

J. V. Humphries 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 of Education has released detailed plans to support the safe return to in class learning. Please look at the SD8 website under 'NEWS STORIES'.

The following are the ways in which J. V. Humphries is planning for the successful return of our students and implementing the Public Health guidelines. It is meant to give you a picture of the day, some newer routines and expectations, and to let you know that we are and will be ready for your children.

1. Learning Groups & Timetable

- When students arrive (Grade 1-7 students on September 10th and grade 8-12 students on September 11th) the principal and teachers will go through an orientation of all the procedures and the health and safety guidelines. Parents will know by September 9th by email what Learning Group their elementary learner is in. All secondary students are in the same learning group.
- There are 3 learning groups at our school, Primary, Intermediate and Secondary. This means that those in a learning group will be able to interact in their school wing and play area while following the health and safety guidelines.
- Our school is looking spotless and we 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 learners will have a gradual entry schedule. Ms. Pollick will send a letter to all registered Kindergarten students with the details.
- Because our school is so well designed for Learning Groups, our primary, intermediate, and secondary schedules and bell times will be very close to what they have been in the past.

2. Bell Schedule & Breaks

- School bell schedule - please see our website
- We will not have staggered breaks and lunches, and all students will have breaks and lunch in their normal areas: primary, intermediate, and secondary
- Elementary students will eat lunch in their desks and then go outside to play. Secondary students will eat in the sitting areas in the hallways.
- We will have what is called a “closed campus” which means that our students will not be able to go to town for lunch. **All students will need to bring their lunches every day. If it is necessary for a student to leave school grounds during the day, parents will need to inform the office ahead of time.**

3. Movement Through the Building

- Students in the Primary wing will enter through the door nearest their play area at the end of the south hall.
- Students in the Intermediate wing will enter through the door nearest their play area, at the end of the north hall.
- Secondary students will enter by the gym doors.
- Staff will enter and sign in at the front doors.
- When the bell rings, and students come into the building, there will be a supervisor to ensure that all students are sanitizing their hands. Students will bring their things to their class.
- Students will use the washrooms in their own wing. They will have access to the library and gyms when scheduled by their teachers.

4. Health and Safety

- All visitors (including all parents) must make an appointment with the Principal ahead of time and sign in/ out with the secretary. They must wear a mask and complete the health & safety check.
- Hand washing and sanitizing station protocols will be posted and every class and entrance will have a table with hand sanitizer on it.
- Handwashing or hand sanitizing will continue to be a regular part of school expectations: upon entry to school, before and after eating, before and after using the washroom, before and after going outside.
- If a child becomes sick, their parents will be called to pick them up. They will wait in the medical room with someone who will make sure they are comfortable and supported.
- 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. Masks are not required within learning groups; however, we strongly encourage everyone to wear one.
- Our school will have non-medical masks available for staff and students, including anyone who becomes ill at school.

- Students in grades 6-12 are required to wear a mask on the school bus. Students in Kindergarten to grade 5 are not required, but strongly encouraged to wear a mask on the bus. Exceptions will be made for students who cannot wear masks for medical reasons.
- **Anyone feeling ill** must stay home. This includes all staff and students.

5. Transportation

- The day will start with bus students arriving as per bus schedule. Students will go to their Learning Group Playground and when the bell rings, they will line up with their class. 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 8:30 am.
- Please do not forget to register your child to ride the bus on the district website (this must be done every year). If possible, we encourage you to bring your child to and from school to reduce the number of riders.
- We ask that you do not change your child's bus plan from the one you registered. This means that after school plans cannot involve a change in what bus run your child goes on.

Dismissal

- At the end of the day, elementary teachers will lead their class outside through their assigned entry/exit doors. Students walking home or getting picked up are to leave at that time.
- Bus students will wait for the bus bell and go out to an assigned area to load.

As always, please reach out if you have questions. I was so impressed with how smooth and comfortable it was in the spring when we welcomed students back to SD8 and I am confident it will be the same.

Victoria McAllister