

# Glen Allan School Re-Entry Plan 2021-22

Last modified: August 30, 2021

## General Information

### **Elk Island Public Schools Operations Guidelines 2021-22**

- Overall, the EIPS Operations Guidelines 2021-22 ensures schools run smoothly, and operations take place in the safest way possible. It's essential for families, and students to understand and adhere to the guidelines so the risk of illness is low, and so students can continue to learn and work in a safe classroom setting. Through a combined effort, everyone within EIPS is safer, healthier and better prepared for success throughout this stage of the pandemic.

### **Some Key Background Information about Re-Entry**

[Alberta Education Guidelines for Schools](#) - the guidance document that EIPS consulted

[EIPS Operations Guidelines 2021-22](#) - here is the detailed plan from EIPS

[EIPS FAQ](#) - some questions that may pop up frequently

### **Four Key Strategies to Reduce Spread:**

- 1) Daily screening & staying home when ill
- 2) Masking & personal hygiene practices
- 3) Physical distancing
- 4) Enhanced cleaning

### **Vaccination Status**

- Vaccination status is private health information
- We need to be careful not to inquire into anyone's vaccination status
- If information is willingly shared, that is ok

## Before You Leave Home

### **COVID-19 Screening Questionnaire**

- Complete the verbal [COVID-19 Screening Questionnaire](#)
- DO NOT leave home if you feel unwell. Please stay home.
- Ensure you have multiple face-coverings to be able to change throughout the day once soiled.

## Illness - Students

- Students with **core symptoms**—fever, cough, shortness of breath, loss of smell or taste—**must isolate** for 10 days, or until receiving a negative COVID-19 test result and symptoms resolve.
- Students with just **ONE secondary symptom**—chills, sore throat, runny nose, fatigue, nausea, diarrhea, aches, headache, pink-eye—**must stay home and monitor symptoms for 24 hours**. If symptoms improve, they can return to school. If symptoms worsen, they must stay home until resolved.
- Students with **TWO or more secondary symptoms** **must stay home until resolved**.
- If a student experiences symptoms while at school, we will isolate them in the office infirmary and contact the family for timely pick up
- Parents will notify us if their child has pre-existing conditions that may present with similar symptoms as COVID-19. If symptoms worsen or new symptoms develop, students will go home and monitor for 24 hours

## Illness - Staff

- Staff with **core symptoms**—fever, cough, shortness of breath, runny nose, sore throat—**must isolate for 10 days**, or until receiving a negative COVID-19 test result and symptoms resolve.
- Staff with **secondary symptoms**—chills; painful swallowing; nasal congestion; fatigue; feeling unwell; nausea; diarrhea; loss of smell, taste or appetite; aches; headache; pink-eye—**must stay home until symptoms resolve**. Testing is recommended for anyone who experiences core or secondary symptoms.

## Confirmed COVID-19 cases

- Confidentiality matters
- AHS will not be notifying us and we are not required to notify EIPS
- Persons who test positive for COVID-19 must isolate for minimum 10 days or until symptoms resolve (whichever is longer)
- Proof of negative test is not required to return to school when isolation is completed
- Quarantine of close contacts no longer required by AHS therefore whole classes will not be sent home unless specifically directed to do so by public health official
- When a case is reported to the school we will provide general notification to affected staff, students and families so that they can monitor for symptoms and stay home if unwell.
- Students/staff without symptoms come to school regardless of whether or not they are close contacts.
- If our absentee rate is 10 percent or higher, AHS investigates and determines next steps. If an outbreak is declared, the province will recommend additional measures for us to follow.

## Arriving at School / Leaving at the End of the Day

### **Busing**

- As mandated by the province, all riders and bus operators must wear a mask at all times. Students who choose not to wear a mask have two options: not board the bus or wear a disposable mask supplied by EIPS. Individuals who do not wear a mask are prohibited from boarding until a mask is worn. Riders who have a face-mask exemption must wear a face shield instead.
- Please refer to the EIPS Re-Entry Plan for more information about COVID protocols and student transportation.

### **Arriving at School**

- Staff will be outside on supervision starting at 8:15 each morning. Please ensure that students are not arriving at school prior to 8:15 am as there will be no supervision.
- The playground will be closed prior to the start of school each day.
- As students arrive at school, they will line up at designated entrances. Students will maintain physical distance during this time while wearing their masks. Staff members will let students in through their designated doors.
- Students will use hand sanitizing stations upon entering the school and their classroom.
- Parents cannot enter the school without an appointment.
- Parents are asked to wait in their vehicles or remain with their children at a physical distance from other students who are waiting to enter the building.
- All students must have masks ready to put on as they reach their designated door prior to entering the school.
- When a student is late for school, they will be required to use the main front entrance and sign in at the office.
- If you are picking up a sibling at the end of the day, students are to meet outside at a designated location. All students should enter and exit from the same entrance.
- Class doors are assigned as follows: [Entrance and Exit Door Map](#)

### **Physical Distancing and Masks**

- Whenever possible, students, staff and visitors are encouraged to physically distance—maintaining a two-metre space between two or more people. As much as possible, our teachers have arranged classrooms to encourage space between students.
- For the 2021-22 school year, EIPS' goal is to ensure everyone's health and safety and transmission rates stay low. Given the Division can't guarantee physical distancing indoors at all times, the absence of COVID19 vaccines for elementary students, the circulating and highly contagious Delta variant and the growing number of COVID-19 cases, EIPS has mandated that all students, staff and visitors in K-6 schools wear masks.

- Masking helps ensure students and staff are protected and allow schools to safely and quickly resume activities that were suspended last year — extracurricular activities, field trips, sports, intramurals.
- Masks are not mandatory:
  - when physical distancing is possible;
  - while eating;
  - when outside (recess, outdoor learning activities);
  - during physical education or physical activity;
- When there are no students in the building, masks are at the discretion of the adult but are strongly recommended
- All masks must fit close to the face and cover the nose and chin. Please note the following face coverings are not permitted: Neck gators, bandanas, and masks with one-way valves or vents.
- Students should have 2 or more masks packed in a labelled paper, cloth or plastic bag each day.
- Please review the EIPS Re-Entry plan for information regarding mask exemptions.

## **Parents and Visitors**

- This year we will be getting back to our core principles of teaching and learning after almost a year and a half of interruptions. We need to be protective of our time and thoughtful about what we do this year. We would ask that if you are planning on coming to the school there is a necessary purpose to your visit. There will be many meaningful opportunities to get involved over the year, including our School Council and various volunteer opportunities within classrooms. If you need to speak to any staff member, please email or call ahead of time to set up an appointment at a suitable time.
- Visitors, volunteers and contractors are permitted in the school as long as they have a specific reason for being there, have pre-arranged the visit, and follow Glen Allan School protocol. As well, anyone entering an EIPS school or building must complete the [COVID-19 Alberta Health Daily Checklist](#), sign the visitor log and sanitize hands.
- Parents and visitors must enter the school through the main front entrance and check in at the office.
- Masks are mandatory in all elementary schools for students, staff, parents, and other visitors.

## **During School**

### **General classroom protocols:**

- All individuals practice good hygiene.
- The classroom is organized to encourage maximum space between students.
- Personal materials stored on a hook or in a locker.
- No sharing of food and utensils.
- Eating takes place in a designated classroom.

- Regular cleaning of classrooms, desks, play centres and shared-use items.
- Avoid toys and items difficult to clean and disinfect.
- Mandatory mask use for students and staff when physical distancing isn't possible.

### **Washrooms, Water Fountains & Hallways**

- Staff will monitor congestion in the hallways and washrooms during breaks.
- Students will practice physical distancing while waiting for a stall if necessary
- We will not be following any traffic flow in the hallways however keeping physical distance and masking are required
- It is strongly recommended that students bring a fully labelled, refillable water bottle to school, as regular water fountains will not be in use. **We have one touchless fill station for students to refill as needed.**

### **Cohorting**

- Cohorting is not required this year as we are no longer reporting, tracking or quarantining close contacts, however some of the things we tried last year were beneficial regardless of the pandemic.
- We will still have a few larger cohorts by grouping kids by grade levels at:
  - Entrance/recess doors
  - Boot rooms
  - Play areas in morning/afternoon recesses

### **Music Class**

- Singing (while masked) is permitted as is playing instruments
- Students will sanitize hands upon entering and exiting
- Regular cleaning of music equipment will continue

### **Recesses**

- Recesses will be common throughout the grades. A schedule will be developed to provide students plenty of space to spread out and play in as well as enabling them to mingle with peers of the similar age. All students will sanitize their hands before and after recess.
- Each class will have a supply of outdoor play equipment (skipping ropes, soccer balls, etc) that can be used by students from that class.

### **Lunch Guidelines**

- Eating takes place in the student's designated classroom.
- No sharing of food between students.
- No sharing of utensils, dishes, or drink containers.

- All snacks and lunches are kept with the student's belongings.
- Thoroughly clean lunch items, containers, utensils, packaging, before sending items to school.
- Each individual must properly dispose of their own recycling, wrappers, and food waste.
- The sending of snacks or treats into classrooms for special occasions continues to be suspended.
- If a student forgets a lunch, the school will contact the family to make appropriate arrangements or families should phone the school at 780 467-5519 to work out a solution.
- If a family wishes for their child(ren) to be permitted to leave the school for lunch, **written permission or email to [General.GLN@eips.ca](mailto:General.GLN@eips.ca)** from the parent/guardian will be required. Students leaving for lunch will be required to use their assigned doors.

### **Physical Health and Screening**

- Any individual who becomes symptomatic during the school day or workday must leave the school immediately. Students who can't go home right away, will wait in the school office isolation area for parent(s) to pick them up. Families must ensure the school has current emergency contact information on file, and those listed can respond right away. EIPS also recommends completing the online [COVID-19 self-assessment tool](#) to determine next steps.

### **Learning While Isolating**

- Please refer to the EIPS Re-Entry plan for isolating requirements and protocols related to learners who miss school due to isolation.

### **Pick Up and After School**

#### **Designated Areas**

- Students will be leaving the building from the same exit that they arrived at in the morning.
- Pick up child(ren) at the designated exit.
- Respect physical distancing guidelines.