



SD8 Kootenay Lake
Adam Robertson Elementary School
Return to School Plan September 2020



Four Guiding Principles during the COVID-19 Pandemic:

1. Maintain a healthy and safe environment for all students, families, and staff.
2. Provide the services needed to support the children of our essential workers.
3. Support vulnerable students who may need special assistance.
4. Provide continuity of educational opportunities for all students.
5. Promote positive relationships and keep students at the centre of our learning.

The Ministry has released detailed plans to support the safe return to in class learning. Please read this; it's available on the website under 'NEWS STORIES'.

The following are the ways in which Adam Robertson Elementary is setting up for the successful return of our students and implementing the guidelines. It is meant to give you a picture of the day, some necessary routines and expectations, and to let you know that we are and will be ready for your kids!!

1. Learning Groups & Timetable

- This is a brief of ARES' day. When students arrive the first week teachers will go through an orientation of all the following procedures and the health and safety guidelines.
- There are 7 learning groups (cohorts) at Adam Robertson Elementary School. This means essentially, 2 classes together will be a group of learners that can interact together still following the health and safety guidelines. We have grouped these by grades and classroom proximities. This will be announced the first week that staff is back, with class assignments and confirmations of registrations.
- Our school is looking fabulous and are set for the processes put into place that follow the health and safety guidelines of Dr. Bonnie Henry and the Ministry of Education.
- **Kindergarten:** We will go with a gradual entry. This schedule will go to all registered Kindergarten students and be provided to new registrations as they come in. This will be posted on our school website.

2. Bell Schedule & Breaks

- At the bell times teachers will greet their class and lead them into the building through their assigned entry/exit doors. We did this in June and it made everything, smoother, quicker and organized. Students were fabulous!!

- We are dividing the playgrounds into four zones- South Field, Tarmac, playground structure/sand pit, North Field/Eco space.
- Schedule will be rotated through each outdoor group. TBD with staff.
- There will be a 10 minute time frame between recess groups and the transition outside to inside.
- Each class will continue to be supervised during eating time, in their classroom.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wed	Thurs	Fri
8:45	Bell				
10:25-10:40	Primary Groups outside (1,2,3,4)				
10:40-10:50	Transition coming in and going out				
10:50-11:05	Intermediate Groups Outside (5,6,7)				
	Class time				
12:05	Primary learning groups eating inside, Intermediate learning groups outside play (5,6,7)				
12:25	Intermediate learning groups Eating, Primary learning groups outside play(1,2,3,4)				
12:50	bell				
2:50	end				

3. Movement Through the Building

- As stated previously, at the bell times teachers will greet their class and lead them into the building through their assigned entry/exit doors. We did this in June and it made everything, smoother, quicker and organized. Students were fabulous!!
- Students will have access to the water filling station but are expected to start the day with a full water bottle.
- Movement in hallways will be planned but access to the washrooms are as before. We will ask students to limit to 2 in the washroom at a time.

4. Health and Safety

- All visitors (including all parents) must make an appointment with the Principal and sign in/ out with the secretary. They must wear a mask and complete the health & safety check
- Staff and Students are required to wear non-medical masks when:
 - In high traffic areas;
 - In common areas such as hallways;
 - Outside of their Learning Groups whenever physical distancing cannot be maintained.
- Staff and students can choose to wear masks at any other time if that is their personal preference.
- Middle and Secondary students are required to wear a mask on the school bus. Exceptions will be made for students who cannot wear masks for medical reasons.
- Two non-medical face masks will be made available to staff and students upon arrival.
- Handwashing or hand sanitizing will continue to be a daily part of expectations: upon entry to school, before and after eating, before and after using the washroom, before and after going outside.
- **Anyone feeling ill** must stay home. This includes all staff and students
- Should a child become sick while at school, that person will be escorted to our sick room across from the office, and Parents/guardians will be called to pick up their child.
- Students are expected to follow the school code of conduct. This will be posted on line and in all classrooms.

5. Transportation

Arrival:

- The day will start with bus students arriving as per bus schedule. Students will go to the assigned playground for class line ups. This will be communicated before the first day of students on site.
- Students being dropped off or walking to school, are to arrive no earlier than 8:35 am.

Dismissal

- At the end of the day, teachers will lead their class outside through their assigned entry/exit doors. Students walking home are to leave immediately. Students being picked up by parents, need to be ready for pick up as soon as possible at the end of the day.
- Bus students will gather on the north playground tarmac and wait for their assigned bus.
- All bus students must be registered to ride the bus and cannot change or hop on another bus.

Final words for today:

Over the next while you may be inundated with information. Take your time in reading these, and re-read for understanding. Seek out credible and reliable information about the Pandemic and the protocols expected. Our district web page provides links to the most current information. www.sd8.bc.ca

I am very confident in the work the province has done, what the district has done and is doing, and our school plans to get back to in class learning.

Looking forward to a fabulous year at Adam Robertson Elementary!!

Joanne Beddoes

Principal

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