

## ALERT LEVEL: ORANGE

### Preschool Program

Children enrolled in Preschool Autism Intervention Programs offered in Early Learning and Childcare Facilities must wear a community mask during interventions. Many of these children have a sensitivity to fabrics and textures and it will be very difficult to get them to wear the mask. Are they exempt from wearing a mask? What are the guidelines?

For children 2 years of age and older, masks are required in common areas in an Early Learning and Childcare Facility. Children who have difficulty wearing a community mask will not be required to wear it. It is recommended that intervention workers wear a mask and face shield (visor) when working with a child who cannot wear a mask. A risk analysis should be conducted prior to working with the child to determine if additional personal protective equipment is required.

Are children required to wear a community mask during an intervention that take place in the child's family home? Will the parent and child have to wear a mask as well?

Yes, everyone in a room with an intervention worker must wear a mask. It is best practice for everyone in the household to wear a mask when an intervention worker is present in a home.

Can early childhood programs and services, such as early childhood assessments, language development or parenting skills sessions, continue in schools in orange zones?

It is recommended that these programs be done virtually or postponed if possible. If it is not possible for these programs to be done virtually or postponed at this time, all Public Health safety measures must be met.

### Travel between zones

If an employee lives in a yellow zone, but works in homes or facilities in an orange zone, can they continue to work? What are the guidelines?

Yes, the intervention worker can work in an Orange Alert Region. However, it is recommended that an intervention worker explore alternative ways to support children in these regions such as: limiting in home visits or provide their services virtually when possible. All Public Health guidelines must be followed after a worker returns to a Yellow Alert area. they will be required to wear a community mask at all times for 14 days upon their return to the Yellow Alert zone.

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Do school personnel who have travelled to an orange zone, but who work in a yellow zone, need to follow other guidelines?

School personnel who have travelled in an Orange Zone must follow the directives as an individual who lives in an orange zone. This applies ONLY to individuals who have travelled. The traveller and family members must monitor for symptoms.

Can teachers or an itinerant teacher who provide support to several schools still travel to schools in an Orange Alert Zone?

Yes, but it is recommended that staff explore other ways to support children, such as limiting visits or providing services virtually whenever possible.

## Mask Use

If a child cannot wear a community mask, will they be excluded from Early Learning and Childcare Facilities or a school?

Children that can not wear a community mask can continue to attend the Early Learning and Childcare Facilities or a school. If a child can not wear a mask, the intervention worker or school personnel must, at a minimum, wear a face shield (visor) and mask.

A risk analysis must be conducted prior to entering a home or meeting with a family member that cannot wear a mask. Additional personal protective equipment may be required in these situations.

For vulnerable children in a school setting, a risk analysis must be conducted. Additional personal protective equipment may be required in these situations.

Can two or more students who cannot wear a community mask be in the same class grouping?

Yes, students who are unable to wear a community mask can be grouped together in the same class.

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### Common Areas

Is it necessary to keep physical distance during meals in a class grouping?

It is recommended to practice physical distancing while eating, where possible.

### School Personnel

Can a Physical Education or Music educators still work at different schools?

Yes, but the school district should ensure that the number of schools a teacher visits is limited as much as possible. These teachers must wear a community mask at all times and maintain a physical distance of 2 metres.

Can a supply teacher work in more than one school?

Yes, but the school district should ensure that the number of schools visited is limited as much as possible. Supply teachers must wear a community mask at all times and maintain a physical distance of 2 metres.

Are volunteers allowed in schools?

Yes, but the school should ensure that the number volunteers is limited and that daily logs are kept as per the Return to School Plan. Volunteers must wear a community mask at all times and maintain a physical distance of 2 metres.

Can a teacher who teaches in a hybrid "live" format take off their mask in the classroom when teaching the group at home?

No. School personnel are required to wear a mask at all times in the school, except when eating or sitting alone in a closed office or classroom.

### Activities and Programs

Can we continue with the sport-study program in an orange zone?

Yes, but see the Department's "Changes in Directives for Early Learning and Childcare Facilities and Schools Alert Phase – Orange" for further instructions.

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Can a sports team composed of students from several schools continue to practice?

Yes, but see the Department's " Changes in Directives for Early Learning and Childcare Facilities and Schools Alert Phase – Orange " for further guidelines.

During the orange alert phase can a high school continue to rearrange students class schedules to meet their needs?

Yes, but to support contact tracing schools should keep up to date records of all class schedule changes.

Are students still allowed to participate in experiential learning activities?

Yes, experiential learning activities are permitted at this time. Students must follow the sponsoring business's Operational Plan.

Can immunization clinics be held?

Public Health will contact schools directly.

Can we continue with Kindergarten registration and related activities?

Kindergarten registration and other related activities are on hold at this time.

Can we continue with the students' photo shoots?

All school photo shoots are on hold at this time.

Can we continue to teach physical and music education?

Yes, these classes can continue. Please refer to the Department's " Changes in Directives for Early Learning and Childcare Facilities and Schools Alert Phase – Orange" for guidance.

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### Materials and Supplies

Can students continue to share school materials and supplies inside their class grouping?

Shared materials will be limited as much as possible. School personnel are encouraged to find activities that limit the sharing of materials. All materials should be cleaned and disinfected every day.

Do the equipment in the kindergarten classrooms have to be cleaned and disinfected every day?

Appendix G of the Return to School Plan applies. Cleaning of these materials is required once a day, every day. They may be shared among students during the day but must be cleaned at the end of the day if they have been used.

Why can't we share physical education materials but may limit sharing in other circumstances?

Classroom supplies are mainly shared within a class grouping, while equipment used in physical education is used by the entire school.

Physical education equipment and materials should not be used in an orange alert level unless it can be disinfected between each user (ex: yoga mats can be cleaned between each user, a ball that is thrown from one student to another cannot, but dribbling a basketball where each student has their own ball for the duration of the class and cleans it at the end could be considered).