

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Begley school is closed due to COVID-19 outbreak

The Windsor-Essex County Health Unit (WECHU) is declaring an outbreak of COVID-19 at Frank W. Begley Elementary school in Windsor. As per provincial direction, a school outbreak is declared if there are two or more cases in a school that are linked and if there is evidence that at least one case could have been infected in the school.

There are currently three (3) confirmed cases and the infectious period was Thursday, November 12. As a precaution, the **entire school community is being dismissed and asked to isolate for a period of 14-days or at the direction of the health unit.**

1. Self-isolation

Your child is considered to have a high-risk exposure and is required to self-isolate.

- Your child is directed to self-isolate to help lower the risk of other family members, friends, and community members getting COVID-19. This means avoiding contact with other people. They should stay home unless they need to see a healthcare provider or to get tested.
- The child should stay in a separate room away from others, and use a separate bathroom if possible. If that is not possible, keep a distance of two metres between people, and have your child wear a mask.
- If you need to take your child out for medical reasons, a personal vehicle should be used. The child should wear a mask in the car, and limit the number of people who are in the car together.

****Other members of your household not identified as a high-risk close contact of a positive case are not required to self-isolate but should monitor for symptoms.***

2. Testing

At any point, if your child develops symptoms it is recommended they get tested for COVID-19. **As a close contact, your child is encouraged to get tested for COVID-19, whether they have symptoms or not, 5 to 7 days from the date of exposure** (see below for date). They can be tested at one of the local assessment centers, or contact your family healthcare provider about being tested at their office. After testing, you will receive guidelines to follow.

<p>Southwest Ontario Aboriginal Health Access Centre (SOAHAC)</p> <p>Screening and testing for First Nation, Métis, and Inuit individuals and their families.</p> <p>1405 Tecumseh Road West, Windsor</p> <p>Please call the following number for hours of operation, screening and appointment times @ 519-916-1755</p>	<p>Windsor Regional Hospital – MET Campus - COVID-19 Assessment Centre</p> <p>1995 Lens Avenue Windsor, Ontario, N8W 1L9</p> <p>Temporary facility in Parking lot of Met campus Emergency department</p> <p>Open</p> <p>Wednesday November 18 12 noon to 7 pm Thursday November 19 7am to 7pm</p>	<p>Erie Shores Healthcare</p> <p>194 Talbot Street West Leamington</p> <p><i>Entrance from Fader Street, next to the Emergency Department</i></p> <p>Please call the following number for hours of operation and appointment times @ 519-326-2673</p>
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	Friday November 20 7 am to 7 pm Walk-in for Frank W Begley Public School students and staff	
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3. Monitor for symptoms

Continue to monitor your child(ren) for symptoms of COVID-19 using the online self-assessment for schools, at <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening> Common symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, cough, change in smell or taste, and difficulty breathing. If your child develops symptoms, or symptoms worsen, contact your healthcare provider for further guidance. Other members of the household should also self-monitor, and can use <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/self-assessment>

4. Practice good hygiene

When caring for your child, make sure you use good hygiene to keep you and your family healthy. Wash your hands frequently, especially after providing care. Regularly clean and disinfect high-touch items in the house such as toilets, sink taps, doorknobs, and light switches.
As much as possible, continue to keep physical distance between your child and other household members. If not possible, masks should be worn when the child is around other people. It is advised that the child sleep in a separate bedroom from others, and use their own bathroom, where possible.
Make sure your child washes their hands frequently, and uses a tissue when they cough or sneeze. Used tissues should be placed in a garbage bin lined with a plastic bag for easy removal.

Additional information and resources

If you have questions, or are looking for more information about COVID-19, please visit the Windsor Essex County Health Unit’s website at wechu.org/cv/schools

When you take your child to get tested, please take this letter with you and provide it to the staff on site.

For use at the Assessment Center or by healthcare provider, upon testing:

School Name	Frank W. Begley Elementary School
Outbreak Number	2268-2020-00131
Date of Exposure	November 12, 2020