



ST. JUDE SCHOOL

2953 East 15th Ave, Vancouver, BC | V5M 2K7

•Phone: 604-434-1633 •Email: office@stjude.ca •Website: www.stjude.ca

November 29, 2021

Dear Parents,

I know that some families are contemplating traveling down or have travelled down to the United States or other out of country destinations for various reasons. There has been some confusion around children attending school after such trips. I have clarified with FISA (Federation of Independent Schools) and the Ministry of Education that students who are unvaccinated are not to attend school for 14 days upon arrival into Canada. It does not matter if it was a short trip or not.

Please keep in mind that your child will need to catch up upon their return. Our teachers will not be preparing homework packages for students who are traveling for vacations or non-essential reasons. Your child will need to make up work once they return to in-person schooling.

I strongly recommend that you avoid all travelling during the school year. This can cause a great disruption to your child's learning. Furthermore, with the recent Omicron Variant making news, one does not know if and when restrictions will change. Should they change while you are abroad, please know that this may cause you and your child a lot of additional stress and anxiety.

Here is the wording from the Government of Canada:

If you qualify as a fully vaccinated traveller, your unvaccinated children must follow specific requirements when you return to or enter Canada. This applies to unvaccinated children under 12 years of age who are accompanying a parent, step-parent, guardian or tutor who qualified as a fully vaccinated traveller when they entered Canada.

Unvaccinated children under 12 must complete [pre-entry, arrival and Day-8 tests](#), unless you have evidence that the child had a positive COVID-19 test taken 14 to 180 days prior to arrival in Canada or the child is under 5 years of age.

For the next 14 days, the children must also:

- **not attend school, camp or daycare**
- not attend large or crowded settings, indoors or outdoors, such as an amusement park or sporting event
- not take buses, subways, trains or other crowded transportation
- not attend a setting where they may have contact with vulnerable people (e.g. long term care facility), including people who are immunocompromised, regardless of that person's vaccination status or public health measures
- stay in a place that allows the child to avoid all contact with any person that:
 - has an underlying medical condition that makes the person susceptible to complications related to COVID-19



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- has a compromised immune system from a medical condition or treatment; or
- is 65 years of age or older
- limit contact with others:
 - remain with their fully vaccinated parent or guardian, as much as possible
- wear a mask and physically distance when in contact with non-household members

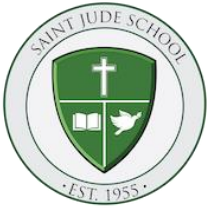
What your child **can** do for the next 14 days, as long as they wear a mask and physically distance from non-household members:

- visit uncrowded public settings such as parks, beaches or going for a walk
- gather outdoors on your own property with people from multiple households
- gather with a small group of people from outside the household who are all known to be fully vaccinated
- take uncrowded public transportation such as a taxi, or rideshare provided masks are worn at all times by all parties
- accompany you to essential settings such as a grocery store or pharmacy

For 14 days following entry into Canada, you and any unvaccinated children under the age of 12 who travelled with you must:

- maintain a list of the names and contact information of each person with whom the child came into close contact and a list of locations visited
- wear a well-constructed, well-fitting mask in public settings
- keep a copy of the following and provide them on request to the Government of Canada or government of the province or territory where you are located, or to the local public health authority:
 - all COVID-19 pre-arrival test results
 - all on-arrival COVID-19 test results
- monitor for signs and symptoms of COVID-19. If the child develops signs or symptoms or tests positive for COVID-19, you must immediately:
 - isolate them for 10 days in a designated area of the home that can ensure minimal contact with other household members
 - contact the appropriate public health authority, as specified below, and follow their instructions
 - report it immediately to the Public Health Agency of Canada by calling 1-833-641-0343. A Public Health Agency of Canada official will provide you with additional details and instructions
 - follow all [local public health](#) requirements

If the child receives an indeterminate or invalid test result, they are required to take another test. Please contact your testing provider within 24 hours of receiving your test result to make arrangements to complete another self-swab kit.



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We ask for your full cooperation and until the Government of Canada says otherwise or a document is provided from the Government of Canada that states otherwise, our school is required to follow their directives as stated.

Sincerely,

Chris van der Pauw
Principal St. Jude School