers for personal items will be in use. Upon arrival to school, students will place their backpack, jacket, and other necessary items in their locker or at their hanger. Locker/hanger use should be minimized throughout the day, so students should have items necessary for class available on them.

## **Lunch, Snacks, Daily Breaks**

Hot lunch will be available this year for students and staff, with specific protocols in place. For students in grades K-5, snacks and lunches will be eaten in the classrooms. For students in grades 6-12, snacks will be eaten outside during recess time. At lunchtime, students in grades 6-12 will be eating in the gymnasium, and must wash hands before and immediately after eating. Microwaves will not be available for student use.

Hot lunch will be prepared and served according to Food Safe rules and guidelines that are appropriate for the school setting. Students in grades K to 5 will have their hot lunch delivered on a trolley and placed outside of the classroom so that personal space is maintained between the person serving hot lunch and the students in grades K to 5. Trolleys will be brought back to the cafeteria by homeroom teachers between 12:15 and 12:30 pm. Students in grades 6 to 12 will have their hot lunch dropped off at the gym just prior to the start of lunch. Trolleys will be placed in the gym for dirty dishes and cutlery to be collected. Trolleys of dirty dishes/cutlery will be transported back to the cafeteria at the end of the lunch eating period.

Students will be encouraged not to share any food or beverages, and we ask parents not to bring in classroom treats at this time. If it is necessary to bring food into the classroom to share, food must be from a registered commercial business and able to be served with limited touching. Students will not be allowed to access outside food deliveries, such as parents dropping off lunch or Skip the Dishes.

At lunchtime, students will be dismissed for outdoor recess by the teacher/teaching assistant after fifteen minutes of designated eating time. All students will clean/sanitize their eating area and must leave the classroom/gymnasium immediately. Students will be supervised outside in their specific grade-level area by a teaching assistant. Students will not be allowed to congregate in hallways or common areas. The use of the play structures and group games are now permitted, Minimal personal use sporting equipment may be provided and hand hygiene will be performed before and after use.

At the end of outdoor recess/lunch, students are to sanitize their hands and then go directly to their classroom to wash their hands.

### **Personal Protective Equipment**

Employees are not required to wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), except for masks, but may choose to do so. In this case, employees will be asked to bring their own PPE. Students in grades Kindergarten to 12 are required to wear masks at all times indoors except when eating/drinking. Masks must be disposed of or washed after daily use. We ask that you provide your child with at least two clean masks to bring to school each day.

Exceptions will be made for students, staff, and specialists/volunteers who cannot wear masks for medical reasons or behavioural reasons; when the person is unable to put on and remove a mask without the assistance of another person; when a mask must be removed temporarily for the purpose of identifying the person wearing it; when a mask must be removed temporarily to engage in an educational activity that cannot be performed while wearing a mask; or while providing a service to a person with a disability or diverse ability where visual cues, facial expressions, and/or lip reading/movements is important and a mask with a transparent window does not suffice. Studio9 will not require a doctor's note to confirm that the student cannot wear a mask. No student will be prevented from attending or fully participating at school if they do not wear a mask. **If your child requires an exemption to wearing a mask**, please request this exemption in a **signed, letter format** sent to the office ([www.studio9.ca](http://www.studio9.ca)).

### **Facilities**

All facilities will be open to students and staff, when needed. When moving from one classroom to another, staff/students will be required to practice hand hygiene.

In the staff and students washrooms, we will continue to use paper towel to dry hands instead of air dryers.

Whenever possible, teachers will be encouraged to use outdoor space for learning/recreational opportunities.

## **Transportation/Field Trips**

As Studio9 does not have bus transportation, no measures will be taken to enhance safety in this area. Field trip transportation may be on foot (within walking distance) or on public transportation (all protocols for using public transportation will be followed, including use of masks). Field trips involving parent drivers will occur during the 2021-22 school year. The use of parent volunteers for driving groups will again occur, with the following preventative measures in place:

- Parent volunteers (both driving and supervising) must be trained in and strictly adhere to required health and safety guidelines, including this document.
- Staff, students, and parent volunteers are in alignment with relevant local, regional, and federal public health recommendations and Orders, and how this applies to the field trip location.

## **People Movement**

Movement of students around and between buildings and will be minimized and managed by a teacher or teaching assistant. Directional indicators managing flow of people will be placed within the building. Students will remain in their designated classroom unless they are directed by a staff member to go to another area within the school campus, need to use the washroom, are going out/in from recess/lunch breaks, or are coming to/leaving school for the day. Students will be reminded of maintaining personal space when moving throughout the building.

## **School Ventilation Systems**

No new improvements to school ventilation systems are required at this time. We will be encouraging teachers to open windows during class time (weather permitted) and use outdoor space for learning opportunities.

In order to enhance school ventilation, Studio9 will:

- Encourage teachers to move activities and classrooms outside when space and weather permit.
- Whenever possible, opening windows if weather permits.
- When using air conditioners and fans in ventilated spaces, air will be moved from high places to lower places instead of blowing air directly from one person's breathing zone to another's.
- When using air conditioners and fans in ventilated places, horizontal cross breezes will be avoided.
- Use of portable air conditioners and fans in unventilated spaces with doors and windows closed will be avoided, except when necessary during high or excessive heat events.

In the case where our ventilation system is temporarily compromised (e.g. partial power outage, ventilation break down), classroom windows are required to be opened until the situation can be rectified.

## **Special Education Support**

Studio9 will continue to offer students who have documented special needs with both an IEP and recommended supports that are available within the school setting. Parents/guardians of students with an IEP will be invited to IEP meetings via the Zoom platform, three times per year. Some students may

be provided with outside supports, such as occupational therapy, counselling, and speech pathology. In this case, the individual who provides the outside supports (Occupational Therapist, Counsellor, Speech Pathologist) must maintain personal space, practice sanitization/disinfecting protocols of Studio9, and will be required to wear a mask when interacting with the student. All visitors to the school must sign in at the office upon arrive, ensuring that they have completed a daily health check and provide information needed for contact tracing.

## **Regulations Regarding Specific Classes**

### Foods and Nutrition/Culinary Arts

As part of the learning program, when food is prepared and consumed by the same students, the following additional safety procedures apply (as well as Food Safe practices):

1. Cleaning and disinfecting protocols must be maintained.
2. Diligent hand washing for at least twenty seconds, including at the beginning and end of class, before and after handling food, before and after eating/drinking, and when hands are visibly dirty.
3. Sanitizers and disinfectants used are approved for use in a food service application and are appropriate for use against COVID-19.

### Music Programs

As part of the learning program, the following additional safety procedures apply:

1. Students and staff will be spaced as far apart as possible.
2. In grades 4 to 12, masks must be worn when singing.
3. In grades 4 to 12, masks may be temporarily removed while engaging in an educational activity that cannot be performed while wearing a mask (e.g. playing a wind instrument).
4. Cleaning and disinfecting protocols applied to shared equipment.
5. Equipment that touches the mouth should not be shared unless cleaned and disinfected in between uses.

### Dance/Physical and Health Education

As part of the learning program, the following additional safety procedures apply:

1. Encouragement of outdoor programs as much as possible.
2. Students and staff must be spread out as far as possible during physical activity.
3. Masks must be worn indoors by students in grades 4 to 12 during low-intensity indoor activities.
4. Masks do not have to be worn during high-intensity physical activities; staff are encouraged to move high-intensity physical activities outdoors whenever possible.

### Drama/Theatre

As part of the learning program, the following additional safety procedures apply:

1. Encouragement of outdoor programs as much as possible.
2. Students in grades 4 to 12 must wear masks when indoors (except during high-intensity physical activity).
3. Students and staff should be spread out as much as possible within the space available.
4. Shared equipment such as set pieces, props, cameras, etc. should be cleaned and disinfected; proper hand hygiene will be practiced before and after use.

## **Confirmation of Understanding and Agreement of Daily Health Check Screenings for the 2021-22 School Year**

By signing below, I agree to screen my child/children (or self, for staff members) for symptoms of illness, including COVID-19, using the B.C. K-12 Health Check link/app at <https://www.k12dailycheck.gov.bc.ca/healthcheck?execution=e1s1> each morning prior to sending your child (or self) to Studio9. I agree to adhere to the instructions on the B.C.K-12 Health Check link/app and in the case that my child develops COVID-19-like symptoms at school, will pick my child up from school immediately (or have a designate pick up your child immediately). For staff who develop COVID-19-like symptoms at school, he/she must leave Studio9 immediately.

In the case where the parent/guardian is not with the child the morning prior to the child attending school, the parent/guardian agrees to inform the carer of the child the instructions above and have them complete the Daily Health Check for their child.

### **FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS ONLY:**

Name of Parent/Guardian #1: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent/Guardian #1: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Parent/Guardian #2: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent/Guardian #2: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of child(ren): \_\_\_\_\_

Date signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Designate/emergency contact who will pick up my child in case she/he develops COVID-19-like symptoms while at school.

Name of Designate/Emergency Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number(s) of Designate/Emergency Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

### **FOR STAFF ONLY:**

Name of Staff Member: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Staff Member: \_\_\_\_\_

Date signed: \_\_\_\_\_