

Westmount Community School

Reopening Plan



The new school year is just around the corner and we want to help smooth the transition to the new learning year for you and your child(ren). We are continuing to plan diligently to ensure a successful and safe transition back to in-building learning at Westmount Community School. We will be contacting each family over the next few days to welcome you back, ease any concerns and inquire about your plans for returning school.

Please refer to the [Parent and Caregiver Reopening Handbook](#) for general information on Saskatoon Public Schools reopening plan. The guidelines of the Parent Handbook will be adhered to by our school along with elements specific to Westmount Community School.

The following information represents our school specific plan for a safe return to school at **Westmount Community School**. Please note that the plan is subject to change at any time based on direction from Saskatchewan's Chief Medical Health Officer. Changes will be communicated as they occur.

Safety Precautions

- If your child(ren) are experiencing cold or flu-like symptoms (fever, cough, headaches, aches and pains, sore throat, chills, runny nose, loss of taste or smell, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing) **they must not attend school**. Please contact the school by **phoning (306)683-7490 or text (306)250-7490** then follow up with **811** and the Saskatchewan Health Authority
- For anyone with COVID-19 symptoms who cannot leave the facility immediately, they will **be isolating** in the **Boys Gym change room** by the main office with a medical mask until they can be picked up. Parents and caregivers are asked to have a plan in case their child presents symptoms and that they must pick up the student immediately. A staff member will be directed to supervise the student, during such time they must wear a mask, face shield and gloves during all interactions with the ill student until they are picked up by a guardian. Should there be additional students that are awaiting pick-up, we will use the other change room, then the benches outside the hallway, with the pilons being moved to block off access from that side of the gym. After the pick-up, the space will be cleaned and disinfected.

Mental Health & Social-Emotional Supports

- In addition to the section in the Parent and Carver Reopening Handbook on supporting students, we want to make sure that families are aware of that as always, students who need additional support for their well-being may receive support from the school counsellor. Parents who believe this support may be necessary can reach out to their teacher or administrator to discuss. The counsellor will work with the team to determine appropriate supports, which may include direct support and/or assisting students and families to access other services in the community

- Well being is one of our four student goals in our school division strategic plan. Opportunities to learn about and practice well-being exist across multiple curricular areas.

Hygiene

- Teachers are building routines around following proper hand hygiene. This includes washing hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and the frequent use of hand sanitizer. Visual instructions for proper hand washing will be displayed beside every sink.

- Hand sanitizer will be available at all our entrances and in every classroom. There will be numerous prompts to wash hands or use hand sanitizer throughout the day, such as when first entering the building, entering the classroom, or immediately before and after recess.

- Teachers will teach and periodically reinforce those routines.

- Every classroom will have access to hand washing stations and they are creating plans to coordinate access throughout the day.

Mask Usage

- Grade 4 - 8 students are required to wear masks when appropriate physical distancing cannot be maintained. Masks are recommended for prekindergarten to Grade 3 students.** Saskatoon Public Schools will provide one reusable mask for each student. Additional disposable masks will be made available when needed and required. Child(ren) are welcome to bring their own masks.

- In some situations, wearing a mask may not be possible for a student. In these instances, school staff members will work with parents/caregivers to consider accommodations. More information can be found on the [CDC website](#).

- All students will be provided with a fanny pack to store both their reusable masks as well as an extra disposable mask in the event it is misplaced. This will serve as storage for student masks, when they are not in use, and reduces the need for staff

to handle students masks. Students will be encouraged to bring their reusable masks home for washing regularly.

•**Staff are required to wear masks at all times when appropriate distancing cannot be maintained (hallways, small group instruction, transitional time between classes, washroom, water bottle filling or any instructional space where distancing cannot be maintained).** When physical distancing is achievable, mask breaks may occur (i.e. outdoor learning).

•All students are required to wear masks, while riding the bus.

•All visitors are required to wear masks at all times.

•More information about the proper usage of masks or face coverings is available from the [Public Health Agency of Canada](#) as well as the [Staff Reopening Handbook](#).

Parent/Caregiver Access to School

•At this time visitors to the school are discouraged. Should there be an instance where it is necessary, visitors are to contact the office to make arrangements by **calling (306)683-7490 or texting (306)250-7490**.

•Pick-up and drop-off will occur outside the school, to reduce the number of people in the school and ensure the safety of students. Please see the section on

•**All visitors attending to the school will be required to fill out a health questionnaire.**

The form can be filled out by using a smartphone to scan the **QR code posted** at the entry door of the school, which will go directly to the questionnaire site. Paper copies will be made available as needed at the office if visitors are unable to access the form online. Administrative assistants will be responsible for digitally filing any paper forms by using the [questionnaire link](#).

• **Visitors will be required to wear a mask and use hand sanitizer upon entering the school.** Parents/caregivers are encouraged to contact the main office to make an appointment if they need to come to the school. At this point, we request that this occur only if necessary.

•Masks will be available at the office for distribution to visitors by office staff. Office staff should sanitize their hands or put on gloves before passing a mask to a user. Tongs or tweezers, along with hand hygiene can be used to distribute masks.

Flow of Traffic Through the School

- Directional arrows, traffic flow plans, physical distancing decals and entry/exit signs will be in place to support safe movement in school and classroom will be used, to ensure that students stay to the right at all times and to best ensure physical distancing.
- Social distancing decals will be present at the main office, LRC, Nutrition Room and any other location where there may be lineups.

School Day Schedule

- School day schedules have been organized in **three groups, made up of two cohorts** (two classes per cohort to restrict interaction to groups of 60 or less) to ensure safety and social distancing during entrance of school, instructional time, non-instructional time, recess, and dismissal.
- Groups and Cohorts: These will be made up of four homeroom classes, with smaller cohorts of two within that. These groups will be staffed with extra supervisors to support student safety.
 - Family Group A:
 - Miss Rae and Auntie Lyla
 - Miss Jessie and Mr. T
 - Auntie Chandi and Miss Rachel
 - Family Group B:
 - Auntie Pam and Ms. Aly Strunk
 - Miss Brooklynn and Mrs. Ruttle
 - Mrs. Shelen Herperger, Miss Kendra, and Mr. Lloyd Laliberte
 - Family Group C:
 - Miss Lisa and Mr. Jeff Marshall
 - Ms. Rachel Freimanis and Ms. Amber Shmon
 - Mr. Mark, Mrs. Chan and Ms. Jessie Park
- After the first bell rings, one class from each Group will enter the school, order determined by group, with another group entering approximately every minute.
- See Group Schedules for additional details (supervision and and entry locations)

Attendance & Lates

- Students will enter the school with their teacher at their designated locations, known as 'Taanishi Spots' where we will welcome students and meet families in the morning
- Students that are late, and miss their staggered entry at their 'Taanishi Spot' are to go directly to their class via the front doors, without stopping at the office for a late slip.

Recess

•We have developed plans that promote student groups staying together and physical distancing during non-instructional time. This includes staggering morning recess times and assigned outdoor spaces for groups of students, as well as the maintenance of an embedded Move2Grow break, in the afternoon to reduce interaction among student groups.

•Morning Recess Periods:

•Family Group A -10:00 - 10:15

- Miss Rae and Auntie Lyla
- Miss Jessie and Mr. T
- Auntie Chandi and Miss Rachel

•Family Group B - 10:20 - 10:35

- Auntie Pam and Ms. Aly Strunk
- Miss Brooklynn and Mrs. Ruttle
- Mrs. Shelen Herperger, Miss Kendra, and Mr. Lloyd Laliberte

•Family Group C - 10:45 - 11:00

- Miss Lisa and Mr. Jeff Marshall
- Ms. Rachel Freimanis and Ms. Amber Shmon
- Mr. Mark, Mrs. Chan and Ms. Jessie Park

Water & Washroom Breaks

•Water fountains have been temporarily disabled. Students are asked to bring a **reusable water bottle filled from home to school every day**. This water bottle is for personal use and must not be shared with others. Water bottle filling stations have been installed.

- Teachers are encouraged to create plans to coordinate water filling times and processes, by floor grouping.
- Students in Gr. 4 - 8 are required to wear a mask when using the washroom, and students in Pre-K - 3 are strongly encouraged to wear them when using the washroom as well.
- Teachers are asked to ensure that no more than one student be away from their class at a time for either washroom.

Entering and Exiting School

- Each group will be assigned a door to enter and exit to minimize the movement of students where possible at the beginning and end of day. At the beginning and end of day, families that are dropping off and picking up students will have designated locations. More communication and details will come from homeroom teachers next week.

Changes to Nutrition Program

Breakfast

- Breakfast will be available for those that need it and our Community Team will serve it in class.

Lunch

- Students are encouraged to go home for lunch whenever possible. Students that are going home for lunch and need lunch will be welcome to take one to go.
- Families with multiple students across multiple Groups that are able to go home for lunch will leave at the first lunch period of their student and return at the latest, to ensure there is not mixing of students in different groups and to ensure students have a class to attend upon return.
- To meet the current nutrition guidelines students will be eating in their classrooms at their desk/table. Meals will be delivered in staggered blocks.
- Lunch Periods:
 - Group A - 11:30 - 11:50 (Eat), 11:50 - 12:10 (Recess)
 - Miss Rae, Auntie Lyla and Mr. T
 - Group B - 11:45 - 12:05 (Recess), 12:05 - 12:25 (Eat)
 - Auntie Pam, Ms. Aly Strunk, Miss Brooklynn and Mrs. Ruttle
 - Group C - 11:55 - 12:15 (Eat), 12:15 - 12:35 (Recess)
 - Miss Lisa, Mr. Jeff Marshall, Ms. Rachel Freimanis and Ms. Amber Shmon

Staggered Start

- Previously enrolled families will be contacted by the school this week with information about staggered start.

Staggered Start Grade 1-8

- **Grade 1-8** Staggered starts will be the week of **September 8** to **September 11**.
- All Grade 1 – 8 students will attend TWO full days during the week of September 8-11
- Teachers will be contacting families to share students' days for staggered start during the week of Aug 31 - Sept 4

Staggered Start Pre-Kindergarten / Kindergarten

- Staggered starts will be the week of **September 8** to **September 11**.
- All Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten students will attend ONE half day staggered start day.
- Teachers will be contacting families to share student's day and time for staggered start

Storage of Student Materials

- Teachers will create plans for storage of student materials and individual bins will be used for storage of items
- Open Locker areas can be used, so long as distancing is maintained and masks are worn, and there is one directional traffic.
- Sharing of student personal items such as personal electronic devices, writing instruments and supplies, and food will not be allowed.

We are looking forward to a fall filled with excellent learning opportunities at Westmount Community School!