

School Re-Entry Plan 2020-2021

The Calgary Changemaker School's top priority is to protect both the physical and mental health and safety of students and staff while providing our students with a high quality education.

Our school has prepared for three possible scenarios for the 2020-2021 school year based on the Alberta Education School Re-Entry Plans. The scenario being implemented is determined by the Alberta Chief Medical Officer and Alberta Education. The school is prepared to move between scenarios as required by the Chief Medical Officer.

While it is not possible to eliminate all risks related to COVID19 within any school, we aim to reduce the risks in our school by taking reasonable precautionary measures as outlined by Alberta Education and Alberta Health Services (AHS). Supporting the return to in-person classes will take the collective support and efforts of teachers, staff, students and parents/guardians. Parents/guardians play a critical role as they support actions in the home (such as keeping students home when sick and accessing testing if symptoms develop) that ultimately keep other students and staff safe.

SCENARIO 1

Scenario 1 is the preferred and most likely scenario. **All students return to school on a “near-normal” basis.** We ask that all staff, students and parents work together to implement the following risk reduction strategies:

- If exhibiting symptoms of illness that are abnormal to them, staff, parents/guardians, volunteers and visitors are asked to assess whether they or their child should come into the school or not by taking the self-assessment COVID19 quiz at: <https://myhealth.alberta.ca/Journey/COVID-19/Pages/COVID-Self-Assessment.aspx>
- There will be daily cleaning of all areas of the school including washrooms and high-touch surface areas. Students and staff will be encouraged to support and participate in general cleaning efforts. Deep cleaning and disinfection by contracted cleaning professionals will occur once per week when students and staff are not in the building.
- We will be implementing a strict stay-at-home policy for any students or staff exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19. See **Protocols and Expectations** section of this document for further clarification.
- We will be maintaining smaller class sizes this year (average of 12 students per class) and cohorting by class where possible allowing for full-time, in-person school in both scenarios.
- We have organized our already large open-concept rooms to allow for more physical space for each student.
- Parent drop off: preference is that parents remain in vehicles. Parents and siblings should not accompany their children into the school. An administrator will be outside with students as they enter and exit the building.

- Zoom meetings will continue to be available for families who prefer to speak to their teachers or school administration remotely.
- We will instruct students on hand washing hygiene and respiratory etiquette (e.g. cover coughs and sneezes with elbow, avoid touching the face, dispose used tissues promptly, followed by hand hygiene). Students will be informed of hand washing expectations when entering and exiting the school and classrooms, before and after eating (washing is the most effective sanitizer). *Gloves are **not** recommended.*
- Staff, students and visitors will **not** be mandated to wear masks as masking is generally not recommended for young children and can be considered a health or safety (intruder) risk in some cases. However, parents may choose to have their children wear masks and every effort will be made to ensure there is no stigma for choosing to do so. Staff and visitors may choose to wear clear face shields or other clear masks if they are more comfortable doing so.
- Students will be encouraged to bring their own school supplies (colouring and pencil kits with their names on it) and their own technology for their own exclusive use if they have it (eg. ipads or laptops but not cell-phones) to reduce the need to share high-touch materials and devices.
- As our school population is under 50 in total, our school assemblies would not qualify as a large gathering or assembly over 50. We will follow and monitor guidelines for larger gatherings as they are updated by AHS.
- As we are an outdoor-focused school, athletic activities and gym classes will occur outdoors until November at which time we will review the updated guidelines and re-assess for the colder months.

SCENARIO 2

Scenario 2: All of the strategies of scenario 1 are implemented **plus** the following additional strategies.

If at any point we are asked to move into scenario 2, we ask that all staff, students and parents work together to implement the following **additional** risk reduction strategies:

- **Every morning** staff and parents/guardians are asked to assess whether they or their child should come into the school or not by taking the self-assessment COVID19 quiz at: <https://myhealth.alberta.ca/Journey/COVID-19/Pages/COVID-Self-Assessment.aspx>
- Visitors, volunteers and outside guests will be limited and will not be permitted in the building if exhibiting signs of illness.
- Physical distancing on buses and/or interrupted transportation service should be expected (our transportation contractor or partner will be responsible for implementing these strategies).

- Parent drop off: preference is that parents remain in vehicles. Parents and siblings should not accompany their children into the school. An administrator will be outside to greet students as they enter and exit the building.
- Entry to the school: every class has their own entrance to the school and students will enter and exit the school through their own classroom entrance doors only.
- Washroom use: students will only use the bathrooms in their own classrooms and will be reminded to increase hand-washing. After using the bathroom, students and staff will be encouraged to wipe down the surfaces they touch using the disinfectant wipes provided.
- Students will remain in their own indoor or outdoor classrooms within their class cohort with minimal interaction with other classes/cohorts.
- Students will be asked to bring their own school supplies with their names on it and their own technology for their own exclusive use if they have it (eg. ipads or laptops but not cell-phones) to reduce the need to share high-touch materials and devices. Where sharing of equipment or materials is required, the equipment will be sanitized by students and staff between uses.
- Assemblies or larger school gatherings will be limited. When larger gatherings are required there will be physical distancing measures in place and take place outdoors whenever possible.
- Parent conferences and meetings will be encouraged to take place through Zoom or a similar remote platform rather than in-person where possible. In-person meetings will have physical distancing measures in place.

Protocols and Expectations for Scenario 1 and 2

Protocols for isolating children or students who become ill at school

Parents are expected to have a local emergency contact and alternate who can pick up their child immediately when contacted by the school. Please ensure the school has valid contact info.

If a student exhibits symptoms they will be placed in the school designated sick room. Parents will be contacted immediately to pick up the student. Sick students will not be permitted on the bus.

Expectations regarding students who exhibit symptoms

Parents are responsible to monitor their children's health and to make decisions regarding symptoms and isolation. Parents should use the health assessment tools to determine if the student is able to return to school. Alberta Health has provided an online health assessment and is offering timely access to testing: <https://myhealth.alberta.ca/Journey/COVID-19/Pages/COVID-Self-Assessment.aspx>

If a staff member observes that a student is exhibiting symptoms or if the student expresses that they are feeling unwell, the student will be sent to the office and the parent contacted to pick up the student.

Students will be supported by the school to learn at home if they are required to isolate due to illness or because they are a close contact of a case of COVID-19. Teachers will provide notes of instruction, assignments, and appropriate resources.

Communication regarding illness in the school

In the event a student or staff becomes ill and is identified with COVID19, the school will consult with the local Medical Health Officer regarding communication. Alberta Health is responsible to inform possible contacts and the school will cooperate with their instructions while following privacy regulations.

Requirements for entry to the school

Any visitor to the school is required to check in at the front office, must be symptom free and is required to wash hands or use the sanitizer provided.

Requirements for anyone entering the school to be free from symptoms will be posted at the entries to the school. The poster will include a list of symptoms and recommendation to consult with Alberta Health assessment tool if they have symptoms.

Off campus programs

Off campus programs such as Forest School and Field Trips may continue in scenarios 1 and 2 although there may be changes to transportation. Protocols for field trip locations will be established by Alberta Health and the business/location we are visiting.

Gym/Music classes

Gym classes, athletic activities and music involving singing or instruments will primarily take place outdoors this year (and may be cancelled in the case of inclement/extreme weather) and Alberta Health guidelines will be followed.

SCENARIO 3

Scenario 3: Return to remote learning. This is the least likely and most extreme response and would likely be both time limited and implemented regionally as directed by Alberta Health.

The standards of practice and online learning implemented during Spring of 2020 would be reintroduced. Our teachers will be responsible for designing the online learning and provide both live and recorded lessons on a daily basis. Students will be encouraged to engage as fully as possible with the learning activities provided and complete any projects or assessments with the support and guidance of their teacher.

Alberta Education has provided minimum hours of work requirements per grade with focus on particular subjects. Our school plans to surpass the minimum requirements with the goal of providing quality learning with minimal required parental guidance. Teachers guide and direct learning but student success will still require in-home routines and support beyond the teacher's control.



PARENT/GUARDIAN and STAFF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

The novel coronavirus, COVID-19, has been declared a worldwide pandemic by the World Health Organization. COVID-19 is contagious and is believed to be spread mainly by person-to-person contact. The Calgary Changemakers in Education Society (CCES) and the Calgary Changemaker School administration has put in place preventative measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and keep our students and staff healthy and safe; however, we cannot guarantee that you or your family will not become infected with COVID-19.

By signing this agreement you acknowledge that:

- You have read and understood all pages of the **School Re-Entry Plan 2020-2021** document.
- You understand the contagious nature of COVID-19 and commit to following and helping your child(ren)/students follow, to the best of your and their ability, the protective measures that are in place.
- You voluntarily assume all risk that you, your child(ren) and/or family may be exposed to or become infected by COVID-19 as a result of attending school.

Name of Student(s): _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Print Parent Name: _____

OR

Staff Signature: _____ Date: _____

Print Name: _____

***PLEASE keep a copy of the School Re-Entry Plan 2020-2021 document for your records and only submit this signature page (page 5 of 5) to the school.**