

Return to School Plan September 2020

Dear Families:

I hope you have had a great summer and are feeling refreshed for the new school year. We are looking forward to welcoming back our students to Sea View Elementary Junior Secondary School and to meeting the new students joining us this year. Please see the information below for more details on how we are creating a safe and welcoming environment for our students.

The Ministry of Education have mandated that all students should be returning to school on September 10th and 11th. Our staff will be returning to school on September 8th and 9th for a Health and Safety orientation and to ensure that their classrooms are set up to meet the needs of our students as safely as possible.

Students will be returning to Sea View on September 10th for either a morning or an afternoon orientation. This is an opportunity for students to get used to classrooms that will look different than they did before the pandemic. During orientation, students will:

- Meet their teacher
- Find out who is in their learning group
- Practice their new routines
- Familiarize themselves with how to safely move from the class to outdoor and common areas of the school

September 11th will be the usual Friday hours for all students. Please see below to see which session your child should come to school on Thursday September 10th.

| Session Time | Lower School | Upper School |
|---------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| 8:30am-10:30am | Kindergarten & Grade 1 | Grade 4 & Grade 5 |
| 1:00pm-3:00pm | Grade 2 & Grade 3 | Grade 6 & Grade 7 |

What will be the same?

- Our school focus will continue to be on learning and on helping students develop their potential.
- Students will work in classrooms with their teachers and support staff.
- Students will continue to have academic and social/ emotional supports available to them.

Some changes that will be in place to help keep us all safe are:

Entering the building

Students to enter by external classroom door (lower school building) or the external door closest to their classroom (upper school building).

Adults must make an appointment to enter the building.

Daily Health Screening

All adults including staff entering the building must self-assess. Staff should notify Principal if they have symptoms and stay home if they are sick.

Students will be asked screening questions by their teacher or a designated staff member (eg, EA, NHS, or Principal) as they enter their classroom.

Students who are sick will be sent home. If they cannot leave immediately they will be isolated in the sick room. All students and staff in the isolation room must wear masks. Anyone displaying symptoms of COVID will also be directed to notify public health.

Hand hygiene

- All classrooms where students are present will be provided with a bottle of hand sanitizer solution for staff and students to use and priority will be given to regular hand-washing at sinks.
- There will also be hand sanitization stations located at the front entrance to the school, and Handwashing stations in all of the bathrooms.
- All students will spray their hands with hand sanitizer solution prior to entering the classroom;

Limiting Physical Contact

- Students will be expected to line up (physically distanced) outside their designated classroom outside entrances or the external door closest to their classroom.
- Classroom Teachers will reinforce proper physical distancing guidelines with students before students enter the school (six feet/two meters apart, no touching, no sharing of food or supplies, no congregating in common areas);
- Students will remain in their designated classroom or be learning outdoors as much as possible (no wandering around the school building).
- Upon dismissal students should leave the building as quickly as possible by the closest external door and should congregate on the school grounds.

Masks & PPE

Personal protective equipment for students and staff (including re-useable masks) will be available for staff and students when it is required.

Masks are only mandatory when social distancing measures are not possible such as on transport or helping a child in the sick room. Some staff and students may choose to wear a mask. We will respect each person's choice to wear a mask or not to wear a mask.

Cleaning and disinfecting

- Custodian will rotate through the school throughout the day ensuring all touch points such as light switches and door handles are disinfected continually and that supplies are topped up as needed.
- Custodian will perform regular cleaning duties as well as continued disinfecting.
- Terminal cleaning will be performed each day after staff and students have left the building for the day.

Learning Groups

Although Sea View Elementary Junior Secondary School is considered a single learning group as we have less than 60 students and staff, we will minimize interaction between the classes to keep groups small. Any visiting counsellors or TTOCs from outside of the learning group will be asked to wear a mask and will use a Plexiglas screen.

If you have any questions please contact Ms. Emma Robertson, Principal via email erobertson@sd85.bc.ca or call the school at (250) 284-3315. The office will be open from September 1st.

Although things will be different this year, we are very excited to be able to welcome our students in person. We look forward to what challenges and successes the new school year will bring.

Yours sincerely,

Ms. Emma Robertson
Principal