

Acton Academy Nanaimo

71 Caledonia Avenue, Nanaimo, B.C.

Communicable Disease Prevention Plan

Kindergarten to Grade 7 · School year 2026–2027

Updated August 2026. This plan follows current guidance from the B.C. Ministry of Education and Child Care, the BC Centre for Disease Control, Island Health, and the Provincial Health Officer.

Our approach

Acton Academy Nanaimo is a small learner-driven community. Everyday habits — staying home when unwell, washing hands, and covering coughs — do most of the work of keeping studios healthy. We add extra steps only when Island Health or the Provincial Health Officer asks schools to do so.

This plan applies to learners, guides and staff, families, volunteers, and visitors at 71 Caledonia Avenue.

Everyday prevention

Stay home when unwell

Please do a quick check each morning. If you or your child has symptoms that would make a normal studio day difficult — fever, a new or worsening cough, vomiting, diarrhea, or simply feeling too unwell to take part — stay home until you or your child feels well enough to join regular activities.

A known condition such as seasonal allergies is not a reason to stay home if the person otherwise feels well. We do not ask for a doctor's note for ordinary illness. If you are unsure, call HealthLink BC at 8-1-1 or your health-care provider.

Gastrointestinal illness

After vomiting or diarrhea, public health often recommends staying home a little longer than you might for a cold. Follow advice from 8-1-1 or your provider before returning.

If someone becomes unwell at school

If a learner or staff member cannot continue the day, we will move them to a quiet space away from the studios, stay with younger children, and call home for prompt pick-up. Surfaces they used are cleaned before others use them.

Please keep emergency contacts current so we can reach you quickly.

Hands, coughs, and masks

- Soap and water or alcohol-based sanitizer (at least 60% alcohol) are available at the entrance, in washrooms, and in Spark and Discovery studios. We wash or sanitize on arrival, before eating, after using the washroom, after outdoor play, and after coughing or sneezing.
- Cough or sneeze into an elbow or tissue, throw the tissue away, and wash hands. Food, drinks, water bottles, and utensils are not shared.

- Wearing a mask is a personal choice. That choice is respected.

Cleaning and fresh air

Studios, washrooms, and common areas are cleaned each school day. Frequently touched surfaces are cleaned when they are visibly dirty and as needed during the day. Heating and ventilation are run as designed. Windows may be opened when weather allows, and we use the grounds for outdoor learning when it fits the day.

Lunch, snacks, and getting to school

We do not run a meal or snack program. Learners bring food from home and do not share it. We do not operate a school bus. Families arrange drop-off, pick-up, walking, or carpooling. The same stay-home-when-unwell expectation applies before anyone is brought to campus.

Visitors

Visitors are welcome. Please sign in at the office during the school day, and please do not come if you are unwell.

Immunization

B.C. families can check records in Health Gateway and book vaccines through Island Health or a pharmacy, family doctor, or nurse practitioner.

Under B.C.'s Vaccination Status Reporting Regulation, immunization records for school-aged children are held by public health in the Provincial Immunization Registry — not by the school. We do not collect, review, or keep a list of learner vaccination status. If Island Health needs to reach families during an exposure, current contact information at the school helps them do that quickly.

When a more serious illness is involved

Most colds, flu, and stomach bugs are handled at home with the steps above. Some illnesses, such as measles, are reportable. In those cases Island Health leads the response and tells the school what families need to know and whether anyone should stay home.

If measles is suspected or confirmed, current BCCDC school guidance is to stay home for four days after the rash starts, or for ten days from the start of symptoms if there is no rash, unless public health advises otherwise. People without documented immunity who were exposed may be asked by public health to stay home for up to 21 days. We follow Island Health's direction; we do not make those decisions on our own.

If we are worried about a possible measles case at school, we call Island Health the same day. We will not name the person who is ill in community messages.

If public health asks for extra steps

During a period of higher risk, the Provincial Health Officer or Island Health may ask schools to add temporary measures. We will put those in place and tell families what has changed and when the extra steps end. If the campus ever had to close for health or staffing reasons, we would send home core-skills and quest work and keep in touch with families until we reopen.

Questions and contacts

For day-to-day questions about this plan, email hello@actonacademynanaimo.ca. For health advice, use the numbers below.

Who	How to reach them
Acton Academy Nanaimo	hello@actonacademynanaimo.ca · 71 Caledonia Avenue
HealthLink BC	8-1-1
Nanaimo Public Health Unit	1665 Grant Avenue · 250-755-3342
Island Health communicable disease (Central Island)	250-740-2615 or 1-866-770-7798
Island Health after hours and weekends	1-800-204-6166
Measles information (BCCDC)	bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/measles
Provincial K-12 guidance	www2.gov.bc.ca — Communicable Disease Prevention in K-12 Schools

This plan is reviewed at least once each school year, and sooner if provincial or Island Health guidance changes.