

Our Lady of the Assumption

2021-2022 School Year Re-Entry Information

Welcome back to school! We are excited to begin the 2021-2022 school year and look forward to reacquainting with all of you. For our new students joining our family, we look forward to meeting you. There are many things to consider as we begin to plan for the upcoming school year. As we continue forward, we ask that you are flexible and adaptable to what works for our OLA school community. We encourage you to continue to be engaged and stay connected with our school and the division as a whole. We are certain that as a faith community, we will continue to grow!

Background Information

Guiding Principles for Re-Entry Planning

- The health, safety and well-being of students and staff is a priority.
- Holy Spirit Catholic School Division will attend to the protocols established by Alberta Health Services and Alberta Education in all aspects of schooling, with the main focus on student learning.
- We respect that parents are the first educators and primary decision-makers for their children.
- Students and staff who are vulnerable require attention to accommodations.
- Students will have quality learning opportunities that are guided by Alberta Education mandates and the provincial Programs of Study.
- Staff will have access to the professional learning, collaboration and support they need to grow the instructional practice in all potential methods of delivery.
- Consistency of program delivery over time is important for the sound allocation of staffing and resources.
- Consistency of universal expectations and protocols for safety for ALL people - staff, students, parents, visitors, etc. within our building.

Key Documents

[Guidelines for Maintaining Safe & Healthy Schools in Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

[Gov't of ALberta 2021-2022 School Year Plan](#)

[Guidance for Respiratory Illness](#)

[Self-Screening Questionnaire](#)

Our school focus for re-entry will have two parts:

1. Safety above all else for students and staff
2. Risk mitigation

Therefore, we have leaned more towards a cautious re-entry plan. We are trying to control as many external variables as possible and have made decisions that reflect this philosophy. We realize that this is a challenging time, but we will endeavour to provide you with up-to date details as we can. To help guide the thought process around returning to school, here are some elements that may be of assistance:

Daily Screening

Please refer to Guidelines for Maintaining Safe & Healthy Schools in Response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

- All staff and students are required to do a daily Self-Screening Questionnaire to ensure that no unnecessary risk is being taken by attending.
- If a child exhibits any symptoms identified in the screening tool, attending school is NOT permitted and consultation with 811 is required for next steps.
- Staff who feel unwell are not permitted to come to school and must also follow 811 recommendations.
- Any positive COVID-19 case, the school will follow established guidelines from Alberta Health Services.

- If student(s) / staff member become sick at school:
 - A non-medical mask will be immediately required to be worn, and the staff/student will be isolated in a separate room.
 - The school will notify parents/guardians to come and pick-up the student(s) immediately.
- Positive COVID-19 Case(s)

The [Guidance for Respiratory Illness](#) Prevention and Management in Schools will be followed.

Masking

[Guidelines for Maintaining Safe & Healthy Schools in Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic](#) will be followed.

Sanitizing Stations

- Each entry and exit into the school has sanitizer for use as one enters and exits the building.
- Each classroom entryway will have sanitizer for use as one exits and enters a room.
- Students can have their own personal sanitizer for use being mindful of the sensitivity of others to those extra strong smells.

School Arrival and Departure

In order to best respect social distancing, we are asking that students be dropped off at school as close as possible to the starting time. We would also appreciate them departing the school as soon as possible after the dismissal bell. However, we do recognize that certain circumstances do not always allow for this.

- Monday - Thursday

- Outside supervision will begin at 8:00a.m. and will only be provided for buses after school. The office will close promptly at 3:30p.m.

- Friday

- Outside supervision will begin at 8:00a.m. and will only be provided for buses after school. The office will close promptly at 1:30p.m.

- Please ensure transportation arrangements have been made to ensure punctual pick-up.

Student Sign-in and Sign-out

- Late arrivals – if a student is late to school, they are to enter by the front entrance, contact the office (ring doorbell or tap on the office window) to be admitted into the building and report to the office.

- Leaving early – if a student is leaving early from school, a parent/guardian will notify the office, the student will then report to the office, sign-out and then proceed out the front doors.

Closed Campus

- Our Lady of the Assumption and all other Holy Spirit Catholic Schools will be closed to the public.

- At this time, a closed campus is extended to include parents/guardians or volunteers. This means that you will not be able to enter the building except in emergency pick-up situations without a pre-arranged appointment.

- Parents/Guardians who need to come to the school are to call the school first and will be limited to going to the office where you will be required to sign-in.

- Students will not be allowed to leave the school grounds during the school day.

Meeting Points

- To assist with social distancing and limit hallway traffic, students will be entering and exiting the building from assigned doors.

Pre-K and K - will have designated meeting spots in front of the school (south). Teachers will meet them there and escort them into the classroom at 8:15am for Pre-K and 8:10am for Kindergarten and will return them to the meeting spot at the end of their day. Pre-K 10:45am. Kindergarten 11:20am.

Grade 1-3 - will meet outside the playground entrance (west). Teachers will escort them into the classroom at 8:10 am and return them to that door at 3:02pm (12:47pm Fridays).

Grade 4-5 - will meet outside the north entrance. Teachers will escort them into the classroom at 8:10 am and return them to that door at 3:02pm (12:47pm Fridays).

Grade 5/6-6 - will meet on the northeast corner of the property and will enter through the east portable doors. Teachers will escort them into the classroom at 8:10am and return them to that door at 3:02pm (12:47pm Fridays).

General Dismissal

- Students will be dismissed and will be exiting the same doors that they entered.
- Once students have exited the building, following social distancing practices, they are to leave school grounds right away.
- Those students who are waiting for parent pick-up will be directed to wait in the gym foyer or near the front office.
- School doors will be closed at 3:30p.m. and all students will be required to be picked up by this time. Please ensure transportation arrangements have been made to ensure punctual pick-up.

Bus Students

- Once students have exited the building, following social distancing practices, they are to line up near their typical bus pick up. Once on the bus, please follow the instructions of the transportation provider. **Masks on buses are mandatory.**

Student Transitions and Breaks

- Nutrition Breaks
- Students will stay together in their classes and will be eating in their classrooms.
- Nutrition breaks will continue to be from 9:50am -10:27am and 12:36pm-1:11pm Mon-Thurs. The break will be split in half. Students will eat for half and be outside for half of each break . Friday breaks will be split in a similar way.

Common Areas

- Gym
- The gym and our multi-purpose activity spaces will be open for Physical Education classes
- Shared items will be disinfected after student use.
- Physical Education teachers will be adapting lessons to limit the usage of equipment.
- All students will be asked to sanitize their hands before and after entering the gym

Bathrooms

- There will undoubtedly be an increase in bathroom use due to the need to increase the frequency of handwashing.
- Restrooms will be limited to a certain number of students to meet social distancing protocols.
- Students will be asked to use washrooms that are located within proximity to their homerooms.

Library

- Students will still have access to borrowing books.

Sick Room

- The infirmary (located by the office) will serve as our sick room.
- Once a student is in the sick room, parents will be contacted to pick up their child immediately. Please ensure that all relevant Emergency contact information has been shared with the office and is up to date.
- Our sick room has a limit of one and if there is more than one student that needs the sick room, ill students will be isolated in other areas of the school.
- The sick room, or another isolation room, will be cleaned after a sick student has left the room.

Computer Lab/Carts

- Electronic devices will be cleaned and disinfected after use.

Water Fountains

- Students are encouraged to bring a water bottle to school.
- OLA has two bottle refill stations; one in the upstairs hallway and one in the downstairs hallway. These stations will be open and students will adhere to signage above the fountain.
- All other water fountains will be closed to student use.

Transportation

Elementary students living at least 2.4 km from their resident school are eligible to ride the bus at no cost. Students living between 1.2 km and 2.39 km will be required to pay a user fee of \$25.00 per month per student. Only registered riders that have paid for, at least, one month in advance (if applicable) will be permitted to ride the school bus.

General Information

A Summary of Health measures will include, but are not limited to:

- Appropriate hand sanitizing and handwashing, respiratory etiquette, physical distancing (when and where possible in schools and on buses), increased frequency of cleaning and disinfection, and having staff and students stay home when ill or are exhibiting any flu-like symptoms.
- Teachers will organize their classrooms to increase learning space.

Large Gatherings, Assemblies

- Up to date, current guidelines will be followed.

Co-curricular Activities

- This will be revisited and determined periodically.

Field Trips

- Only field trips within Holy Spirit Catholic Schools' boundaries will be allowed. They may be permitted on a case by case basis.

Clubs and Services

- Will be evaluated on an ongoing basis. Current guidelines will be followed.

Provincial and Divisional Assessments

- Provincial Achievement Tests (PATs) will be written by grade 6 students in May and June 2022.
- Divisional Common Math Assessments (CMA) – The dates are yet to be determined.
- Teachers will continue to use Fountas and Pinnell as the divisional literacy assessment tool.