

Dear families,

We are excited about welcoming back students – in person and through remote learning – to the 2020/21 school year. The pandemic has brought many changes to our school and its families, but I know that we can rise to the occasion when we work together.

Thank you for keeping up with the communications coming from HWDSB, and for completing important forms and surveys as required.

We are taking many actions to prevent COVID-19 at our school. You will notice that safety is guiding all our programming choices. Here are some of the important points to remember:

Attestation

Before a student can enter a school, we require that their family completes an attestation that they have read, understood, and will abide by expectations. Find this on the [Parent Portal](#). ([Backup location](#) for forms and translations.)

Daily COVID-19 Screening

HWDSB COVID-19 Student Screening Checklist is to be completed daily before arriving at school. The checklist is found on the Parent Portal as well as on the [HWDSB website](#). If you answered YES to any of the screening questions, the student has failed the screening and must not attend school. The family should contact Public Health at (905) 974-9848 or their family doctor for testing. Please contact the school using [SafeArrival](#) to report the absence. If the student is tested for COVID-19, your school would appreciate knowing the outcome of that test.

Staggered start details

As you know, we will be opening our school with a staggered start timeline. This means that not all students will begin on the same day. Please see the chart below, note which group your child falls into, and reach out if you have more questions:

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 7	TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 8	WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 9	THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 10	FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 11
LABOUR DAY HOLIDAY	Staff Transition to New Assignments Remote Learning Day School Training	Staff Transition to New Assignments Remote Learning Day School Training	Students that Require Special Education Supports/Supports with Transitions and Mental Health JK Orientation Remote Learning Day School Welcome	Students that Require Special Education Supports/Supports with Transitions and Mental Health JK Orientation Remote Learning Day School Welcome
MONDAY SEPTEMBER 14	TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 15	WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 16	THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 17	FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 18
GROUP A Last Name Alpha A to K (approximately ½ class)	GROUP B Last Name Alpha L to Z (approximately ½ class)	ALL STUDENTS RETURN TO SCHOOL (Full Classes)	ALL STUDENTS (Full Classes)	ALL STUDENTS (Full Classes)

New routines and protocols

School operations are changing significantly to ensure that we can provide a safe learning environment for all students and staff. We will post our school-specific protocols on the school website at www.hwdsb.on.ca/queenvictoria. These will cover everything from parking lots, classroom set up, nutrition breaks, mandatory masks for students, entry and exit routines, and more. Please remember that masks are required for all students attending school and must be worn while inside the building.

Water Bottles

Drinking fountains in all schools will be bagged and not used. We have a hydration station on the first floor as well as sinks in each classroom. Please be sure to send your child with a reusable water bottle so they stay hydrated. It would be helpful if all personal items such as water bottles are labelled with student names.

Visiting Schools

This year, our school must significantly limit or even prohibit visitors to school, including parents, to support a safe and healthy learning environment. We ask families to call or email our school if they need to supply information or contact a staff member. Also, it is strongly recommended that parents do not drop off items during the school day. Parents will not be permitted entry into the building unless for emergency purposes or for a scheduled appointment that falls outside of the school day.

Junior Kindergarten Orientation

Parents of Kindergarten students, that are new to school, will be contacted by telephone and/or email by their classroom educators to schedule a short transition visit on Friday September 11th. We ask that only **one** parent or caregiver attend this meeting with their child. Please do not bring older or younger siblings to this meeting. Parents/Caregivers will have to wear a mask while in the building.

Class Building and Teacher Assignments

Teachers will be reaching out by email to introduce themselves and to notify families and students of their class placement for the upcoming school year. Students will meet their teachers on the playground when they attend on their first scheduled day. (see staggered entry schedule above)

Grade 2-8 - will meet teachers on Charlton Street playground

Grade 1 – will meet on the Walnut Street playground

Kindergarten classes – will meet at front door and be directed to entry location

Thank you for understanding the challenges of planning the new school year, and for sharing our commitment to a safe and successful school year.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at the school at 905-667-5880.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Kelly Sweeting – Principal

Mrs. Sue Pasian – Vice-Principal

