



Westmount Secondary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

39 Montcalm Drive
Hamilton, Ontario L9C 4B1
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PRINCIPAL: Geeta Malhotra
VICE-PRINCIPAL: Corie Pillinini, Dan Stepaniuk
www.hwdsb.on.ca/westmount

February 5, 2021

Dear Westmount Families,

As you may know, students in our board have been given permission to return to school for face-to-face learning. Beginning Monday, February 8, 2021, Westmount will return to the Adaptive School Model schedule as outlined below. Classes will begin at 8:40 am and end at 3:15 pm.

A revised secondary school calendar has been posted to our website.

Adaptive School Model School Schedule

8:40-11:10 am	Period 1 In-class face to face learning (Rotation 1)
11:10-12:45 pm	Lunch/Travel Time
12:45-1:35 pm	Period 2 (remote virtual learning)
1:35-2:25 pm	Periods 3 and 4 (remote virtual learning)
2:25-3:15 pm	Period 5 (remote virtual learning)

To support face to face learning, Westmount will follow a 4-period day to align with four face to face rotations. Morning classes will run from 8:40-11:10 am. Students will be designated into cohorts and attend every other day and every other Friday.

New--Students in both Cohort A and Cohort B will be expected to log in for common learning opportunities every day regardless of cohort day. Teachers will share what this will look like for their classes. Attendance will be taken. Students learning from home will also be expected to log in at the designated times.

This will be followed by a common 95-minute lunch/travel time break. Three afternoon classes will resume as 40-minute periods facilitated virtually and remotely. Transition times have been built into the afternoon periods. Similar to first semester, study hall will be accessible for students in the afternoon. Parents are asked to notify the school should they wish for their student to participate in study halls.

Cohorts

In anticipation of a return to face to face learning, Westmount has designated students into either a Cohort A or a Cohort B. Students in Cohort A will attend Mondays,



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Wednesdays and every other Friday. Students in Cohort B will attend Tuesdays, Thursdays and every other Friday. To align with Public Health protocols class splits have been balanced to support student need and safety, programming needs as well as physical restrictions in the classroom. Cohort information can be found in the parent portal as well as on the student timetable emailed out last week.

Please note cohorts may change from semester 1 to semester 2 and can potentially change for each rotation of face-to-face learning. Please double-check your student timetable for cohort/track designation. If a cohort change is required please contact Mr. Stepaniuk, dstepani@hwdsb.on.ca as soon as possible.

Public Health Protocols and Enhanced Screening Measures

As we practiced in the Fall, students will be asked to follow proper Public Health protocols which include proper hand sanitizing, wearing a non-medical mask, physical distancing of 2 metres, respiratory etiquette and daily screening. Students participating in face-to-face learning will continue to enter and leave the building at designated colour-zoned doors. A map has been attached to this communication.

Students who are new to face-to-face learning must complete the Learning Attestation form which can be completed in the parent portal. Forms can also be downloaded off our website, completed and scanned to the school. If you have already completed the Learning Attestation form in the Fall, you do not need to complete the form again.

New--Two new measures have been introduced by the Ministry and Public Health:

1. Students will be required to wear a mask outdoors if physical distancing cannot be maintained.
2. Students will be required to complete their daily screening online. Students should take a print screen of their results. Upon entry into their classroom, they will be required to share their screen indicating that they are allowed to attend school. They will see a green check mark if they have passed their online screening.

If students see a red x after completing the screening they are not to attend school. Students who have not completed their online screening will be asked to complete the screening in class and show the results to their teacher.

Provincial online screening link can be at

<https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>



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Staff and visitors will also be required to complete the provincial online screening daily prior to entering the building.

Returning of Classroom Resources

Students are reminded to please return any resources (texts, instruments, equipment, technology) that they are no longer using. Items can be placed in plastic bags and deposited in the plastic bins by our entry doors.

Reminders

If you do not wish to have your student participate in face-to-face learning, please contact the school as soon as possible.

If you wish for your student to participate in study hall, please complete the digital form in the parent portal or contact the school.

As we learn more information, further communications will be shared. As always, feel free to reach out to the school if you have any questions.

Thank you for your ongoing support. We look forward to having our students back at Westmount on Monday.

Sincerely,

Ms. Geeta Malhotra
Principal