

COVID-19 Protocols for School Start up September 2021 ...at-a-glance information for staff and parents



- The **first day of school** for students is September 1.
- Chinook's Edge is **following the [guidelines](#) from Alberta Health Services (AHS)** as it pertains to COVID-19 protocols. If the situation changes, we may revise our Chinook's Edge protocols either by school or across the division. Safety is our top priority.
- **Masking** will not be mandatory in schools and classrooms, but masks are required for all students (K-12) and staff on school buses. We support students, staff and visitors who choose to wear a mask in our schools. If an outbreak occurs we may require masking if directed by AHS.
- It continues to be important that students and staff **remain at home if they are sick**. If your child is sick, please do not send them to school. If they become sick at school, we will notify you to pick them up immediately. Please refer to this [Alberta Health Daily Checklist](#) to monitor your child for symptoms of COVID-19. Please let your child's teacher know of any pre-existing conditions your child may have, to ensure these won't be mistaken for COVID-19 symptoms.
- Schools will continue to employ **good public health practices** to help reduce the risk of transmission of respiratory infections (including COVID-19, influenza and common colds) among students, staff and visitors. Details are available [here](#).
- AHS will be notifying parents should an outbreak situation occur at a school. Chinook's Edge will report to Alberta Health Services if any of our schools experience a **10 percent or higher absenteeism rate**.
- Chinook's Edge will expect all students and staff to follow [AHS Isolation and Quarantine requirements](#) when they receive a positive test or when they have symptoms.
- The front doors will be open at our schools, but **parents and visitors are asked to make a prior appointment** with the school office. As per our routine procedures, all visitors will be asked to use sign-in sheets.
- There are no restrictions on **school activities** or classroom cohorting; however full school assemblies will be avoided whenever possible.
- Any food brought from home for sharing must be distributed by school staff.
- Sports, music and fine arts activities will be permitted.
- Parents will be given the option of in-person or virtual Parent Teacher Interviews.
- Community use of schools is permitted.
- If schools choose to hold special events, they may adapt the format in order to limit the number of participants.
- Chinook's Edge will continue to **clean and disinfect** high touch surfaces each day, and provide hand sanitizer in multiple areas throughout each school. Buses will continue to be sanitized after each route. Carpets may be used in classrooms; however, cloth furniture is not permitted due to difficulty in sanitizing.
- Chinook's Edge **field trips** within the province of Alberta may resume effective September 9th.
- AHS will be holding voluntary **COVID-19 vaccination clinics** in our schools for students and staff. Details on this AHS vaccination program will be sent to parents. Chinook's Edge is strongly recommending that our staff get vaccinated.

As the COVID-19 situation continues to change, Chinook's Edge will remain highly vigilant of safety protocols and will review these items on a regular basis. We are working to provide optimal safety for everyone in our school communities, as we focus on engaging every student in meaningful learning. We are aware that students will be needing reassurance as we move forward, and our teachers and staff will be highly attentive to the Social Emotional Well-being of everyone in our Chinook's Edge schools.