



January 7, 2022

Dear Aberdeen parents/guardians,

Thank you for your support and patience as we work together to create a healthy and safe school experience for your child(ren). Over the last week, we have been working hard at fine tuning and creating new health and safety standards at the school to keep our staff, students and families safe. That is our number one priority!

Some of the health and safety measures that have been put into place starting on Monday, January 10th, 2022 are:

1. Seating arrangements in classrooms
 - a. Limit face to face seating arrangements in classrooms
 - b. Area rugs in classrooms will not be used for class instructions (no gathering of a classroom)
2. Meetings will be held in a virtual format (i.e. staff meetings, PAC meetings, etc.)
3. Staff common areas will have capacity limits (staff room – 8, copy room – 2) to provide spacing.
4. Prevent crowding in the hallways by patiently moving through the hallway as a class and walking on the right-hand side of the hall.
5. Pressing 'pause' on all extra curricular sports (i.e. handball/basketball). This will be revisited at a later date.
6. All visitors to the building will be limited to those working with students directly on student learning. As a result, we have to 'press pause' on the following important parts of our school:
 - a. Parent volunteers, other than our fantastic noon supervisors; they are employed by the school district.
 - b. Engaging PAC 'in-school' activities and hot lunches
7. Pressing 'pause' on field trips where students interact with those outside their daily 'school bubble'.
8. Staggered start to the day to prevent crowding (please see below for more information)

We will also be reinforcing the previous guidelines that we have been following at the school:

1. Daily health checks to ensure our children are well when they come to school
 - a. [K-12 Daily Health Check Link](#)
2. Hand Hygiene
3. Mask wearing in all indoor spaces. If your child has a mask exemption, please let me know by emailing me at david.rossi@abbyschools.ca
 - a. Bring an extra mask if you are able to do so.
4. Limiting physical contact
5. Use of physical barriers for small group teaching
6. Essential visitors are welcome by appointment

Staggered Start Information

The times of instruction hasn't changed! We are changing the way we do supervision in the morning instead! The purpose of a staggered start is to limit crowding outside, limit crowding in the coat room area, and allow students to wash their hands easier without as much waiting. Please continue to bring your child to school at your usual time. Most of our students will be able to walk from the car/bus right into the school as they get here!

1. Front and side doors to the school (where the students usually arrive at school) will be opened at 8:52 am. At this time, students will be asked to walk down to their classrooms, put away their backpacks, put on their inside shoes, and wash their hands.
2. Staff that are on supervision, will be walking the hallways and helping students get to their classrooms and supervising in classrooms prior to the teacher getting into the room.
3. As students arrive at school, they will walk through the front door and down to their classroom.

If a staff member or child becomes ill at school, the following procedure will occur:

1. They will be asked to go to the medical room, where they will be isolated from other people at the school. All interactions will occur at a healthy distance but also keeping the child's comfort level in mind.
 - a. The door to the medical room will be remain open the entire time, but the child is asked to stay in that room until their parent/guardian is able to come and pick him/her up.
2. The child or staff member that is feeling ill will be asked to keep their mask on (or put a new one on).
3. The parent will be contacted to pick up the child.

As we work through this process, we want all of our students and families to feel a sense of connectedness to the school. It was great to see the number of people that showed up to our virtual PAC meeting on Thursday evening to discuss some of these new processes.

At the school, we appreciate all the work that you are doing to support your child(ren) and the school. We thank you for your continued flexibility as we work together to support all students in their learning while continuing to focus on the health and safety of all students, staff, and families. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

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