



“JC QUAKE READY”

Your Earthquake Safety Guide for Jamaica College

ISSUE #1; JANUARY 13, 2025

"At Jamaica College, the safety of our students and staff is a priority. In this special edition of our newsletter, we'll walk you through important earthquake protocols, evacuation plans, and essential guidelines for parents in the event of an earthquake. Together, let's ensure that JC remains a safe and resilient school for champions."

Earthquake Protocols for Students and Staff

Before the Earthquake

- Be Familiar with the evacuation routes (see map below)
- participate in earthquake drills
- know the designated safe areas

EMERGENCY EVACUATION ROUTES

KEY

- 1st form block to field ●
- 2nd form block to field ●
- 3rd/6th form block to field ●
- 4th form block to field ●
- 5th form block to field ●
- Main Admin Building, Health Dept. , Guidance, ICT & Dormitory to field ●

*Take route most closely aligned to location

During the Earthquake

Students will:

- Immediately carry out DROP, COVER, HOLD Procedures by taking cover under desks and tables
- MOVE AWAY from windows.
- Remain in sheltered position for at least 60 seconds
- Be silent and listen to instructions



Teacher will:

- Take Cover
- Talk Calmly to students
- Review procedure for evacuating classroom

After the Earthquake

- Follow evacuation procedures immediately.
- Proceed to the designated assembly points (the top field) in an orderly manner.
- Report any injuries or damage to a teacher or staff member.

Additional Considerations

If Indoors

- In halls, stairways, or other areas where no cover is available, move to an interior wall. Turn away from windows, kneel alongside the wall, bend head close to knees, cover sides of head with elbows and clasp hands firmly behind the neck.
- If you are in the library, immediately move away from windows and bookshelves and take appropriate cover.
- In laboratories and kitchens, all burners should be extinguished (if possible) before taking cover. Stay clear of hazardous chemicals that may spill.

If outdoors:

- Move to an open space away from buildings and overhead power lines.
- Crouch low to the ground (your legs may not be steady). Keep looking around to be aware of dangers that may bring you harm.
- If you are in a motor vehicle (just getting ready to leave for a school excursion), stop the vehicle away from power lines, bridges, overpasses and buildings. Students should remain in their seats and hold on.
- Indoors or outdoors, when an earthquake occurs: **TAKE ACTION AT THE FIRST INDICATION OF GROUND SHAKING:**



Picking Up Students After an Earthquake

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As part of our commitment to safety, we want to ensure you are aware of the pick procedure for your child after an earthquake. Below are key guidelines to follow during such an event:

1. Stay Calm and Wait for Instructions

- Wait for official notification from the school before coming to the premises.
- Do not phone the school, as we may be trying to reach you or emergency services.
- When safe to travel, go to the school to collect your child. Your child will NOT be released otherwise.

2. Follow Designated Pick-Up Procedures

- Check for updates on pick-up locations, as these may change based on the situation.
- Only individuals listed on the emergency contact form can pick up children.

3. Be Patient

- Reuniting children with families takes time to ensure everyone's safety
- Be prepared for potential delays caused by road conditions or other factors.

4. Follow Traffic Guidelines

- Be mindful of emergency vehicles and traffic that may be near the school.
- Use designated parking areas only.

5. Communicate with the School

- If you cannot reach the school immediately, notify us of your situation as soon as it is safe.
- If you are unable to reach the school, contact a designated guardian to collect your child.
- Ensure your contact information is always up to date.



We at Jamaica College believe that preparation is the key to safety. By working together we can ensure that our school community is ready to face challenges with resilience and confidence. Thank you for your partnership in making JC a safe and resilient school for champions."