**NBES Guidelines for School Attendance: September 2020**

**Welcome to our September ‘Back to School’ start-up! To ensure a calm, safe and caring experience for your child (or children) please note the following expectations and requests:**

* Students should limit personal items brought to school. School supplies should be in a containers or sealed baggies marked with the students name and should not be shared with other students
* Please ensure students bring a **water bottle** as water fountains are inaccessible at this time
* Please ensure that any food items for recess or lunch breaks is packed so that students will have easy access to their food and are more independent and able to manage without adult assistance
* Please review and stress the importance of proper hand hygiene and cough and sneeze etiquette
* Masks will be required for all students who ride the bus and for grade 5-7 students when they are in the hallways or working outside of their cohort.

**Prior to Arrival**

Please ensure your child (or children) does not exhibit any of the following symptoms and if they do, please keep them at home and advise the school that they are unwell and will be absent. Then call VIHA COVID Testing Call Center for advice 1-844-901-8442

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| * + Muscle aches | * + Coughing | * + Sore throat |
| * + Fatigue | * + Runny/stuffy nose | * + Headache |
| * + Chills/fever | * + Nausea/vomiting | * + Diarrhea |
| * + Loss of appetite | * + Loss of sense of smell/taste |  |
| * + Difficulty breathing | * + shortness of breath |  |

**By sending your child (or children) to school you are confirming that you have done a daily health check and that they are free of any of the signs or symptoms of illness and have not been instructed to self isolate.**

The District has created very strict protocols to support a child who presents with any symptoms during their time at school. Parents/Guardians will be expected to pick up their child as soon as possible and speak with their family doctor or VIHA COVID Testing Call Center for advice 1-844-901-8442

**Morning Drop-Off** (School hours are from **8:12 – 1:30)**

Please do not drop off your child (or children) before school starts as they cannot enter the school, or play in the playground and must be mindful of physical interaction.

* On arrival, please drop students off at the front of the school, there will be supervision to help guide them to their outside classroom doors.
* Playgrounds will be closed before school to help reduce mixing of cohorts
* Teachers will be outside their classroom doors at 8:12 to welcome students
* We ask that parents do not enter the school building. Please call or use our front office window if you need anything from the school.
* Please practice physical distancing if walking students to the front of the school
* There will be a soft start in classrooms (including handwashing) and **attendance will be taken at 8:30**. If it makes sense for you to drop off a few minutes after the rush, please feel free to do so
* Please remember that the library will not be accessible until further notice for normal books exchange. Students will be able to access books in their classroom with the support of our librarian.

**During the Day**

* Students on arrival will be able to store personal items at their cubby hook, and then wash their hands
* Students will be required to stay in their rooms as much as possible – transitions will be limited to bathroom, and outside breaks
* Gym equipment, music equipment, the music room, and the library will not be available until further notice.
* There will be a staggered recess break to reduce the number of students outside at one time.

**End of Day Pick-Up** (School hours are from 8:12 – 1:30)

* Please pick up your child (or children) promptly at the end of the school day
* Bus students will be under supervision
* Students who are being picked up will be at the front of the school, distanced from students in other cohorts.
* Playgrounds will be closed after school to help reduce mixing of cohorts.

**Illness Arising During the Day**

If a student becomes ill during the day:

* They will be sent to the office and put on a non-medical mask
* The student will be put in the isolation room which is located in the office
* Parents will be contacted by office to pick up their child asap and informed that they need to contact their physician or VIHA COVID Testing Call Center for advice 1-844-901-8442
* Custodian will be directed by administration to clean affected areas

When the child is symptom free and well again parents need to contact administration to arrange for the child’s return to school

Thanks for your support and we look forward to seeing the students on Thursday September 10 or Friday September 11th. We look forward to welcoming all students beginning on Monday September 14th, 2020.

Kevin McKee

Principal