



School District No. 44 (North Vancouver)
COVE CLIFF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1818 Banbury Road, North Vancouver, BC V7G 1W4
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Friday, September 4, 2020

Dear Cove Cliff families,

We hope that you are doing well and are looking forward to the upcoming school year. We know that there are many questions and we appreciate you giving us the time to get our school and staff organized to best support your children and to ensure everyone's health and safety at school. The partnership with families will be more important than ever this year as you need to trust that we are doing everything that we can to keep the school a clean and controlled environment for everyone. We have to trust that families will ensure that children who are demonstrating any symptoms of a cold or flu are kept home for everyone's safety.

There has been much important information already sent to you. For your quick reference we have attached links to those updates here:

[Superintendent Mark Pearmain's letter – September 2, 2020](#)

[North Vancouver School District's Restart Plan](#)

[Back to School September 2020 FAQ](#)

[NVSD Back-to-School Plan: September 2020 Elementary School \(K to 7\) Highlights](#)

Health and Safety Protocols for Cove Cliff:

- Staff, Parents and caregivers are required to assess their child daily for symptoms of common cold, influenza, COVID-19, or other infectious respiratory diseases before coming to school.
- If a child is demonstrating any symptoms, **they are not come to school**. If a child is demonstrating any cold or flu symptoms they need to **stay home**. It is important that families respect this and consult their doctor or call 811 if anyone is symptomatic. We really need all families support.
- Handwashing will occur throughout the day and especially prior to entering the school, during transitions and eating.
- Hand sanitizer – if you are sending your child with hand sanitizer to use, please make sure they know how to use it properly for themselves, that it is unscented and not for sharing
- All doors will be locked for the day as we will be limiting the number of people that enter the school. Please do not send your children to the school prior to the first bell to play before school. Students are to remain outside the school at their designated spots to wait for their teachers at the bell.

- Please send your child with a filled water bottle. They will be able to refill it in the classroom or at two of our school's water stations. Water Fountains are closed at this time.
- Should you need to pick your child up early, or drop something off, we ask that you call the school office 604-903-3420. Our office is open from 8:15-3:45.
- Attendance – if your child is going to be away, please email: ccattendance@sd44.ca or leave a message at 604-903-4526
- Any requests to meet with teachers must be done so via a pre-arranged appointment and in most cases will be by phone or via MS Teams (your child's account will be set up later next week)
- End of day expectations – students dismissed through the outside classroom door and are expected to head home for the day
- At this time, to minimize movement throughout the school, the following rooms will be closed: gym (will be outside), library, computer lab and music room. Music and Library will occur in the classroom.

Important dates:

- Friday, September 4: Today you are receiving this communication detailing Cove Cliff's Health and Safety Protocols and any potential changes to the school schedule as needed to ensure everyone's safety. Kindergarten families will receive their gradual entry schedule by the end of day tomorrow.
- September 8 and 9– Students not in session. Staff will be preparing for the safe and healthy return of students to school such as learning new Health and Safety protocols, finalizing learning cohort placements, preparing learning spaces, MS Teams tutorials and set up, Instructional Planning.
- Wednesday, September 9 between 3-5:00 - Classroom teachers will send an email and welcome your child to their class (learning group) and with specific cohort protocols as well as specific drop off and pick up information and timing for September 10. The learning group is your "cohort".
- Thursday, September 10 – Students in Grades 1 to 7 will follow the plan outlined in the communication provided by the classroom teacher from September 9; please note that your child will be at school for a shortened day (2 hours) in the morning from 8:48 AM to 10:48 AM
- Friday, September 11th – First full day of classes for students in Grades 1 to 7, from 8:48 AM to 3:00 PM; Kindergarten Gradual Entry begins for Division 14 (plan will be communicated by Kindergarten Teachers)
- Monday, September 14th - Kindergarten Gradual Entry begins for Division 13 (plan will be communicated by Kindergarten Teachers)
- Thursday, September 24 – student photo day

Some important information to highlight and help to answer questions:

What are Learning Groups/Cohorts?

Learning Groups/Cohorts are comprised of one class of students and the classroom teacher(s). At Cove Cliff there may be times where an EA (Educational Assistant) is included directly in a Learning Cohort/Group due to support needed in that group or because maintaining a 2m physical distance will not be possible. Learning Cohorts/Group will not exceed 30 people.

Learning Groups/Cohorts allow us to ensure that school remains a controlled environment for your child. With strict guidelines and clear safety protocols adhered to by each group, we can ensure that all students have the same directions and keep students safe.

How can parents/guardians help support their child?

Parents/guardians can support their child by explaining/reinforcing the importance of staying in a learning group while at school. When children interact with others outside of their Learning Group, we will be reinforcing physical distance protocols, such as at recess and lunch. Parents can help by practicing these measures in the community and giving reminders about what is expected at school. By being respectful of these groupings, you help to keep everyone else in the group safe as well.

What if my child gets sick or needs to self-isolate?

Continuity of learning and equitable instructional delivery is important for us. Just as schools have done in the past, teachers will be able to communicate tasks/assignments to families and students through email or MS Teams to ensure that they do not miss out on learning opportunities should they need to self-isolate.

What do “staggered” hours look like at Cove Cliff?

Our Cove Cliff Re-Start Team has carefully examined how to enter and exit our school safely. We will be maintaining our normal start time of 8:48 and end time of 3:00 as we have classroom outside doors.

At recess and lunch, we are adjusting our play schedule to allow more room for students to play. The schedule is as follows:

Recess: Staff will facilitate handwashing and snack either before or after
10:00-10:20 Odd Division Recess (1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13)
10:20-10:40 Even Division Recess (2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14)

Lunch: Staff will facilitate handwashing either before or after
11:30-12:00 Odd Division Outside play time (1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13)

12-12:20 Lunch – all divisions

12:20-12:50 Odd Division Outside play time (2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14)

What will school “look like” for my child starting Thursday September 10?

- Students who returned in June, will not be surprised by the changes we have had to make. The school will look and feel very much the same.

There will be:

- Designated entrances, floor markings, and/or signage to manage traffic flow
- We will continue to limit visitors from entering the building;
- Our custodial teams will be cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces at least twice in 24 hours which includes once during regular school hours
- All school staff will be wearing masks in common or high traffic areas such as hallways and some staff will be wearing them in classrooms.

Personal Protective Equipment:

Is it expected that students wear masks or other PPE items?

It is not expected that students wear masks while they are with their Learning Group in class or on the grounds. Non- medical masks will be worn by staff in high traffic areas (such as the hallways) or in situations where physical distancing is not possible. This includes any adult who is not a part of a given Learning Group (Administrators, Learning Support Teachers, EAs, Indigenous Support Workers, etc). If a child is exhibiting cold or flu like symptoms, we will bring them to the medical room, provide a mask and call you for pick up.

Can my child wear a mask?

Absolutely, please teach them how to use it properly. Each child will receive 2 re-usable face masks to bring home on Thursday. Please make sure you put their name on it, tell the where to store it and wash as needed.

Additional:

Lunches and snacks:

Please ensure that your child has enough snacks and a healthy lunch in their backpack. We will be continuing the “pack in, pack out” procedure to minimize hallway traffic and touch points at the school. This means that any uneaten food, disposable wrappers, or recycling that is packed in a child’s lunch, will simply be put back into their lunch kit to take home when they are finished. Our apple program will not be available at this time. So please send enough food for the day.

Will there be PAC hot lunch ordering program this year?

At this time, unfortunately, the PAC Hot Lunch program is on hold. The PAC knows that many of you have credits in your accounts based on cancelled days last spring and they communicating updates to you. We greatly appreciate your patience with this.

Access to the school

At this time, school access is for students and staff only. We ask that all parents contact the school office if they need assistance or if you need to reach your child: 604-903-3420.

We recognize that there are many more questions that will arise in the upcoming days. Please continue to monitor your email as we will send out communications as we move closer to our school re-start. We are excited to get started for this school year! We know things are different, but we will still learn, connect and have fun!

See you soon!

Ms. Kee Mrs. Ehling
Cove Cliff Administrative Team