

School Safety Alert System

The Surrey School District has developed a School Safety Alert System to help keep students, staff and volunteers safe during a real or perceived threat. School administrators are authorized to activate a safety alert, and drills take place at schools regularly to ensure familiarity and compliance with safety protocols.

Safety alerts are activated with an announcement over the school's public address system. Areas where the PA system is not audible such as fields and restrooms are also secured. Each alert requires specific actions:

Code Red

A Code Red is called in response to a perceived life-threatening emergency either inside or in close proximity to the school building.

- Students already in classrooms remain there; any students or other individuals in hallways are immediately directed into the nearest classroom.
- Doors are locked and everyone stays away from windows, doors and outside walls.
- Windows and blinds are closed; lights are turned out.
- No one is permitted to enter or leave the building.
- Students are directed to turn off cellphones and there is no talking or outgoing calls; only adults are permitted to answer incoming calls.
- Once RCMP are involved, students and staff follow their instruction.
- Once a Code Green ("all clear") is given, students and staff exit their secure room and may be directed to an off-site assembly area that has been established in advance by the school.
- Students return to class as advised.



Code Yellow

A Code Yellow is typically called in response to a danger that has been identified outside the school or in the surrounding school community.

- Students remain in their classes; students and other individuals in the hallways are directed into the nearest classroom.
- Doors are closed.
- No one is permitted to enter or leave the building.
- Principals may lock the outside door, depending on the nature of the situation.
- If RCMP are involved, students and staff follow their instruction.
- A Code Green ("all clear") ends the alert and school routines return to normal.



Code Green

A Code Green is announced over the school's PA system when there is no longer a threat to the safety of students, staff and volunteers in the school. It signals an "all clear."



It's important to know that when a safety alert is called, the school is not able to immediately communicate the reason for initiating it as staff is focused on ensuring safety protocols are properly followed. Also, the School Safety Alert System is most often enacted as a safety precaution, rather than in response to a direct threat to safety.