



Calgary Christian School

Elementary Parent/Student Handbook Covid 19 Appendix Information 2021 – 2022

Elementary Campus

Kindergarten – Grade 6

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CALGARY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL - ELEMENTARY CAMPUS

Just as Covid 19 has altered many aspects of our work and home lives, so it has caused many changes to be made to the day to day aspects of school at the elementary campus for the 2021-22 school year.

A few items to note:

We are hosting a staggered entry for students in grade 1-6 classes on September 1 and 2, with all students attending on Friday, September 3. Children in Kindergarten already have a slightly longer staggered entry process. While many aspects of the start of the year will be similar to the end of the year last year, this is to effectively teach the children about the similarities and changes to the different aspects of school this year (many of these changes are detailed in the pages below). K-6 teacher welcome letters sent out to families on August 25 will specify which students will attend on which day.

We are starting the school year in Scenario 1, but may be required by AHS (Alberta Health Services) to switch to Scenario 2 or even 3 at some point or points during the school year. As CCES is an elementary school, all of our students are unvaccinated, and that is an important criterion informing the protocols and procedures outlined below.

The outlined protocols and procedures will be in place for at least the month of September; as announcements are made over the course of the month by the Chief Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Hinshaw, a revision of restrictions may follow. Below are also pertinent documents and changes specific, once again, especially to the start of the school year under Scenario 1. Due to the Alberta Education directive, how changes are implemented will vary this year from district to district and school to school within Alberta. We ask that parents exercise patience and above all understanding as, guided by AHS, Alberta Education, and Palliser School Division, we at CCES continue to navigate the ongoing challenges of the Covid environment specific to our elementary age students.

Thank you,
Mike Thiesen
CCES Principal

Alberta Education and AHS Documents

Enhanced Public Health Measures

<https://www.alberta.ca/covid-19-public-health-actions.aspx>

Return to School

<https://www.alberta.ca/covid-19-education-and-child-care.aspx>

2021-22 School Year Plan

<https://open.alberta.ca/publications/2021-2022-school-year-plan>

2021-22 Parent Guide

<https://open.alberta.ca/publications/parents-guide-2021-22-school-year>

Guide for Respiratory Illness Prevention and Management in Schools

(see especially Appendix B)

<https://open.alberta.ca/publications/guidance-for-respiratory-illness-prevention-and-management-in-schools>

Alberta Health Daily Checklist

<https://open.alberta.ca/publications/covid-19-information-alberta-health-daily-checklist>

Isolation and Quarantine Requirements

<https://www.alberta.ca/isolation.aspx>

- Please note that as of the start of the school year, students in grades 4-6 will be encouraged but not required to wear masks in classroom settings with their cohorts.
- Grade 4-6 students will be required to wear masks in the common areas, such as hallways where cohorts move past one another to the gym or music room.
- Students in K-3 may wear masks, but are not required to do so.
- All student masking decisions will be completely respected.
- Classroom cohorts will be maintained.
- Staff members will wear masks when circulating among students in a classroom; they will not be required to be masked when teaching from the front of the class and the students are seated at their desks.
- Once again, of importance is the use by families of the [Alberta Health Daily Checklist](#). Essentially, if students are unwell, parents are to keep them at home. If they exhibit symptoms at school, if necessary, following the criteria of the [Alberta Health Daily Checklist](#), parents will be called and required to pick up their child.

An Outline of the School Day

Below various aspects of the school day will be addressed as they reflect the evolving Covid 19 situation. Please note that not every detail of the school day will be addressed. For example, there will be enhanced cleaning procedures implemented, with a custodian now assigned to the elementary campus during the school day. Not every aspect of the enhanced cleaning procedures will be detailed below. Such information is available, however, from the Society office.

Arrival at School

- School drop off time will be from 8:15 to 8:30 a.m. Students may enter the building when they arrive within that time.
- Students will continue to be taught to maintain physical distancing when entering and exiting the school building.
- Parents will say goodbye to their children outside the school building.
- Students will sanitize their hands upon entry to their classrooms
- Upon removing their outdoor footwear, they will proceed through the hallway to classes, where they will remove their coats and backpacks. They will be released to the hallways sequentially in small groups by their teachers to place these items on their coat hooks, whereupon they will return to their classrooms.
- Students will be taught to maintain physical distancing of two meters when proceeding through the school hallways.

Within the Classrooms

- Desks will be spread out as far as possible, so students do not face one another. There will not be any group area rugs or other soft furnishings in classrooms.
- Students will wash their hands using the classroom sinks and soap.
- Students will each have hand sanitizer brought from home in their desks.

Recess Times

- Students will wash/sanitize their hands before and after recess times.
- Prior to recess students will be released sequentially in small groups from their classrooms to go to the hallway and retrieve their outdoor clothing; they will then return to their classrooms and put on their clothing there.
- Classes will exit their respective school doors serially upon direction by teachers, to avoid cohort mixing within the school building.
- Both the morning and noon recesses will be staggered, so that only half the students will be spread out through the CCES play area at any given time.
- The noon recess will be staggered together with the lunch period, so that while half the students are eating their lunch, the other half will have their noon recess. Div. I students (K-3) will eat their lunches first (12:35-1:00 p.m.).

- The CCES play area will again be divided into three playgrounds, with three student groupings rotating through the sectors from one day to the next. Student groupings will be devised to keep grade level students together as far as possible. In this manner, students will be spread out throughout the three playgrounds each day. Further, grade level students will be able to interact with each other within their zones on the playground.
- Students will be able to use CCES sports equipment to play within their respective playground zones at recess time.
- When the end-of-recess bell rings, students will line up by their respective entry doors, maintaining social distancing.
- Classes will enter the school serially; upon taking off their outdoor footwear, they will move to their classrooms to take off their outdoor clothing. They will be released to the hallways in small groups by their teachers to place their clothing upon their hooks. In this manner the mixing of cohorts (classroom groups) within the building will be reduced.

Lunch time

- Students will eat their lunches in their cohorts (classroom groups) at their desks in their classrooms.
- The student lunch room monitor program will continue to be suspended for at least the first part of the school year.
- Parents of Div. 1 students are encouraged to teach their children, and have them practice opening juice boxes, pudding cups, containers, etc., and so develop independence in this regard, which will reduce the need to have teachers touch the students' lunch supplies.
- Teachers will carry out lunch supervision, with respective grade level teachers assigned: in general, one teacher assigned to each Kindergarten and Grade 1 classroom, and one teacher assigned to three classrooms in grades 2-6.
- Lunch times, which are associated with the noon recess, will be staggered, with half the students eating from 12:35-1:00, and the other half from 1:00-1:25.

Music

- Music classes will take place in the Music Room; due to the increased space, students will be spread out.
- Students will wash/sanitize their hands before and after Music classes.
- There will be no singing in Music classes or use of wind instruments for at least the first part of the school year. Percussion and stringed instruments may be used.
- Music equipment will no longer need to be disinfected between uses; that is, instruments may now be utilized by different cohorts of students as long as hand washing / sanitizing procedures are followed.
- We will begin the year preparing for a virtual Div. I Christmas concert in December.

Library

- Library classes will take place in the Library; due to the larger space, students will be spread out.
- Students will wash/sanitize their hands before and after Library classes.

Physical Education

- Students will wash/sanitize their hands before and after PE classes.
- PE equipment will no longer need to be disinfected between uses; that is, sports equipment may now be utilized by different cohorts of students as long as hand washing / sanitizing procedures are followed.
- PE classes will continue to take place both outside and inside, weather permitting.
- PE classes will take place in the gym; due to the increased space, students will be spread out. As two classes often have PE at the same time in the gym, the cohorts (classes) will occupy the respective halves of the gym, and practice the assigned skills and activities in their respective halves of the gym.
- Any partner work for activities will take place with students within the same cohort.
- Masks will be worn in the common areas to and from the gym, but need not be worn in the gym, where physical distancing will be maintained.

Dismissal

- Dismissal will take place from 3:27-3:33 p.m.
- Prior to dismissal students will be released sequentially in small groups from their classrooms to go to the hallway and retrieve their outdoor clothing; they will then return to their classrooms and put on their clothing there.
- Bus students will be dismissed first.
- Classes will be released, using their respective school doors, serially upon direction by teachers, to avoid cohort mixing.

Bussing

- Masks will need to be worn on buses by all students, as per provincial directive.
- Siblings will sit together in assigned seating on buses.
- Loading will be from back to front; unloading from front to back.
- Physical distancing will be observed in loading and unloading.

Fridays

- The school day will start as usual, but end at 12:40 p.m. This dismissal time is coordinated with the secondary campus.
- Dismissal will be from 12:35-12:40, with bus students being dismissed first. Other dismissal procedures will be as above.

In-School vs. Remote Learning

- The 100% remote learning option will not be offered by CCES in the 2021-22 school year. Families interested in this should contact Palliser Director of Learning Jason Kupery at Palliser Beyond Borders: jason.kupery@pallisersd.ab.ca
- Lessons for intermittent remote learners (due to self-isolation requirements) may be posted on the Google Classroom (3-6) or Seesaw (K-2) learning platforms by any of the three or four members of the respective grade level teams. Also, especially in the earlier grade levels, a photocopied learning package may be sent home.

Miscellaneous

- At least at the start of the year, there will be no extra-curricular choir, to avoid mixing cohorts. Similarly, at least at the start of the year, as last year, grade six noon recess sports will be limited to individual classroom cohorts, to avoid mixing cohorts.
- At least at the start of the school year, visitors to the school will continue to be limited; drop-off and pickup of items like forgotten lunch-boxes, backpacks, etc., will continue to occur utilizing a drop box just inside the school doors. The parent should call the office just before drop-off, and then leave the item in the designated box just inside the front entrance doors; the Administrative Asst. will then retrieve the item and relay it to the student.