



## BACK TO SCHOOL HEALTH AND SAFETY PROTOCOLS

*This information is for parents/guardians regarding students' return to school on a part-time, voluntary basis in Delta School District.*

*Students must not attend school if they demonstrate any signs of illness.*

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are pleased to welcome your child(ren) back to school and provide you the following information to inform you about the protocols required to ensure the continued health and safety of our school communities. This guidance is from the BC Centre for Disease Control, the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education. We appreciate your cooperation and understanding.

### WHEN TO KEEP YOUR CHILD AT HOME

- Everyone entering the school needs to make sure that they are healthy. Anyone who is feeling sick needs to self-isolate at home so they don't get others sick.
- Parents and caregivers must assess their child daily for symptoms of common cold, influenza, COVID-19, or other infectious respiratory disease before sending them to school.
- If you are unsure about sending your child to school, please refer to the [BC COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool](#), or contact 8-1-1, or the local public health unit to seek further input.
- Children who show any signs of illness should stay at home and parents must notify the school. All students and staff who have symptoms of COVID-19, or who have travelled outside of Canada in the last 14 days, or were identified as a close contact of a confirmed case or outbreak must stay home and self-isolate.
- If your child does become sick while at school, they will be isolated and you will be notified and asked to pick up your child **as soon as possible**.

### ATTENDANCE

- If your child is unable to attend school on a day they have been scheduled to attend, please call the school office to notify them.

### PREPARING YOUR CHILD FOR A DAY AT SCHOOL

- Please ensure that your child washes his/her hands before school and when they return home. This will be a routine procedure throughout your child's day at school.
- Your child will be asked to use only their personal items and not to share them. Please pack water bottles, as all water fountains will be turned off.
- Please apply sunscreen to your child before they arrive at school, or send sunscreen they are able to apply themselves (teachers will not be permitted to apply sunscreen to your child), and a hat for sunny days, and proper clothing for all kinds of weather, as we will be spending lots of time outdoors.



**INCREASED HEALTH & SAFETY MEASURES**

- We need to be careful so that we don't spread germs at school. To keep everyone safe, things will be different at school.
- Students who come to school will attend in smaller groups and will attend part-time.

**MORNING DROP OFF / PICK UP**

- We will implement staggered drop-off and pick up times, in addition to modified/staggered lunch and recess times in order to ensure physical distancing measures are kept. Please make every effort to bring you child to school and pick them up on time.
- There will be distancing markers to stand on/in (chalk circles, tape boxes, tape lines).
- Parents will not be able to come into the school, unless absolutely necessary.
- We ask that parents observe physical distancing and leave school grounds promptly upon drop off or pick up.

**ENTERING THE BUILDING**

- Students will be invited in from the line up one by one.
- Students will be asked to wash or sanitize their hands as soon as they enter the building. We would greatly appreciate children bringing their own small bottle of sanitizer, labelled with their name and for their use only, if possible.
- Each student will go to their desk/table in the classroom and wait there until all of the students arrive (activity to do while waiting)
- There will be directional flow markers for students to follow in hallways so that physical distancing can be observed.

**CLASSROOM SET UP The classroom will look different.**

- Desks/tables/spaces will be set up to leave at least 2 meters of space in between them.
- Many things in the classroom will be put away.
- Students will sit at their own table or desk.
- There will be tape/markers on floor for one-way travel to avoid accidental close contact.

**LOTS AND LOTS OF HAND WASHING**

- Thorough hand washing with plain soap and water for at least 20 seconds is the most effective way to reduce the spread of illness.
- There will be many hand washing times throughout the day:
  - Upon arrival and before departure
  - Before and after any breaks
  - After sneezing or coughing into hands
  - Before and after eating and drinking
  - After using the toilet
  - After playing outside
  - After sneezing or coughing
  - Whenever their hands are visibly dirty



- Staff will teach, practice and model good hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette (cough or sneeze into their elbow sleeve or a tissue).

### **WASHROOM USE**

- We will limit washroom use to one at a time.
- We need to limit the things that we touch and keep it clean.
- Washrooms will be cleaned twice a day.

### **SNACKS AND LUNCHES**

- Children should bring all food in a lunch bag and containers that can be packed in and all remaining food and wrappers will be packed out (you may want to send an extra baggie to pack the garbage in).
- There will be NO lunch drop off after school start.
- Students will eat snacks and lunch in their assigned seat.
- Students will eat only their own food, and will not share with others.
- Please use containers that your child can open independently.

### **RECESS AND LUNCH BREAKS**

- There will be NO physical contact sports, but there will be more time outside with classmates.
- Playground structures will be open starting June 1.
- We will not be able to share equipment at school.
- Students will need to find other things to do outside, and keep their distance from others. There will be lots of options given!

### **INSTRUCTION**

- There are many things that we will be able to do at school!
- Students will need to stay at their desk or table and do their activities on their own, keeping distance at all times.
- Much time will be spent outside, with physical distance boundaries observed.

### **SOME SPACES WILL BE OFF LIMITS**

- Gym, Library, Story Studio, Music and Multi-purpose rooms will be No-Go Zones

### **THE CUSTODIANS WILL WORK HARD TO KEEP OUR SCHOOL CLEAN**

- Regular cleaning and disinfection are essential to preventing the transmission of COVID-19. Schools will be cleaned and disinfected in accordance with the [BCCDC's Cleaning and Disinfectants for Public Settings document](#).
- General cleaning and disinfecting of schools should occur at least once a day, and frequently touches surfaces should be cleaned and disinfected at least twice a day.
- We can make our custodians' job easier by making sure that we clean up after ourselves and leave our desk/table spaces clear.