

MEADOWS WEST SCHOOL

2020 - 2021

Planning for a Safe Return to School

A series of several parallel white lines of varying lengths, slanted diagonally from the bottom-left towards the top-right, located in the lower right quadrant of the slide.

Principal's Message

Dear Meadows West Community,

For the past few weeks we at Meadows West have been making plans and setting the stage for a new and different school year. This year, more than ever, there will be an emphasis on safety, health and hygiene. In order to make our return to school year a success, we have increased our cleaning schedule in the building - with an emphasis on disinfecting and sanitizing high touch surfaces. In all of our spaces we are making an effort to maintain social distancing and limit the number of people occupying a space. Of equal importance is maintaining a positive attitude.

As well, we will continue to foster learning and support mental health during this pandemic. Together we can overcome any challenges that arise. Kindness and patience will be a key to the success of our school year!

I am looking forward to welcoming your children back to school and working with the great team of staff at Meadows West.

Your partner in education,
Wayne Wyke

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ENTRANCES AND EXITS

OUR GOAL IS TO MINIMIZE CONTACT BETWEEN GROUPS OF STUDENTS AND ENSURE THAT ALL VISITORS TO OUR BUILDING (INCLUDING PARENTS) ENTER SAFELY

- ▶ All exterior doors will be locked throughout the day to control who comes in.
- ▶ In order to enter through front doors, phone the school office upon arrival.
- ▶ A designated adult will meet you at the front door.
- ▶ Health screening questions will be asked.
- ▶ Hand Sanitizer available at all entrances
- ▶ Tape on floor for social distancing purposes

Designated Entryways for All Staff, Students, Parents & Visitors:

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Staff | Parking Lot Doors |
| Students | designated entrance and exit by cohort |
| Daycare | designated entrance and exit for all daycare children |
| Parents | designated drop off and pick up zones outside |
| Visitors | front door entrance only, call upon arrival |

START AND END OF DAY ROUTINES

OUR GOAL IS TO HAVE PARENTS PICK-UP & DROP OFF THEIR CHILDREN OUTSIDE AND TO LIMIT HALLWAY TRAFFIC AT THE START AND END OF THE DAY

- ▶ Parents will drop students off outside at designated “drop zones”
- ▶ Students will form socially distanced lines with their class & Teacher
- ▶ Children will be asked screening questions before entering the school
- ▶ Class groups will enter the building through designated entrances.
- ▶ Class groups will exit the building through their designated exit.
- ▶ Parents will pick up their children outside at designated “pick-up zones”
- ▶ The school day starts at 9:00 and ends at 3:30

LUNCH ROUTINES

OUR GOAL IS TO HAVE STUDENTS ENJOY A SAFE LUNCH HOUR

- ▶ **Staff** may eat in the room with the students, Library, Staff Room or Gym
- ▶ **Students** will have assigned seating in their classroom and must bring their own lunches, individually wrapped in disposable containers.
- ▶ We will ensure handwashing or hand hygiene is performed before and after lunch.
- ▶ We will reinforce among children that sharing food or water bottles is not allowed.

RECESS BREAKS

TEACHERS WILL ACCOMPANY THEIR CLASS OUTSIDE FOR RECESS
WE WILL NOT HAVE ONE DESIGNATED RECESS TIME

- ▶ We will maintain separate containers of equipment for each class or cohort and clean between recess periods.
- ▶ We will mark out play zones, manage group sizes, and avoid contact among groups.
- ▶ Minimize contact sport engagement to facilitate social distancing.
- ▶ Ensure handwashing or hand hygiene is performed before and after recess.
- ▶ Reinforce among children that sharing food or water bottles is not allowed.

CLEANING

WE HAVE IMPLEMENTED INCREASED CLEANING, DISINFECTING AND SANITIZING ROUTINES

- ▶ Increased frequency of cleaning, disinfecting and sanitizing, particularly high-touch surfaces and common/shared areas, will be required.
- ▶ Disinfect commonly touched surfaces frequently, at least twice daily (e.g., doorknobs, light switches, electronic devices, chairs, desks, art supplies, toys, games, gym equipment, tools and equipment).
- ▶ Increase monitoring of hand cleaning supplies to ensure an ample supply at all sinks in washroom and kitchen areas.

MASKS

WE RECOMMEND THAT EVERYONE WEAR A MASK AT SCHOOL

- ▶ The province has mandated that **Grade 4-12 students** wear a mask while attending in-person classes
- ▶ The province mandates that **All Staff** wear masks while working at school
- ▶ We recommend that **All Visitors and Volunteers** wear masks at Meadows West School

1 Before putting on a mask, wash hands with alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water

2 Cover mouth and nose with mask and make sure there are no gaps between your face and the mask
Avoid touching the mask while using it; if you do, clean your hands with alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water

3 Replace the mask with a new one as soon as it is damp and do not re-use single-use masks

4 To remove the mask: remove it from behind (do not touch the front of mask); discard immediately in a closed bin; wash hands with alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water

VISITORS AND VOLUNTEERS

- ▶ Meadows West School will minimize visitors and volunteers at the school.
- ▶ When their presence is necessary, visitors and volunteers must first self-screen, we will also ask screening questions upon entry to the school.
- ▶ Community use of schools will be suspended, with the exception of our child care centre.
- ▶ All visitors and volunteers must adhere to the physical distancing and hygiene practices that are in place for students and staff.
 - ▶ Adults must wear masks.
 - ▶ Please be attentive to directional arrows on floor.

WHAT IF MY CHILD EXHIBITS SYMPTOMS OF ILLNESS AT SCHOOL?

- ▶ If a child begins to exhibit symptoms of illness during the school day, that child will be taken to a separate, isolated room.
- ▶ If a separate room is not immediately available, the child needs to be kept at least two metres or six feet away from other children and staff.
- ▶ A medical mask will be provided to be worn by the sick student (over two years of age only), unless there are safety issues that prevent the student from wearing a mask.
- ▶ Your child will be monitored by an adult while we contact parents/guardians to notify them that their child needs to be picked up immediately. Parents or caregivers must pick up their child as soon as possible if they are notified their child is ill.
- ▶ If you or a caregiver is unreachable to pick up your child, school staff will keep your child isolated in a separate room until you or caregiver arrives. If the medical condition requires urgent assessment, or if you cannot be located, we will follow standard procedures. Anyone in close contact with your child while waiting will wear personal protective equipment, including a medical mask
- ▶ We will ask the parent or guardian to contact Health Links – Info Santé (204-788-8200 or 1-888-315-9257) or the child’s health care provider for direction, if required.

IF MY CHILD HAS BEEN ILL, WHEN CAN THEY RETURN TO SCHOOL?

- ▶ Your child can return to the school once it has been determined that it is safe to do so by their health care provider or public health.

WHAT IF A CHILD FROM THE SCHOOL TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19?

- ▶ If a child has a tested positive for COVID-19, further direction will be provided to their family by public health.
- ▶ Public health typically follows up with contacts of cases within 24 to 48 hours of receipt of the laboratory report.
- ▶ At the school, our next steps will be determined by the directions that we receive from Public Health.

Meadows West Contact Information

- ▶ If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the school:

Phone: 204.694.6755

Email: meadowswest@wsd1.org