



January 7, 2022

Dear Sunnyside Parents and Guardians,

We are looking forward to welcoming our students safely back to school on Monday, January 10<sup>th</sup>.

We are committed to ensuring our students can continue to learn as safely as possible in-person by closely following all the measures put forth in the [updated provincial guidance for schools](#) that were issued in late December and our district's [communicable disease plan](#). These measures include continued mask wearing, [daily health checks](#), staying home when sick, a continued focus on hand washing, daily cleaning and disinfecting protocols, limiting visitors to schools, and not having spectators at our events.

Over the past year and a half, we have safely kept our school open for face-to-face instruction, and we are grateful for your continued support and vigilance in following our health and safety protocols.

Our district will also continue to engage with our local and provincial partners at Fraser Health and the Ministry of Education to monitor what is happening in schools. We will continue to follow their guidance.

Over the past week we have been reviewing our health and safety measures. We have also been planning for the possibility of a functional closure. A functional closure is when we cannot adequately supervise or instruct children. We often direct children home during snow days, power outages, water main breaks, and other unique circumstances. In this case, the situation could arise that due to staff illness, we have insufficient staff to provide safe supervision of children, or to provide instruction for an extended duration.

If this happens, students will need to move to a period of learning from home. This period is intended to be 7 days and materials and support for this time will be provided by the classroom teacher.

We recognize that any closure is stressful for our school community, and we appreciate the fact that any change in routine will cause disruption and inconvenience for many. We will aim to communicate the potential for a move to home learning as quickly as we can so families can plan accordingly. In the event we must go into a closure, we will communicate with families via MyEd (email), our Sunnyside app, and our Sunnyside website. We strongly encourage parents to check one or more of these sources every evening and every morning before sending children to school to ensure we are not in a closure.

Our hope is that we do not need to move to a place where students need to be learning from home, but we want to be prepared. Please ensure that we have your updated contact information, including your phone and email to ensure you receive all communications.

At our school some protocols you will see to help keep our students and staff safe include:

- Parents must complete a daily Health check for their child before they arrive. If your child is ill or symptomatic, please do not send them to school. Children who are ill at school, will be isolated to

prevent any spread of illness, and parents will be contacted for immediate pick up. We thank you for your support

- Parents/Guardians are not permitted in the school building at this time. We understand this can be inconvenient for families but only visitors that are essential for student learning will be on site, and only with pre-approval from the Principal
- Meetings for staff and parents will be held virtually. We encourage regular communication between parents and staff to discuss any concerns or progress. Please contact your child's teacher directly to arrange a virtual meeting. We are asking staff not to have conferences outside classroom doors but rather to ask parents to schedule a time where there is privacy and committed time to discuss their child
- Parents are reminded they need to respect social distancing while on school grounds. Please maintain distance from each other whenever possible. We strongly encourage parents/guardians who do pick up and drop off to wear a 3-layered mask when coming onto the school grounds
- Please ensure children come to school with everything they need as we can't accept drop offs of any outside items

Items that students need daily are;

- weather appropriate clothing
- lunch
- snack
- water bottles
- All utensils they will need to eat their food, the school does not provide these
- All students should have a change of clothes available at school in case of inclement weather or mishaps
- If your child arrives late to school, they enter through the lower doors and make their own way to the office to check in. Staff will work with students to ensure they know where to go
- If you need to take your child(ren) from school during the day for appointments, etc. please phone the school 5 minutes prior to the time you need to collect your child(ren) so we can arrange for your child(ren) to meet you. Students will exit out the front door of the school once we see you arrive

We ask that parents ensure their child(ren) attend school with a 3-layered mask and a backup mask if theirs is soiled or lost during the day. We will be reminding students to wear their 3-layered masks at school and would appreciate if parents can reiterate the importance of washing hands, distancing, and wearing a mask when at school.

We want to thank our parent community for the continued understanding, support and partnership as we worked this week to get our school ready for a safe return and plan for a potential pivot to on-line learning, if needed.

As always please feel free to reach out if you have any questions, we are here to support you.

Sincerely,  
Ms. L. Paredes and Mrs. B. Scott  
Principals | Sunnyside

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