

CUPE K-12



Contact tracing in K-12 schools

Contact tracing is a vital tool in limiting the spread of COVID-19 in our schools and communities. It helps people get diagnosed earlier and reduces the chances they'll spread it to others. The BC Centre for Disease Control and Provincial Health Services Authority have set out the step-by-step process being used for contact tracing across the province. For more information on contact tracing – including an [accessible video](#) and [infographic](#) explaining the process – visit bccdc.ca, and links are posted on bcschools.cupe.ca.

In solidarity and safety,

Warren Williams

President, K-12 Presidents Council, Local 9876

Contact tracing: how it works

BC Centre for Disease Control & Provincial Health Services Authority

Step 1

When a person tests positive for COVID-19, they become a “case”.

Step 2

A public health nurse interviews the case to identify people they've spent time with. These people are “contacts.”

Step 3

Public health gets in touch with the contacts and asks them about symptoms of COVID-19.

Not every contact needs to be identified: only those who could have been exposed to the case's respiratory droplets from coughing, sneezing or speaking. Public health maintains the case's privacy. A case can choose to tell others about their diagnosis but should not do their own contact tracing.

Step 4

Contacts with no symptoms are asked to self-isolate and monitor for symptoms for 14 days after their last contact with the case.

Contacts with symptoms are sent for testing. If they test positive, they become a “case” and the process repeats.



BC Centre for Disease Control



Provincial Health Services Authority
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