



POLICY: JEG  
SUBJECT: EXCLUSION AND EXEMPTION  
FROM SCHOOL ATTENDANCE  
APPROVAL DATE: June 20, 1989  
REVISION DATE: March 4, 1997, December 18,  
2023  
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## 1. GENERAL

- 1.1 In accordance with the Public Schools Act, parents/guardians of a child who is of compulsory school age must ensure that the child attends school. A person is deemed not to be a child of compulsory school age under the Public Schools Act if the student is 16 years of age or older and withdrawn from parental control.
- 1.2 The Winnipeg School Division (WSD) believes that they may be extenuating circumstances that requires a student to be exempted or excluded from attending school.
- 1.3 No student shall be required to withdraw from a course due to circumstances deemed exceptional by the Principal.

## 2. DEFINITIONS

### 2.1 Exclusion

WSD, upon being notified that an order has been made under the Public Health Act that requires a student to refrain from attending school will promptly exclude the student from attendance at the school, and shall not permit the student to resume attendance while the order is in effect.

### 2.2 Exemption

- a) The child has received, or has completed the necessary requirements to receive, a graduation diploma or certificate of completion, as defined in the regulations made under subsection 259(2);
- b) The child is at least 15 years of age and is participating in an activity or program provided for in the regulations made under section 262.2;
- c) The child is absent or excused from school as authorized under this Act, a regulation made under this Act or another enactment; or
- d) The child is at least 16 years of age and has withdrawn from parental control.

### 2.3 Communicable Disease

An illness that is caused by the transmission of an infectious agent or its toxic products directly or indirectly from an infected person, animal or plant, an inanimate object or the environment.

## 3. EXCLUSIONS

- 3.1 WSD shall upon being notified that an order has been made under the Public Health Act that requires a student who attends school to refrain from attending school, shall promptly exclude the student from attendance and shall not permit the student to resume attendance while the order is in effect.
- 3.2 WSD shall permit exclusions for medical reasons if a Medical Professional considers a student's health condition endangers the health or welfare of students/employees.
- 3.3 If a student is suffering from a communicable disease or other physical, mental, or emotional condition that would endanger the health or welfare of the other students, the matter must be reported to the Superintendent.
- 3.4 WSD shall provide supports to the student to continue learning.



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3.5 A student who is excluded shall not be permitted to return to school until a certificate is received signed by the Medical Professional permitting the student to return to school.

3.6 Exclusions for medical reasons are permitted if a Medical Professional considers a student's health condition endangers the health or welfare of students/employees.

#### 4. EXEMPTIONS

4.1 Exemptions are permitted if:

- a) The child is unable to attend school by reason of sickness or other unavoidable cause or is excluded from attendance;
- b) A child is attending an independent school;
- c) A parent has registered a child for home schooling.

#### 5. EXEMPTION FROM LIABILITY

5.1 No person is guilty of an offence under the Public School Act for failing or refusing to ensure that their child attends school if the student is excused or exempt from school as authorized under this Act, a regulation made under this Act or another enactment, or the student is unable to attend school by reason of sickness or other unavoidable cause.

#### 6. RESPONSIBILITY

6.1 Superintendent/Chief Executive Officer (CEO)

The Superintendent/CEO is responsible for the implementation of this policy.

6.2 Assistant Superintendent

The Assistant Superintendent shall approve all requests for exclusion or exemption from school.

The Assistant Superintendent shall consult with a medical professional to determine whether additional measures are required to ensure the safety of students/staff.

The Principal shall notify the Assistant Superintendent when a student has been exposed to or is suffering from a communicable disease as defined in the Public Health Act regulations.

6.3 Principal

The Principal shall notify the appropriate local health authority that they have reason to believe that a student attending the school has been exposed to or is suffering from a communicable disease as defined in the Public Health Act and regulations.

The Principal shall meet with the parents/guardians to review relevant documentation and develop a plan for the student to continuing learning during the period of exclusion or exemption from school.

6.4 Teacher

The Teacher shall notify the Principal if that they have reason to believe that a student attending the school has been exposed to or is suffering from a communicable disease as defined in the Public Health Act and regulations.



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## 6.5 Appeal

Where a request for exemption or exclusion from school is not granted, parents/guardian may make an appeal to the Board of Trustees by contacting the Board and Community Liaison Officer to appear as a delegation.

In situations where requests from parents/guardians for exclusion or exemption are denied, you may contact the Assistant Superintendent to discuss your concerns. You may also contact the Board and Community Liaison Officer for assistance.