



STAR Catholic School Re-Entry Plan: Scenario 1

This plan is based on guidance from Alberta Education and the Chief Medical Officer of Health. It is subject to change as the COVID-19 pandemic progresses.

What precautions will be taken at school?



Symptom Screening & Stay at Home Policy

Every day, students, staff, and visitors must self-screen for symptoms. Any students or staff showing symptoms, even those resembling a cold, must stay home. Visitors showing symptoms will not be allowed in the school.



Physical Distancing

Desks will be spaced at the largest distance possible and will not face each other. Physical distancing will also be followed during drop-offs and pick-ups. When physical distancing is not possible, extra focus will be given to hand washing and sanitizing.



Mask Use

Staff, including bus drivers, and students must wear a mask in common areas (such as hallways and buses) and in the classroom when a physical distance of 2 metres is not possible. Teachers will ensure students are given mask breaks throughout the day.



Foot Traffic

Flow of foot traffic through entrances and hallways may be guided by visual markers on floors, pylons, or physical barriers.



Meal Times

Lunch and snack breaks may be staggered to support physical distancing. No food may be shared between students or staff. Microwaves and vending machines will be out of service. Water fountains will remain open; students are encouraged to use refillable bottles.



Hand Hygiene

Students, staff, and visitors must sanitize their hands when entering and exiting the school. Regular hand hygiene will also be practiced throughout the day as needed (before and after eating, after using the washroom, etc.)



Cohorting

Where possible, students will be cohorted by class. Teachers will move from class to class. There will be no mixed flex groups or elective classes for elementary and junior high.



No Sharing Policy

Students will not be allowed to share items of any kind, including school supplies and snacks. Use of shared equipment will be avoided. Equipment that must be shared will be cleaned after each use.



Restricted Activities

Field trips; activities requiring group transportation; in-person singing, cheering, or shouting; playing wind instruments; sports and extracurricular activities; school assemblies; concerts and dances are postponed.



Enhanced Cleaning

There will be daily cleaning of all areas of the school. Washrooms and high-touch surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected throughout the day.





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Responding to Illness at School

The following steps will be taken if a student develops symptoms at school:

- The student will be asked to wear a non-medical mask if they are able to.
- The student will be isolated in a separate room. If one is not available, the student will be kept at least 2 metres away from other students and staff.
- A parent or guardian will be notified to pick the student up from school immediately. If a parent or guardian cannot be reached, emergency contacts will be notified.
- Staff will care for students who need it until they are picked up from school. Staff will wear non-medical masks and protective face shields when in close contact with a symptompatic student.
- All items the student touches while isolated will be cleaned and disinfected or, where this is not possible, stored in a sealed container for at least 10 days.
- Parents will be required to have their child(ren) tested for COVID-19.

Frequently Asked Questions

Are masks required at school?

Staff and students in all grades must wear masks while in school, including in the classroom when physical distancing is not possible. Teachers may use their discretion to allow students to take breaks from wearing their masks throughout the day. Parents who enter areas other than the front office will also be asked to wear a mask.

Are parents allowed in the school?

Parents may visit the school if it is necessary. Schools will ask parents to self-screen for symptoms and will keep a record of visitors.

Will playgrounds be closed to students at recess?

Playground structures will remain open. Schools will assign cohort classes to different playground areas at recess. Students should also practice physical distancing and must hand sanitize when leaving the school for recess and re-entering the school. Students should be taught to avoid touching their face.

Will schools provide safety supplies?

Schools will provide safety supplies such as hand sanitizer and wipes. The Government of Alberta will provide every student and staff member with two reusable masks. Disposable masks will be available for students who forget to bring their masks to school.

What if I'm not comfortable sending my child to school?

The Division will be surveying families on Thursday, August 6 to determine how many will choose to send their children to school in the fall. We are consulting with neighbouring school divisions about ways to accomodate families who choose to keep their children at home.

Students who must learn from home while sick or self-isolating will be supported by the Division.