

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 Erickson 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

- 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 4 learning groups (cohorts) at Erickson 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

- We are dividing the playgrounds into two zones – learning groups will remain in their assigned zones during break times
- Zones for each cohort will be rotated through
- Each class will continue to be supervised during eating time, in their classroom.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wed	Thurs	Fri
8:00	Some busses start to arrive				
8:15	Students walking, or being dropped off by parents can start to arrive				
8:28	Bell to start classes				
	Class time				
10:16-10:31	Intermediate learning groups recess				
10:31-10:46	Primary learning groups recess				
	Class time				
11:43-12:26	Intermediate learning group lunch recess, followed by eating in their classrooms for last 15 minutes				
11:56-12:39	Primary learning groups lunch recess, starting with first 15 minutes eating in their classroom				
	Class time				
2:30	Bell				
2:35	Students on ready to load busses or picked up by parents				

3. Movement Through the Building

- Students will enter and leave the building through the outside classroom doors.
- Movement in hallways will be planned and will be accompanied by a staff member or special permission to use the washrooms or other trips that are deemed necessary.

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.
- 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. Sinks and soap are located in each of the classrooms
- **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, 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.
- Non-medical masks are required to be used in situations where a person cannot maintain physical distance and is in close proximity to a person outside their learning group. Our school will have non-medical masks available for staff and students, including anyone who becomes ill at school. Masks are not required for younger elementary; however, we strongly encourage everyone to wear one.
- 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.

5. Transportation

Arrival:

- The day will start with bus students arriving as per bus schedule. Students will go to their classroom doors and will be directed to where they can be before school starts for the day.
- Students being dropped off or walking to school, are to arrive no earlier than 8:15 am.

Dismissal

- At the end of the day, teachers will lead their class outside. 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 be taken straight to their bus for loading. There will be a line up for the bus that arrives later.
- All bus students must be registered to ride the bus and cannot change or hop on another bus.

Final words for today:

The staff has been preparing for a smooth and successful return to school for all students. Take your time to read the information and keep yourself informed. www.sd8.bc.ca provides the most current information and I will continue to send emails and information.

Looking forward to a fabulous year at Erickson Elementary!

Ken Wiens

Principal

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