



## Woodlands School Reopening Plan – September 2021

*We had hoped that this pandemic would be completely behind us by now, but it is not. We have the responsibility as a school community to each do our part to ensure the safety and health of all students, staff, and families. Our return to school this fall will be in many ways similar to how we returned in September of 2020. Please take some time to review this plan so you are familiar with what we are doing to have a safe environment for our staff and students.*

**\*notable changes from the previous school year\***

Our school reopening plan is broken up into the following sections:

1. **Student Learning**
2. **Building & Operations**
3. **Student & Family Support**

### Student Learning

- School will reopen to full-time in class learning on September 9<sup>th</sup> (K - Sept. 14) All classes will remain as originally planned in June:
  - K - 1 class (school days 2,4,6)
  - 1/2 - 2 classes
  - 3/4 - 2 classes
  - 5/6 - 1 class
  - 7/8 - 1 class
- We will have 2 cohorts of students. The K-2 cohort will have 53 students (35 on non-K days) and the 3-8 cohort will have 77 students. The K-2 cohort will be primarily located in the west wing of the school, whereas the 3-8 cohort will be primarily located in the east wing. These 2 cohorts will rarely come in contact with each other during the school day.
- Our 2 student cohorts will have staggered activity/nutrition breaks - similar to previous years:
  - 10:35 - K-2 nutrition break, 3-8 activity break
  - 10:58 - K-2 activity break, 3-8 nutrition break
  - 1:00 - K-2 nutrition break, 3-8 activity break
  - 1:28 - K-2 activity break, 3-8 nutrition break
- Outdoor learning and the use of our playground for Physical Education classes is strongly encouraged. When the weather permits, teachers will strive to take the learning outdoors. Please ensure your child comes to school prepared on a daily basis to participate in outdoor learning.

- **Extra-curricular programming will be permitted in accordance with public health guidance.** We are planning on offering a number of different extra-curricular sport options (e.g. Volleyball), and other extra-curricular programming for our students (e.g. breakfast program, clubs, field trips, special events, guest speakers). We hope to offer our students a full range of programming, but in order to do so we need to ensure the necessary safety measures are put in place prior.
- **Grade 7 & 8 Life Skills programming (Woodworking & Home Economics) at Warren Collegiate is returning on day 4's in the afternoon.**

## Building & Operations

- There will be an emphasis on cleaning, disinfecting, and sanitizing - particularly on high-touch surfaces and in common/shared areas. We have recently received additional custodial time which will help address this need.
- Proper hand hygiene will be stressed to students from staff on a consistent basis throughout the school day. Handwashing with soap and water for 20 seconds is the recommended practice. We will encourage and supervise proper hand hygiene at various times of the day (e.g. After recess, before eating), and hand sanitizer will also be made available. All students and staff will sanitize their hands at entrances every time they enter the building. This will be a controlled procedure led by staff.
- **All visitors, staff, and students (all grades) will be required to wear non-medical face masks when indoors.** This includes masks in the classroom, gymnasium, and while riding the bus. Masks are not required when students are outside. The school has masks available for those students who need them.
- We will make use of our 3 main entrances so students can enter and exit the building in a safe manner. We will avoid students queuing in line for extended periods by monitoring doors and staggering entrance and exit times. Kindergarten students will enter/exit the K room doors at all times. Our 1/2 classrooms will enter/exit through the daycare doors. Our 3/4 classes will enter/exit through the staff parking lot doors. Our 5/6 and 7/8 classes will enter/exit through the main doors. To avoid congestion, one classroom will enter at each set of doors at one time - once that classroom is in their rooms the next classroom will enter.
- Students will have access to assigned lockers in the hallway outside their classroom to store their backpack, lunch, and clothing. Students will hang their masks on the hooks on the inside locker door prior to going outside.

- Staff will encourage physical distancing in classrooms to the greatest extent possible. However, at this time classrooms will not be split up to enforce a strict distance of 2M between students. Staff will do their best to spread out students in the classroom and utilize the maximum amount space.
- Students will eat their snack/lunch in their individual classrooms or outside. Microwaves will not be made available for student use. Please send food that is easily prepared and accessed by your child.
- Self-screening should take place at the start of each day for staff and students. It is imperative that students and staff stay home if they are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 - cough, headache, fever/chills, muscle aches, sore throat/hoarse voice, etc. The school will not be directly screening individuals entering the school each day. Staff will be closely monitoring students for symptoms and will be connecting with the Principal if they have any concerns around student health. A self-screening tool can be found [here](#).
- If a student becomes ill while at school or they are displaying symptoms, they will be isolated in a predetermined space in the school and provided with a medical mask to be worn. Parents/guardians will be notified immediately to have their child picked up. It is the responsibility of parents to have a plan in place to pick up their child in event their child becomes ill.

## Student & Family Support

- All students are expected to participate fully in in-school programming unless they have been medically advised not to. Schools are critical to the mental-health and well-being of children and we are excited to for our students to return on September 9<sup>th</sup>.
- When and if students are absent from school due to illness or self-isolation, we will plan to meet their needs through take-home package and communication with home.
- Our students will once again need time and practice when it comes to adjusting to new school routines and expectations. Regular check-ins, and support from our school's student services team will help us address our students' academic, social, and emotional needs which will lead to our students reaching their potential. Our student's mental health and well-being will be an area of focus during this upcoming school year.
- In all classrooms, students will be instructed on the importance of physical distancing, proper hand hygiene, and symptom monitoring. These important topics will be reinforced on a consistent basis across classrooms and settings.

Additional resources and answers to frequently asked questions can be found on the [Interlake School Division website](#) and the [Province of Manitoba's K-12 COVID-19 Information page](#).

This plan is fluid and will be altered as public health guidelines change. We will continue to work collaboratively with the Interlake School Division and Manitoba Health to ensure we are doing everything we can to keep our students and staff safe.

Any feedback, clarifications, or questions in regards to this plan can be directed to:

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