



Yellowknife Catholic Schools

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September 13, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The Chief Public Health Officer has amended the COVID-19 Gatherings Public Health Order to include all schools in Yellowknife, Dettah and N'Dilo. Therefore in-class learning will be closed in these communities from September 14 to September 24, 2021.

As Superintendent and also a parent, I understand that the evolving nature of the COVID-19 situation in the Northwest Territories (NWT) is of great concern.

I want to emphasize that every school in the NWT has safety guidelines in place that were approved by the Office of the Chief Public Health Officer (OCPHO) and that these measures are in place to limit the introduction and transmission of COVID-19. I would like to acknowledge the tremendous efforts that our students, families and staff have made to keep schools safe thus far. Recognizing, however, that the COVID-19 situation has continued to grow in intensity with expanding populations affected, the OCPHO has made the decision to temporarily shift to remote learning in Yellowknife, Dettah and N'Dilo to prevent COVID-19 from entering and spreading through the schools.

The OCPHO is the lead in all matters of public health, and as such, we are following the direction given by the OCPHO.

The most recent information on public health advisories can be found at [GNWT's Response to COVID-19 \(gov.nt.ca\)](https://www.gov.nt.ca/en/news-releases/2021/09/09-gnwt-response-covid-19)

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) have also been made available at [Questions and answers | GNWT's Response to COVID-19 \(gov.nt.ca\)](https://www.gov.nt.ca/en/news-releases/2021/09/09-gnwt-response-covid-19)

Yellowknife Catholic Schools is in regular contact with the Department of Education, Culture and Employment to ensure that all necessary steps are followed to keep our students and staff safe and to provide additional resources, such as technology, to support the continuity of learning for our students.

Yellowknife Catholic Schools recognizes that families will be eager to learn the details around remote learning for students. Yellowknife Catholic Schools staff are currently working to ensure the structures and resources are in place for learning at home, with the expectation that remote learning will begin for all students on Thursday, September 16.

An update with additional information specific to your child's school and remote learning plan will be shared with you by 4:00pm, Wednesday, September 15.

Sincerely,

Simone Gessler
Superintendent