



Tuesday, September 1, 2020

Hi Everyone:

- This document contains an **action item** for each family and **specific protocols** that clarifies additional information the Ministry of Education has revised since the *St. Mary's School Restart Plans* were emailed out on August 26, 2020. Kindly respond back to us as per below. Please do not hesitate to call the school for advice as needed.
- *School plans are subject to Ministry of Education review and could change. You will be emailed if our plans change.*

The Ministry of Health has determined that it is the parent and/or guardian's responsibility to complete a daily health assessment of your child (ren) before they leave for school or enter school property each day. Parents and guardians **MUST** also:

- Do not send children to school if they are ill or suspected they may fall ill because they have early morning symptoms.
- Inform the school if your child is ill and will not be attending.

WorkSafe BC COVID-19 Health & Safety Questions

	Daily health assessment questions
Symptoms of illness*	Does your child have any of the following symptoms?
	Fever
	Chills
	Cough or worsening of chronic cough
	Shortness of breath
	Sore throat
	Runny nose/stuffy nose
	Loss of sense of smell or taste
	Headache

	Fatigue
	Diarrhea
	Loss of appetite
	Nausea and vomiting
	Muscle aches
	Conjunctivitis (pink eye)
	Dizziness, confusion
	Abdominal pain
	Skin rashes or discoloration of fingers or toes
International Travel	Have you or anyone in your household returned from travel outside Canada in the last 14 days?
Confirmed Contact	Are you or is anyone in your household a confirmed contact of a person confirmed to have COVID-19?

Update sheet 'for information' for parents and guardians:

- Non-medical masks are NOT recommended for elementary school students due to the increased likelihood they will touch their face and eyes, as well as require assistance to properly put on and off their mask.
 - If you plan on having a face-to-face meeting with a staff member inside, please bring a mask and wait at the office. The staff member will come and get you. Staff are encouraged to schedule phone, online, or meetings outside as a preferred option to meeting face-to-face inside. We will not be holding our annual Meet-the-Teacher night in September; however, staff will be outside before and after school to talk with parents as needed.
1. The health checks are a requirement from the MoE (Ministry of Education). That means the health checks must be done by the family. The MoE has said that the daily health checks of students are the responsibility of parents, but schools need to verify that it's being done. I am hopeful that everyone understands that sending students to school when they are sick is not acceptable.
 2. Our students will not have to wear masks while at school; inside or outside unless:

They are in a common area such as a hallway and social distancing cannot be maintained. In this case, staff will teach the child to socially distance or may ask that the child put a mask on temporarily.

3. Adults entering the building who are not staff must wear masks in the hallways and when in a classroom.
4. St. Mary's ventilation system has regular maintenance routines in place for the servicing and maintaining of its equipment. This summer our ventilation system underwent a full assessment and is deemed to be in good working order.
5. On Wednesday the 23rd, Minister Fleming announced that schools *now* have the option of remote learning; he hasn't said much since. What schools across the province have been able to determine is that?

- Remote (online) learning is a **temporary** option.
- It is not required that schools provide remote learning.
- Schools are not required to adjust their learning plans to add remote learning options.
- Any remote learning plan is to be temporary and used as a vehicle for transitioning students to full time face-to-face instruction.
- At present, it appears that students requiring remote learning for medical reasons require a doctor's note explaining why they cannot attend full time face-to-face instruction.
- Remote learning is not the hybrid model employed last June. Hybrid models are not authorized by the MoE during Stage 2.
- St. Mary's will have face-to-face learning and not online learning unless the government mandates a change in the 'Stage' BC schools are in and directs all schools to go back online fulltime or if Interior Health sends a Learning Group (Cohort) home for 2 weeks to isolate. Were this to happen, teachers are prepared to go back to teaching online as required. Remember, were a cohort to get sent home to isolate for 14 days, the other cohort stays at school as per normal unless directed differently by Interior Health.
- Classroom teachers will be sending home a "Welcome to My Class" email on September 2 so parents will know which class their child is in and what door that will be lining up at.

Classroom Clarification:

Mrs. Gallina's grade 5/6 class will enter in groups of 4 from the intermediate door and wash their hands at the library sink or the classroom sink.

Mrs. Organ's and Mrs. Veldman's homeroom: This class has been changed to a Grade 4/5 split. This class will enter and exit the building through the Intermediate doors. There will be staggered entry.

Mrs. Merz's grade 2/3 class enter and exit the building through the front emergency exit near the playground. Teachers will direct handwashing each time students enter the building. Mrs. Merz's class will dismiss at 2:50 PM.

Grade one/two- We have added classroom and Ms. Cara Carmelo is returning to teach this grouping! Her class will line up at the front door of the school and will enter and exit from the front door daily.

Students in [Mrs. Quinn's Kindergarten and grade one class](#) will line up and enter through their classroom's exterior door and exit the building through their classroom door exterior entrance at the front door. Mrs. Quinn will facilitate handwashing each time the class enters the building. Her grade Kindergarten and grade one class will be dismissed at 2:50 PM.

PICK Up procedures: Children may play on the playground while trying to not contact each other physically. Students are asked to stay back from other children's faces and to try NOT to touch their face while playing. Children playing in too close of contact may be asked to wear a mask or change the way they are playing to maintain distance.

The lightning round:

Lockers will be used.

Students are discouraged from bringing toys to school.

Hot Lunch will go ahead this year. Hot Lunch is organized by the PSG.

Students will be asked to keep a mask in their classroom and one in their backpack.

Students do not have to wear masks for emergency drills

Microwaves will NOT be used in September- we will re-evaluate in October.

The Library will not open until October.

We will have PE classes.

We will not be renting our facilities until the CISND Board indicates it is allowed.

Students may bring soccer balls from home to play with outside of instructional time.

These school restart documents are extensive, and we encourage you to reach out with any questions of concerns. ***We have followed the guidelines from the Public Health Officer, Ministry of Education, BC Centre for Disease Control and WorkSafe BC.***

Please join us on Face Book at 'St. Mary's PSG Info Board' as the principal posts information here first and it's a great place to connect with others and ask questions.

Please know your child and our staff safety is our greatest priority. We cannot wait to get started!

Jerelynn MacNeil, Principal, St. Mary's Catholic School