



## LYNN VALLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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### **Lynn Valley Elementary Health and Safety Protocols during the COVID-19 Pandemic (Updated Sept. 9th)**

The health and safety of our staff members, students and families is a top priority. As we begin a new school year we are continuing with, and enhancing, many of the protocols established for our school in June. Below is an outline of the health and safety guidelines we as a learning community will follow. Please read them carefully.

#### **Routine DAILY Screening**

Parents/Guardians are required to assess their child(ren) for symptoms of COVID-19 prior to sending them to school for the day.

The Daily Health Checklist can be printed at home for a parent/guardian to use to assess their child. This is a personal review of the signs and symptoms of COVID-19. It is not necessary to submit this checklist to the school. The Daily Health Checklist can be found here:

<https://www.sd44.ca/COVID-19/dailyhealthcheck/Pages/default.aspx> - /=

Parents/guardians will need to complete a one-time acknowledgement of their understanding of their responsibility to do a daily health check of their children. This acknowledgement will be completed through KEV online forms. More information on this acknowledgement will follow in the coming weeks.

Please do not send your child to school if they have experienced or are experiencing any of the following (vomiting, diarrhea, cough, sore throat, running nose, chest pain, body aches, temperature). If a child reports to staff, "I don't feel well!" or "I'm sick!", or if any symptoms develop while in our care you will be contacted for immediate pick up.

#### **Minimizing Traffic Congestion**

To minimize congestion in and around the school, we will be staggering school day start and end times, as well as recess and lunch breaks. Each class will have a designated meeting area and start time and this will be communicated to your family by the classroom teacher.

Each cohort meeting spot will be used daily for teachers to meet their classes—at the beginning of the school day, at the end of recess play, at the end of lunch time play, and for parent pick-up at the end of the school day if needed.

We will not be allowing any parents or guardians to enter the school building. Parents and guardians must remain outside of the school during drop off and pick up unless agreed to in advance. Please call if you need something from the office. Where possible, it is requested that parents identify a pick-up/drop-off spot outside school grounds. Access to the playgrounds will be limited between 8:30 am and 3:30 pm each day, and parents are asked to leave the school grounds with their child immediately after pick up. Students and

parents on the school grounds should follow social distancing protocols.

Late students report to the front entrance. As in June, hallways have been marked for two-way traffic. People moving in hallways and stairs should always stick to the right.

### **Hygiene Routines**

In June many students brought their own masks and hand sanitizer, and they are still welcomed to do so. Although not required for elementary students, students may wear masks as a personal choice in the classroom within their cohort and/or around the school – please discuss this with your child at home. Nonmedical masks will be available for students.

School staff will also be using non-medical masks when in high traffic areas, common areas, or when interacting with people outside of their learning cohort and maintaining physical distancing is not possible. Handwashing routines will be established within the classroom. Thorough washing of hand with soap and water or hand sanitizer is the best protection against illness. Adults will encourage children to wash their hands:

- When they arrive at school and before they go home
- Before and after any transitions within the school setting (indoor-outdoor transitions)
- Before eating and drinking
- After using the washroom
- After sneezing or coughing into hands or tissues
- Whenever hands are visibly dirty

### **Key Considerations Within the School**

- Students should come to school with a water bottle daily. Water bottle filling stations will be open, but fountains will be closed.
- Students will eat lunch and recess snacks within their classrooms. We are expecting students to remain at school during their lunch break. Students are asked not to share food.
- Learning that would have taken place in common spaces (e.g. library, music room, computer lab, gym), will instead take place in the classroom or outdoors.
- It is understood that physical distancing beyond cohorts will be more challenging for younger students but parents/guardians are encouraged to review expectations with their children. Physical distancing is challenging in the elementary school setting. However, classrooms have been organized to provide as much physical distancing as possible when students are seated.
- Provisions have been made for school supplies to avoid sharing of items. School will not provide shared sports equipment at recess and lunch. Families will be asked not to send sports equipment or toys with their children.

We thank everyone for their patience and consideration as we establish safety and health protocols for our school.