



# Lake Avenue Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

157 Lake Avenue North  
Hamilton, Ontario L8E 1L5  
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PRINCIPAL: Jeff Zwolak  
VICE-PRINCIPAL: Umar Qureshi

September 2021

Dear families,

We are excited to welcome students back to classes – in person and through remote learning – to the 2021-22 school year. The last year was an unusual in many ways, and we know families may be feeling anxious about returning to classes this September.

We appreciate that families may have a lot of questions as they prepare to send their children back to classes and are committed to sharing updates as we receive new information. We also invite families to keep up with communications from HWDSB by [subscribing to email updates](#) or following @hwdsb on social media.

A friendly reminder that the first day of school will be **Wednesday, September 8**.

We know that safety is on the minds of every family sending their child/ren back to school. We are taking many actions to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in our classes while giving our students meaningful experiences which focus on both their physical and emotional well-being. Here are some important points for families to remember as students prepare for the start of the school year.

### **Attestation**

Parents and caregivers are asked to complete [one-time attestation](#) to declare that you will participate in active daily screening. The attestation can be completed in the [Parent Portal](#).

### **Daily COVID-19 Screening**

Students will submit a daily screening either on paper or a device to an educator for review. If the student does not have verification, they will remain in class, with a mask and distanced as much as possible from others. Parents will be contacted to verify screening.

### **Mask Requirements**

Masks are mandated for all students, including kindergarten students. Reasonable exceptions on the requirement to wear masks will apply. No medical notes are required. Please complete the form in the Parent Portal if an exemption is needed.

### **Device Return**

Students who still have a device from last year are asked to bring it to their educator on the first day of school, Wednesday, September 8. Please label the device with your child's name.



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## Remote Transition

Families requesting a **transition** between remote and in-person learning this September can do so by completing the form in the Parent Portal between September 3 and 10. Students will begin the school year in their original selection and will transition in early October.

## Visitors and Volunteers

Access to the school will be very limited for parents and caregivers. There will be a temporary pause on welcoming volunteers in our school as staff await more information from the Ministry of Education about how the Immunization Disclosure Policy impacts them.

## First Days of Kindergarten

The first day of kindergarten classes will be Thursday, September 8.

We will continue to send updates as we receive added information and thank you for being proactive in following communications from HWDSB.

Learn more about COVID-19 precautions at HWDSB at [www.hwdsb.on.ca/covid19](http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/covid19).

If you have any questions, or think your child might struggle with school, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Mr. J. Zwolak  
Principal  
Lake Avenue School