

Macaulay Elementary Return to School Guidelines - January 2022

We are looking forward to having our students back to school next week on Monday, January 10th!

Please take the time to talk about what the return to school will look like with your child(ren). Besides now having students taking staggered recesses to limit interactions, we are continuing our safety measures past practices as described below while we navigate, altogether, this latest wave of COVID-19.

Coming to School

Students and staff must stay home if they are displaying any symptoms of COVID-19 communicable disease. It is the responsibility of parents to assess their child(ren) daily for symptoms of COVID-19 prior to sending them to school.

Further information:

- [BC COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool](#)
- <https://www.k12dailycheck.gov.bc.ca/healthcheck?execution=e1s1>
- Contact 811 or your family physician

Physical Distancing

Students and staff will be reminded to respect the personal space of others. During the drop-off and pick-up, families are highly encouraged to stay outside and spread out as much as possible to help reduce unintentional contact and prevent crowding. Arranging a specific location to meet your child at the end of the day is recommended and helps your child to know where to go after school.

Mask

- Mask wearing indoors for all K-12 staff, visitors, parents and students K to 12, including at their desks and on school buses (unless exempt through communication with the Principal/Vice Principal)

Overall Health

- Focus on hand hygiene as previously done. Rigorous hand washing routines will be incorporated into the school day.
- Building air ventilation has been revised and updated as needed
- Cleaning and disinfecting to be continued as previously

Schedule

Students will attend school between 8:53am and 2:35pm Monday through Friday (with the exception of any non-instructional days).

Half the students will go outside for recess at 10-10:15am and 11:21-11:56am while the other half at 10:20-10:35am and 11:56am-12:31pm.

A friendly reminder that we have a Professional Development Day coming up on Friday, Jan. 28th.

Students will continue to not be organized in learning groups/cohorts.

What students should bring to school

Lunch and snack

- Students are to bring food and snacks that are nut and allergen free if they are in a classroom with a student with anaphylaxis. We do not have the space to accommodate students elsewhere if they bring nuts, nut products or other known allergens for lunch.
- Use containers and packages that students can open independently
- We are adopting a school wide 'pack in and pack out' policy for lunch waste to allow custodians to focus on cleaning and disinfecting during the day.
- Students will be asked to take home any remaining food and garbage from their snacks and lunches. Reusable containers are encouraged.

Water

- Students are encouraged to bring their own water bottle
- Our water fountains are open and accessible to all students and staff

Clothes

- Clothes, hats and shoes to be outside depending on the weather
- Students will go outside at recess, rain or shine

School Supplies

- Please refer to the school supply lists on the Macaulay website <https://macaulay.sd61.bc.ca/>.

Washrooms and hallways

- We are continuing to limit the number of students using the same washroom to 3 at the time
- Hallways are still organized with lines and arrows to ensure a proper flow and limit interactions of students

Arriving / drop off at school

- Students and families are asked to arrive at school as close as possible to the bell time which is 8:53am
- All students will enter and exit the building via their designated outside door
- Students line up outside their designated door at the specified area and wait for their teacher
- Upon entering students will wash their hands
- Parents are asked to wait outside the school and not to come into the building to drop off or pick up their child
- For students arriving late, please come to the main door.

Leaving / pick up from school

- Students will be picked up from their designated outside door at 2:35 pm and are encouraged to go home promptly
- It is important that parents are on time for pick up/dismissal at the end of the day
- Please wait at the designated outside door and do not enter the classroom when you are picking up your child.

Main Entrance / Entrance Doors / Accessing the Office and School

- During the school day, if you need to enter the building please come to the main door by the office and ring the doorbell. Our main door will remain locked to reduce unintentional contact.
- Upon entering be sure to sanitize your hands at the hand sanitizing station, to sign-in and confirm your daily health check before entering the Office.
- At this time, parents are asked not to go directly to their child's classroom but proceed to the office instead so we can assist you.
- Please limit your visits to the Office - where possible phone calls, emails and appointments are the preferred methods to contact the Office at this time
- When in the office, please respect the personal space of others as much as possible
- Visitors also need to sign-out at the end of their visit

Macaulay Elementary Return to School Guidelines – January 2022 will be updated as necessary. Changes and updates will be communicated to students and families as they become available.

If you have any questions please contact the School Office.

For further information, please visit the Greater Victoria School District website.
<https://www.sd61.bc.ca/>

Thank you for your assistance and on-going support,

Josee and Emmanuelle