

## Homestay Covid -19 Policies

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, students are expected to follow specific policies to ensure their own and their host family's safety.

While COVID-19 remains part of our lives, families may have specific rules to ensure a safe and healthy environment. Please make sure you ask your host family about these upon arrival.

We strongly recommend to follow the policies below while you're staying with a homestay family:

- Wear a non-medical mask to cover your mouth and nose when crowded places cannot be avoided.
- Use hand sanitizer after touching public surfaces and using public transportation.
- Wash your hands regularly with soap for at least 20 seconds, especially upon re-entering the home.
- Cover your mouth when coughing/sneezing.
- Keep your bedroom and bathroom clean and regularly disinfect high-contact surfaces.
- You must not invite guests to your homestay unless you have your host family's prior permission.

If you are unclear about your host family's rules, contact [vgchomestay@vgc.ca](mailto:vgchomestay@vgc.ca) or talk to the Accommodation Team.

These rules should be followed in addition to the standard Homestay policies found on VGC's website (<https://vgc.ca/policies/>).

If you feel sick or show any symptoms of the virus, please inform your host family, seek advice from Health Link BC (dial 811) and call the VGC emergency line immediately. If you are worried about your mental wellbeing, contact VGC or your host family straight away.

Neither VGC nor your host family will be held responsible if a student contracts the virus while in homestay. Students who do catch the virus are expected to remain in their homestay, if possible, and quarantine for the required duration established by the health authorities. If a student tests positive for COVID-19 at the end of their stay, they may not be able to extend at their homestay.

### In the case that you test positive for COVID-19:

- Contact VGC and be led through the most recent process laid out by the Government.
- You can only leave your room in the case of a medical emergency.
- Your host will bring you your meals to your room. During this time, you will have 3 meals and will have to pay for the difference if you currently have 2 meals.
- You cannot go to school, other public areas or use public transportation.

It is important to note that despite having fewer COVID-19 cases, we are still in a pandemic; therefore, these rules must be followed to ensure the health and safety of both the student and host families.

The most recent COVID-19 updates can be found here: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/covid-19/info/response>

**Please note** - VGC reserves the right to change these policies at any time in line with the BC government's updates regarding COVID-19 safety measures. Last update: 04/14/2022

[www.VGC.ca](http://www.VGC.ca)

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