



**Yukon Communicable Disease Control
4 Hospital Rd, Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 3H8**

October 15, 2021

Dear Parents, guardians and staff,

We are notifying you that a COVID-19 outbreak has been declared for the **Grade 4 Class** at Elijah Smith Elementary School in Whitehorse.

In addition to our letter on October 10th, 2021, Yukon Communicable Disease Control (YCDC) has been made aware of **many additional positive cases of COVID-19 at Elijah Smith Elementary School** in Whitehorse affecting the:

- Grade 4 class, from October 4th to 8th (formerly October 4th to 7th)

Students and staff connected to the above classes have been identified as close contacts of COVID-19. COVID-19 is a respiratory illness that is spread through droplets when a person coughs, speaks, or by touching surfaces contaminated by the virus with your hands and then touching your face before washing your hands. You or your child may receive multiple exposure notices for different events. If you have received advice to self-isolate and also advice to self-monitor, then you should self-isolate. If you have received different dates for the duration of your self-isolation or self-monitoring, then use the latest date (longest duration).

A risk assessment has been completed by YCDC, in consultation with a Medical Officer of Health. After careful analysis, we recommend the following for students and staff connected to the above classes:

All staff and students connected to the Grade 4 Class at Elijah Smith Elementary School are to be tested for COVID-19, **regardless of symptoms or immunization status. This includes any student or staff who has been tested prior to October 10th, 2021.**

- If you have received 2 doses of COVID-19 immunization, with the last dose prior to September 20th, 2021, and you are not significantly immunosuppressed due to illness or medication, we recommend **self-monitor for symptoms through October 22nd, inclusive.** It is very important that if **any** symptoms develop, no matter how mild, you do not go to work and arrange for testing.
- If you are partially-vaccinated (1 dose only) or unvaccinated, or are fully immunized but with significant immunosuppression, you are recommended to **self-isolate until October 18th, inclusive, and then self-monitor for symptoms through October 22nd, inclusive.** It is very important that if **any** symptoms develop, no matter how mild, that you arrange for testing.

Symptoms to self-monitor for include:

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| • Fever | • Sore throat | • Loss of appetite |
| • Chills | • Loss of sense of taste or smell | • Nausea and vomiting |
| • Cough | • Headache | • Diarrhea |
| • Shortness of breath | • Fatigue | • Muscle aches |
| • Runny nose | | |

Symptoms of COVID-19 may be mild or severe and often have a different presentation in persons who are very young or older persons. While most people will experience mild illness, older adults and people with pre-existing medical conditions are at higher risk for severe illness.

If you develop any symptoms, no matter how mild, contact **the COVID Testing and Assessment Centre (CTAC) in Whitehorse at 867-393-3083**. When calling CTAC please mention that you are part of the Elijah Smith Elementary School notifications.

If you are eligible for COVID-19 immunization and not yet fully immunized, please book your immunization after your isolation period has ended. For general information on COVID-19 see yukon.ca/en/covid-19-information