



WHAT ARE LEARNING GROUPS?

A Learning Group is a group of students and staff who remain together throughout the school quarter, semester, or year and who primarily interact with each other.

For example, a Learning Group could be made up of:

- A single class of students
- Multiple classes that sometimes join together for additional learning activities
- A group of secondary school students with the same courses

Learning Groups can also include staff, like:

- Teachers
- Specialist support staff
- Education Assistants
- Administrators

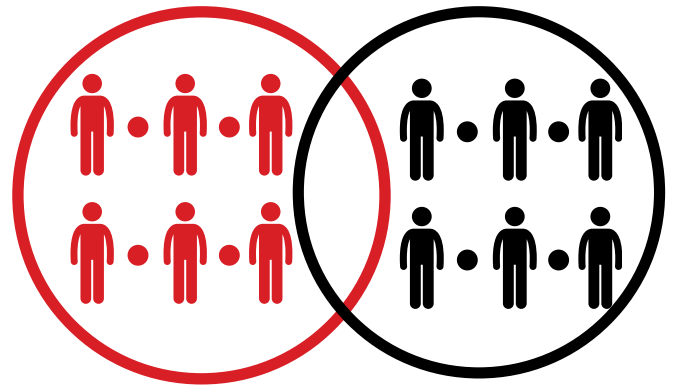
Learning Groups provide a range of benefits:

- More in-class learning time
- Increased peer interaction and support
- Decreased feelings of isolation

Learning Group Maximum Size for Stage 2 are:

- Elementary: 60 people
- Middle: 60 people
- Secondary: 120 people

LEARNING GROUPS



Interacting only with our Learning Group means that:

- We stay home if we have any cold or flu-like symptoms.
- We wash our hands when we enter the school each day.
- We spend our day learning mostly within a set group of students and staff and are careful to avoid physical contact with those in our Learning Group.
- We do not need to wear a mask.
- We wash our hands frequently throughout the day, especially after eating and transitions.
- We use proper coughing and sneezing protocols and don't share our school supplies, food, or clothing. If we need to share equipment, such as electronic devices, we wash them down before giving them to others.
- When new students start at our school they will join one of our Learning Groups.
- We remain in our Learning Group and on the school site during unstructured school times, such as recess, breaks, and lunch time.
- We pack in and pack out all of our personal belongings and we bring a water bottle.
- We help to clean up after ourselves.



WHEN MIGHT SOMEONE NEED TO INTERACT WITH A DIFFERENT LEARNING GROUP?

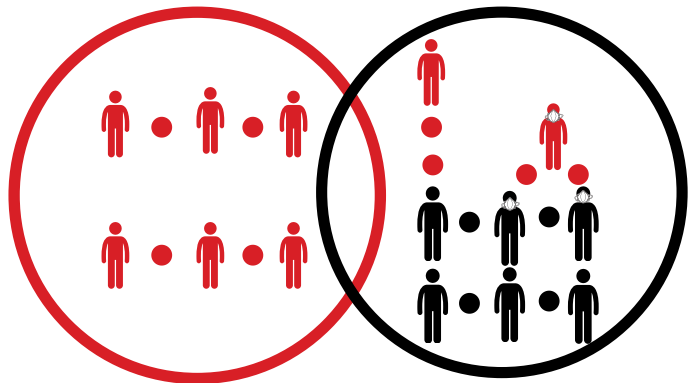
From time to time, people from one Learning Group will need to interact with people from a different Learning Group for a variety of teaching and learning purposes. Both groups will be asked to maintain 2m of physical distance from each other at all times. Middle and Secondary students and staff will be required to wear a mask any time the 2m of physical distance cannot be maintained consistently. Please note that non-medical masks are not recommended for elementary school students due to the increased likelihood that they will touch their face and eyes as well as require assistance to properly put on and take off their masks (requiring increased close personal contact from school staff). Masks are always an option for anyone wishing to wear one.

EXAMPLE 1

A student in a Grade 12 Learning Group needs Pre-Calc 11 for their personal Career-Life Post-Secondary Plan. This student can join Pre-Calc 11 composed of students from another Learning Group. This Grade 12 student will sanitize their hands and will practice 2m physical distancing from the students and staff in that Learning Group. If the Grade 12 student is unable to maintain 2m of physical distance they, and those within close proximity, will be required to wear a mask.

EXAMPLE 2

Teacher A is an elementary teacher who provides preparation time coverage for teachers working within different Learning Groups. When teacher A is working within their assigned Learning Group, they follow the guidelines for working within a Learning Group. When teacher A moves into a different Learning Group they will sanitize their hands before interacting with the other Learning Group. Teacher A will practice 2m physical distancing from each person in the other Learning Group and students will respect this physical distance requirement. Teacher A will be required to wear a mask if they cannot maintain 2m of physical distance.



Interacting with a different Learning Group means that:

- We wash our hands before we join another Learning Group.
- We join their Learning Group and consistently maintain 2m of physical distance from each of them.
- As middle and secondary students, when it is difficult to maintain 2m of physical distance, we are required to wear a mask.
- As middle and secondary students, we are required to wear masks in high-traffic areas such as buses and school hallways.
- We follow all coughing, sneezing, and sharing safety protocols just like when we're in our own group.
- We follow all signage and floor markings when we travel to the other Learning Group.

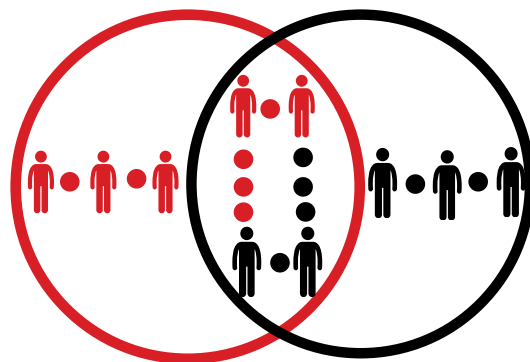


WHEN MIGHT TWO OR MORE LEARNING GROUPS NEED TO INTERACT WITH EACH OTHER?

From time to time, people from multiple Learning Groups will need to interact with each other for various teaching and learning purposes.

EXAMPLE 1

Although inter-school events, including competitions, tournaments, and festivals will not occur at this time, extracurricular activities, including sports, arts, or special interest clubs can occur if physical distancing is maintained between members of different Learning Groups and if physical contact is minimized between those within the same Learning Group at that event. Additionally, groups which contain students from more than one Learning Group may not exceed 50 people.



For example, a group of 20 elementary students are involved in a leadership group that meets after school. The students are part of more than one Learning Group. The students will wash their hands before joining the leadership group and will practice 2m of physical distancing from each other.

EXAMPLE 2

In an Art 11/12 course, students from different grade 11 and 12 Learning Groups meet together in the Art room for their course. All students will wash their hands before class starts. Signage and markings on the floor will assist students in minimizing physical contact with anyone else in their Learning Group and maintaining 2m physical distancing from students in the other Learning Group. If any student is unable to maintain 2m of physical distance they, and those within close proximity, will be required to wear a mask.

Two or more Learning Groups interacting with each other means that:

- We wash our hands before we join the other Learning Group.
- We maintain 2m of physical distance from the other group.
- As middle and secondary students, when it is difficult to maintain 2m of physical distance, we are required to wear a mask.
- As middle and secondary students, we are required to wear masks in high-traffic areas such as buses and school hallways.
- We follow all coughing, sneezing, and sharing safety protocols just like when we're in our own group.



WHEN MIGHT A PERSON FROM OUTSIDE OF THE SCHOOL NEED TO INTERACT WITH A LEARNING GROUP OR THE WHOLE SCHOOL?

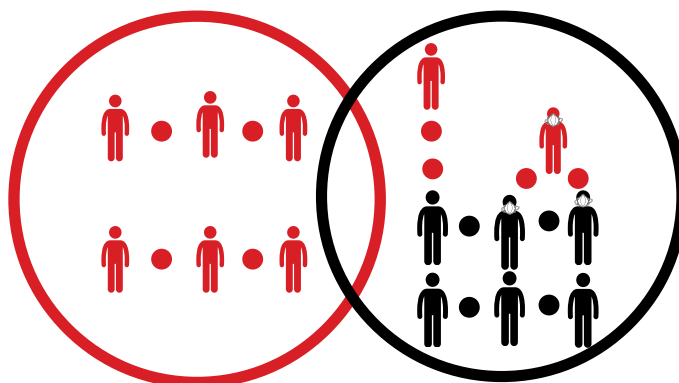
There will be times when a person outside of the school will need to interact with a Learning Group or the whole school.

EXAMPLE 1

Teacher A and B are working in a Learning Group cohort of 60 students and staff. Teacher A is ill and unable to work. A Teacher Teaching on Call (TTOC) is called in to replace Teacher A. The TTOC is required to practice 2m physical distance from everyone in the Learning Group. If they cannot maintain physical distance, the TTOC, and any middle or secondary students working within close proximity, will be required to wear a mask. The students in the Learning Group will respect the 2m physical distance from the TTOC.

EXAMPLE 2

From time to time, mandatory safety measures need to be completed in schools such as fire inspections or maintenance work. If such measures cannot be scheduled when students are not in the building, anyone from outside the school needing to enter the building will be required to wash their hands when entering the site and maintain 2m of physical distance from students and staff. If they are unable to maintain 2m of physical distance from others, they are required to wear a mask.



EXAMPLE 3

Food that is prepared at home by parents or guardians for their child to eat at school can only be consumed by their own child and may not be shared with others. However, often parents/guardians and other volunteers are approved by the Principal to provide food services, such as breakfast and lunch programs, for all students. Principals will ensure that these volunteers or catering services staff follow all protocols regarding the regularly expected Food Safe procedures and are also expected to follow the school's COVID-19 Exposure Control Safety Plan for all visitors approved to enter the building.

As a person from outside of the school needing to interact with a Learning Group or the whole school:

- I call the school office to gain approval from the principal to enter the building for a specific purpose.
- I wash my hands before I enter the school and again before I enter a Learning Group.
- I consistently maintain 2m of physical distance from everyone in the school; if not, I am required to wear a mask.
- I follow all coughing, sneezing, and sharing safety protocols.
- I follow the signage and floor markings to each approved destination.

