



BC CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

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October 29, 2020

Dear BCCA Families & HS Students,

Over this past week we have been seeing many reports in the news and social media regarding the progression of Covid-19 in our region. In particular, in the last few days, there were approximately 15 investigations of school exposures in the Tri-Cities area.

This has caused some alarm for those that live in the Tri-Cities area so I would like to bring some perspective to those that may be concerned.

1. Having been "exposed" to Covid-19 does not mean that someone actually has the illness. It means that someone connected with these school communities has been around someone that has it. As a precautionary measure, Fraser Health will begin contact tracing to ensure those exposed do not have any symptoms, and in some cases, may ask for testing to be done, or may require a period of isolation. This is why it is so important for all of us to complete our Daily Health Checks that are required by BCCA. In many cases this is not a requirement in public schools in our areas.

2. BCCA continues to follow its Covid-19 Protocols and we will be continuing to remind and teach our staff and students to:

- a. be vigilant and complete our health check forms every day
- b. always sanitize their hands when entering and leaving the building and before/after lunch
- c. sanitize the rooms mid-day with a deep cleaning in the evening.
- d. wear their masks in common areas or when they are in proximity with other cohorts (we keep our cohorts under 60 students)
- e. mask up when teachers must teach different cohorts.
- f. maintain a 6' spacing when mixing with people from outside our cohort. This is probably the most effective and important measure to follow in addition to sanitization procedures.

Please be aware that we are encouraging our staff to take off their masks outside, while being safely spaced from others --- to breathe in some fresh air. This is safe and a healthy thing for our staff --- and all of us.



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What Can You Do?

1. Be respectful of our school community and make sure you follow Dr. Bonnie Henry's latest orders. Please check each week as they are constantly changing.
 - a. Her latest order is to limit the number of guests in your homes. Her new provincial health order restricts gatherings in private homes to no more than immediate household members and a "safe six" additional people — a number she acknowledged may still be too many for some households, depending on space and number of people already living together.
 - b. Masks should be worn in public areas when you will be in close proximity with other people.
2. The precautions you take with you and your family, when you and your children are NOT at BCCA, will have a great impact on whether BCCA can remain Covid free. If we all follow BCCA's protocols and Dr. Henry's orders, I believe we will continue to be able to keep our BCCA community Covid free.

During our Parent/ Teacher Conferences held online for our elementary school this week, many families reported they were very impressed with how BCCA has handled this Covid period and are very thankful for the school's protocols that are in place.

To date, we have not had any Covid cases in BCCA and are so thankful for God's protection over our school and Kids Club Program during this time.

For any family that is considering keeping their child home due to recent exposures in other school communities, we strongly encourage you not to do so. We cannot provide you educational support, except for medical reasons, which requires a doctor's note. Please trust the procedures that BCCA has put into place and be sure that you and your family vigilantly support these protocols.

Thank you for your patience and understanding through this pandemic. I believe more than ever we must stand strong as a Christian school community and do what we can to protect one another, then leave the rest to God. In addition, we all need to continue to pray for God's protection of BCCA through this pandemic and trust that He is in control, even in times of trouble. Please do not hesitate to contact the Administration team if you need further clarifications or assistance.



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Philippians 4: 6-7 is a great reminder for us all during this time. Let's encourage one another with this verse, as we continue to work through the pandemic.

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Our BCCA staff continue to uphold you all in our prayers!

In His Service,



**BC CHRISTIAN
ACADEMY**



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