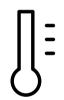




Lethbridge School Division Re-Entry Plan: Scenario 1

This plan is based on guidance from Alberta Education and the Chief Medical Officer of Health. It is subject to change as the COVID-19 pandemic changes and evolves.

What precautions will be taken at schools?



Symptom screening and stay-at-home policy

Before leaving home, staff, children/students, visitors, and volunteers who will access the school for work or education, must self-screen for symptoms each day. Signs will be posted reminding persons not to enter if they have COVID-19 symptoms.



Physical distancing

If 2 metres cannot be arranged between desks/table, students should be arranged so they are not facing each other. It is still recommended to maintain physical distancing within a cohort whenever possible to minimize the risk for disease transmission.





The Alberta Government will provide K-12 students with two reusable masks. The Division is also requesting K-12 students add masks to their school-supply list. All K-12 students will be asked to wear masks in common areas, and at times when physical distancing cannot be practised. At the start of the year, teachers of students in grades 4-12 will ask that masks are worn in classrooms. This will be reviewed as students and teachers establish routines, and as further information becomes available.



Risk mitigation for high-traffic areas

This could include staggering start and end-times for classes, posting signs and marking floors, removing and restaging seating in public areas and limiting bathroom occupancy.



Meal times

Schools using a common lunchroom and staggered lunch times will ensure areas are cleaned and disinfected after each use.



Hand hygiene

Students and staff are required to perform hand hygiene when entering and exiting the school as well as before entering the classroom. Schools will develop procedures that outline hand hygiene and cleaning requirements for schools that address placement of hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol content.



Cohorting

Contact tracing is also more feasible when groups are maintained. It is recommended, where possible, that students be grouped by class. For the purpose of contact tracing, schools will optimize space where possible.



No-sharing policy

Use of shared items or equipment is to be avoided where possible. Equipment that must be shared should be cleaned and disinfected after each use. Arrangements for storage of personal items should be made.



Restricted activities

School assemblies or large gatherings should be avoided. Extra-curricular programs and clubs will not be running at this time, as per the Division's Pandemic Plan.



Enhanced cleaning

General cleaning and disinfecting of the premises will occur at least once a day. High contact surfaces and any shared surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected at least two to three times a day.





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Responding to illness at School

The following steps will be taken if a student develops symptoms at school:

- If a child/student develops symptoms while at the school, the child/student should be asked to wear a non-medical mask if they are able to and be isolated in a separate room. The parent/guardian should be notified to come and pick up the student immediately. If a separate room is not available, the child/student should be kept at least 2 metres away from other children/students. The student should be encouraged to access COVID-19 testing by accessing the AHS Online Testing tool.
- If the child/student requires close contact and care, staff can continue to care for the child/student until the parent is able to pick up the child/student.
- All items the student touched/used while isolated must be cleaned and disinfected as soon as the child/student has been picked up.
- Schools must keep records of a student's known preexisting conditions. If a student develops symptoms in or outside of the program that could be caused by COVID-19 or by a known pre-existing condition (allergies), the student should be tested for COVID-19 at least once.
- If two or more staff/students within a cohort are identified as having symptoms consistent with COVID-19, the school should follow outbreak notification procedures.

Frequently Asked Questions

QUESTION: Can the Division make its own decision to shift to Scenario 2 or 3?

No. The government of Alberta and Alberta Education will make the final determination in terms of what scenario schools will operate under in September, including the health protocols and guidelines that accompany the scenario.

QUESTION: What precautions will be put in place for students on the bus?

Students will have assigned seating and a record of the seating plan will be kept to assist with contact tracing. Masks are mandatory on school buses, as per The City of Lethbridge bylaw.

Click this link for more info on bus service: TRANSPORTATION

QUESTION: Will schools be open for parents/guardians, visitors and service providers?

The Division is restricting all non-essential visitations. Parents/guardians can attend the school if they are required to do so. Visitors entering a school will be asked to use the self-screening tool before entering. If a visitor answers YES to any of the questions, they will not be admitted. Visitors will be required to wear a mask. Please note all exterior doors will be locked during school hours.

QUESTION: How often can I switch my child between "atschool learning" and "at-home learning"?

The Division has developed pivot points, which allow children to switch back and forth between delivery models. Pivot points have been set for Nov. 10, Jan. 29 and March 31.

QUESTION: Does my child need to bring hand sanitizer?

Students are welcome to bring personal hand sanitizer but it is not mandatory. The Division has a specific standard solution that is required to use, which will be provided at school entrances and in classrooms.