



# Welcoming Our Students Back: Fall School Opening 2021-22 Parent Guide

August 26, 2021

Topic	Instruction
<p><b>COVID-19 Protocols</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Self-screening protocols</a> are to be followed prior to building entry and throughout the school day.</li> <li>• Mandatory mask wearing, hand hygiene practices, and physical distancing will continue to be followed.</li> <li>• Cleaning and disinfecting will focus on high-touch surfaces and common areas.</li> <li>• Touchless water drinking practices will be followed using touchless water fountains and water bottles.</li> <li>• Proper hand hygiene practices will be implemented when students are required to share materials.</li> <li>• School and classroom libraries are open for use.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Illness Procedures/ COVID Testing</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any person that is symptomatic of COVID-19 as per the self-screening criteria (linked above) are to follow the COVID-19 protocols re: testing and/or following isolation guidelines.</li> <li>• Any person who is symptomatic is not to attend school in any capacity and is encouraged to be tested for COVID-19 (even if vaccinated).</li> <li>• At this time, <a href="#">Public Health orders</a> state that siblings/household members must isolate pending testing results or if a household member is a close contact to a confirmed COVID-19 case.</li> <li>• Health Links-Info Santé will provide the most up-to-date direction for vaccinated household members.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Transportation</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Masks will be mandatory for all staff and students on buses.</li> <li>• Seating plans will remain in place.</li> <li>• High touch surfaces will be cleaned between runs.</li> <li>• No purchase seats are being offered at this time.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Cohorts/Physical Distancing</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physical distancing is required to the greatest extent possible.</li> <li>• Screens &amp; barriers will be used as much as possible to be able to provide mask breaks.</li> <li>• Schools will use cohorts for Kindergarten to Grade 6.</li> <li>• Schools will manage the flow of people in common areas to minimize crowding. Staggered entry and exit times may be implemented.</li> </ul>

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<b>Masks and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Masks to be worn on buses (K-12).</li> <li>• Request for mask exemptions for medical accommodations must be communicated to the school principal.</li> <li>• Masks are to be worn upon student entry and exit at beginning and end of day, during common interactions, inclusive of school staff, students, and parents/visitors.</li> <li>• Recess/outdoor learning/outdoor PE classes: masks are not required at this time, providing there is staff supervision.</li> <li>• Staff are to wear medical masks until further notice.</li> <li>• Mask breaks will be provided periodically throughout the day when students are seated and at appropriate physical distances.</li> </ul>
<b>Vaccination</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Front-line provincial employees must be fully vaccinated by October 31, 2021, or regularly tested, including education providers, teachers, assistants, bus drivers, and maintenance workers.</li> <li>• Grades 6-12 “catch up” immunization campaigns will start in schools in fall. Communication from Public Health will go directly to families for those eligible.</li> <li>• Public Health announced students with birthdays in 2009 are now eligible for Pfizer vaccines.</li> </ul>
<b>Music/Band</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Music classes and band will be permitted in the fall. Further information on safety protocols is forthcoming.</li> </ul>
<b>Sports</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provincial sports organizations will direct our return to play planning.</li> <li>• Ultimate, cross country, soccer, golf, flag football, flag rugby, are all sports for consideration at this time.</li> </ul>
<b>Field Trips</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No field trips at this time.</li> </ul>
<b>Cafeterias/Canteens/ Breakfast Programs/ Snack Programming</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All will be permitted at this time using safe food handling COVID-19 protocols.</li> </ul>
<b>Visitors/Volunteers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visitors/volunteers are permitted but will be limited.</li> <li>• Visitors/volunteers are required to wear masks and adhere to COVID-19 Public Health orders.</li> <li>• More information regarding volunteers will be forthcoming from the school.</li> </ul>



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<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Ventilation</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Schools will leverage outdoor activities where possible.</li> <li>• Windows will be open when possible.</li> <li>• Use of large spaces will be maximized.</li> <li>• Plans will be in place to ensure that congestion is minimized in common areas when transitioning and interacting in the school environment.</li> <li>• Air exchange monitoring and filtration routines have been increased.</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Remote Learning</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any students and/or immediate family members who are residing in the same household who are immunocompromised must discuss school attendance options with their school administrator.</li> <li>• As schools are open, there are no remote learning options for students who do not meet medical criteria.</li> <li>• Families who have concerns about following COVID-19 protocols can inquire about homeschooling options with the Manitoba Education <a href="#">Homeschooling Office</a>.</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Provincial Assessments</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No Grade 12 provincial assessments. All other provincial assessments will continue as scheduled.</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Triad Conferences (K-8)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Triad conferences (K-8) will proceed. Schools will be required to schedule visitors at the school and keep logs of entry and exit times.</li> <li>• Plans will be in place to ensure that congestion is minimized in common areas when transitioning and interacting in the school environment.</li> <li>• For families that may not be able to attend onsite, options for virtual meetings will be provided.</li> <li>• Please contact your school for more information.</li> </ul>

**Additional Information and Resources:**

For the most up to date Manitoba COVID-19 information, see <https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/index.html>

For the latest COVID-19 Education News, see <https://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/covid/index.html>

