

COVID-19: Recommendations for school reopening ^[1]

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AVAILABILITY

Access full PDF online ^[2]

Excerpts from summary:

This document provides guidance surrounding the reopening of schools as this relates to the measures to mitigate risks. As discussed, the risks of infection and transmission in children, which appear to be minimal, need to be balanced with the harms of school closure which is impacting their physical and mental health. On balance, it is recommended that children return to school and that the messaging around this clearly articulate the rationale for the recommendations outlined in this document in order to help reduce the fear and anxiety in parents, children and school staff. In our view, a daily school model is best as it allows for consistency, stability and equity regardless of the region in which children live. An important factor to consider in this respect is emerging evidence indicating inequalities in the social and economic burden of COVID-19,³⁰ which may further disadvantage children living in higher burden areas where educational inequality and barriers to online learning may be more pronounced. In addition, we appreciate that the living conditions for children vary across socioeconomic groups and therefore recommend that further work be done to develop guidance and identify supports needed for situations where children reside within the same home as individuals with underlying conditions that put them at increased risk of more severe disease. Finally, it is important to note that these recommendations reflect the evidence available at the present time and may evolve as new evidence emerges and as information is gathered from other jurisdictions that have opened schools already.

Related link:

Region: Ontario ^[3]

Tags: health and safety guidelines ^[4]

Source URL (modified on 29 Jun 2020): <https://childcarecanada.org/documents/research-policy-practice/20/06/covid-19-recommendations-school-reopening>
Links

[1] <https://childcarecanada.org/documents/research-policy-practice/20/06/covid-19-recommendations-school-reopening> ^[2]

<http://www.sickkids.ca/PDFs/About-SickKids/81407-COVID19-Recommendations-for-School-Reopening-SickKids.pdf> ^[3]

<https://childcarecanada.org/taxonomy/term/7856> ^[4] <https://childcarecanada.org/taxonomy/term/9037>