

Disinfection of Travelling Suitcases

Genome BC's Geneskool™ follows strict protocols to ensure the safety of our staff, volunteers and the public when handling our travelling suitcase exhibits.

- We wear disposable gloves when cleaning and disinfecting surfaces. Gloves are discarded after each cleaning.
- If reusable gloves are used, they are dedicated for cleaning and disinfection of surfaces for COVID-19 and are not used for other purposes. Reusable gloves are cleaned and disinfected after each use.
- Hands are cleaned immediately after gloves are removed.
- If the surface of the suitcase is dirty, it is cleaned using a detergent or soap and water prior to disinfection.
- Surfaces are then disinfected using diluted household bleach solutions. These solutions include at least 70% alcohol. Household bleach solutions are diluted 1/3 cup of bleach per gallon of water.
- Suitcases are then stored for three days* before they are allowed to be shipped.
- We recommend that teachers also disinfect the suitcase and materials before use since the suitcase has now been in transit.

***Coronavirus on surfaces:**

The virus that causes COVID-19 is stable for several hours to days in aerosols and on surfaces, according to a new study from National Institutes of Health (NIH), CDC, UCLA and Princeton University. The results of this study reported by the NIH indicated that Coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) was detectable

- up to 4 hours on copper
- up to 24 hours on cardboard (due to the cardboard acting as a dessicant to the virus)
- up to 2-3 days on plastic and stainless steel.
- Read the article at <https://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/new-coronavirus-stable-hours-surfaces>