



Matthews Hall

Established 1918

MANDATORY COVID-19 IMMUNIZATION DISCLOSURE POLICY

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to outline Matthews Hall's ("the School") expectations with regards to COVID-19 immunization disclosure of staff, volunteers, third-party contractors, student practitioners, frequent visitors and other professionals who provide in-person services in schools and who have direct contact with staff and/or students.

All eligible individuals are strongly encouraged to receive a COVID-19 vaccine, unless there is a medical or faith-based reason not to receive a vaccine.

Background

The School recognizes the importance of immunization as a key element to help keep educational settings safe. This COVID-19 immunization disclosure policy aims to protect the school's population.

COVID-19 is an acute respiratory illness caused by the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2). It may be characterized by fever, cough, shortness of breath, and several other symptoms. Asymptomatic infection is also possible. The risk of severe disease increases with age, but is not limited to the elderly and is elevated in those with underlying medical conditions.

Application of the Policy

This Immunization Disclosure Policy applies to the following groups, except where the individual works remotely and the individual's work does not involve in-person interactions:

All school employees/staff, including daily and long-term occasional teachers and casual education workers; contracted instructors; and student transportation workers;

The policy also applies to the following individuals, if attending the School premises frequently and who have direct contact with staff or students:

Students on educational placement, including students on a placement / work-integrated learning visit who are training in the provision of professional services (e.g., teacher candidate practica, nurse, psychologist, behavioural therapist, speech-language pathologist, etc.); volunteers; those who provide professional services to children at school; visitors, including third party contractors.

Policy

The Chief Medical Officer of Health (CMOH) has directed the School to develop, implement, and ensure compliance with a COVID-19 immunization disclosure policy. This policy requires all individuals covered by the policy to provide one of the following:

1. Proof of all required doses of a COVID-19 vaccine approved by the World Health Organization;

OR

2. Written proof of a medical reason or other approved exemption, provided by either a physician or nurse practitioner, or religious leader, that sets out:

- a. that the person cannot be vaccinated against COVID-19; **and**
- b. the effective time period in the case of a medical reason (i.e., permanent or time-limited);

AND

3. Proof that the individual has completed the educational program approved by the School and regular negative test results (please see testing requirements outlined below).

For any person to whom this policy applies who is not vaccinated and does not have a valid exemption, access to the campus is restricted unless an appropriate accommodation plan can be agreed upon.

Educational Program

The educational program addresses the following learning components:

- a. How COVID-19 vaccines work;
- b. Vaccine safety related to the development of the COVID-19 vaccines;
- c. Benefits of vaccination against COVID-19;
- d. Risks of not being vaccinated against COVID-19; and
- e. Possible side effects of COVID-19 vaccination.

Testing Requirements

Individuals subject to this policy who are not fully vaccinated **with an approved exemption** must regularly complete rapid antigen testing for COVID-19 and provide a negative result, at a minimum of twice per week; and provide verification of the negative test result as set by the School.