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Re: Important Information Related to the Provincial Emergency Declaration

Dear Parent/Guardian,

On January 12, 2021, the Province of Ontario declared a [second provincial emergency](#), effective immediately. Some of the new requirements under the emergency include the following:

- Individuals must wear masks at all times when in indoor areas of businesses or organizations that are open.
- Wearing a mask or face covering is now recommended outdoors when you can't physically distance more than two metres.
- Schools in Toronto will not return to in-person instruction until February 10, 2021 (Exception for some schools in Toronto to remain open for in-person instruction for students with special education needs who cannot be accommodated through remote learning).

As part of the emergency declaration, the Province has issued a stay-at-home order effective January 14, 2021. This means that everyone should stay home and not gather with individuals who do not live in their household. Trips outside the home should be for essential reasons only, including to:

- go to the grocery store or pharmacy;
- access health care services;
- go outdoors to exercise; or
- go to work if your work cannot be done remotely at home.

Toronto is seeing an increase in COVID-19 cases in the community. During this time please continue with daily COVID-19 symptom screening for [students](#), and [adults](#). If anyone in your household has one or more, new or worsening symptoms of COVID-19 they should arrange to get tested as soon as possible or contact their health care provider. For more information about COVID-19 testing along with a list of places you can go for testing, please visit [COVID-19 testing](#).

Please continue to visit our website www.toronto.ca/COVID19 to stay up-to-date. Information specific to school communities is available at: [COVID-19 school information for parents & caregivers](#).

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nicole Welch".

Nicole Welch
Toronto Public Health Director
COVID-19 Liaison