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RE: COVID-19 Outbreak Declared at Derrydown Public School

Dear Parents/Guardians and Staff,

This letter is to inform you that Toronto Public Health (TPH) has declared an outbreak of COVID-19 at Derrydown Public School -120 Derrydown Rd, Toronto, ON M3J 1R7.

The Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education [define](#), an outbreak in a school if there have been two, or more people who have tested positive for COVID-19 and are linked in the school, bus or after-school setting, over a 14 day period.

We have assessed the situation and continue to complete our investigation. Based on what is known about the risk of transmission in this school at the current time, the following outbreak measures are being reviewed and strengthened.

Strengthening Existing Public Health Measures and Infection Prevention and Control

- Reviewing and confirming important practices to reduce the spread of COVID-19 including:
 - Screening students and staff
 - Staying home when sick
 - Cohorting (grouping and separation of) students and staff
 - Cleaning and disinfecting surfaces
 - Using personal protective equipment (PPE) when appropriate (e.g., masking, eye protection)
 - Ensuring proper hand hygiene
 - Posting signage of appropriate public health measures (e.g., hand hygiene, coughing and sneezing etiquette)
 - Maintaining physical distancing

TPH will continue to monitor the situation and outbreak measures may be scaled up or down in response to the risk of transmission in the school as well as the assessment of outbreak measures that have been implemented. TPH will determine when operations can safely resume, if a classroom or portion of a school was closed.

TPH will inform students and staff directly if it is recommended for these individuals to be tested for COVID-19. If you **have not** been contacted by someone at TPH, you do not need to have your child tested, unless he or she is showing symptoms associated with COVID-19.

TPH recommends that all students and staff who attend a school that is currently in an outbreak situation, self-monitor closely for symptoms of COVID-19 and, if symptoms develop, visit a [COVID-19 Assessment Centre](#). Do not attend a pharmacy for testing. Please make sure to wear your mask when you go for testing.

NOTE: At the Assessment Centre, give the staff this unique number **(Outbreak #3895-2020-01164)** so that your test results are prioritized and TPH can be notified of these results as quickly as

possible. Staff at the testing centre may be able to advise you on how long it will take to receive results.

As COVID-19 continues to circulate in the community everyone is reminded to adopt these steps for self-protection: as much as possible limit contact with anyone you don't live with; as often as possible, keep at least six feet apart from people you don't live with; as often as possible, wear a mask when outside your home, especially in indoor settings and when physical distancing is difficult; wash your hands frequently; and remain at home when ill.

For more information, please visit the TPH website at toronto.ca/covid19. Information for parents related to schools is available [here](#). If you have any questions related to COVID-19, you can also call TPH's Hotline at 416-338-7600, Monday-Sunday 8:30 AM – 8:00 PM, or telehealth Ontario 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Sincerely,



James (Jim) Barlen
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Toronto Public Health