



## **A Guide to Getting Back to the Classroom in a Pandemic**



**École de Bellegarde**  
**August 26th, 2020**

## **Safe Return to School Plan for École de Bellegarde**

We all look forward to seeing our students again and we want to keep them safe. The goal of our school plan is to reduce the spread of Covid-19 while continuing to provide high quality education in an environment of respect and recognition.

Our school plan establishes the role of each person. The first few days at school will allow everyone to familiarize themselves with new ways of doing things. Our staff will take the necessary time to explain, model and practice the various means put in place with the students. Physical distancing will be encouraged as much as possible. Each of the school groups becomes a “cohort” and will have little contact with the other groups.

Thank you for your understanding and for helping us ensure a safe environment by reminding your children of these methods. The data sometimes changes very quickly and we will do our best to adjust our plan accordingly.

### **Mask Wearing**

- Wearing a mask is mandatory for all staff when physical distancing is not possible.
- Wearing a mask is also mandatory for students in grades 4 to 12 when distancing is not possible.
- Wearing a mask for students from Kindergarten to Grade 3 is not mandatory and left to the discretion of the parent or guardian.
- The mask should also be worn in the gymnasium when distancing is not possible, as well as in the playground.
- Hand washing will be required before and after handling the mask.
- To allow everyone to get used to wearing the mask and to support the students, a designated place in the classroom and away from everyone, will allow them to step away for a few minutes to take a break from the mask.

### **School Transportation**

- School transportation will be available.
- Please make sure that you are familiar with your bus protocols, do not hesitate to speak to your driver.
- The siblings must share the same seat.
  - No student from separate homes will share a seat.

## **Traffic Flow**

- Only students and staff may circulate in the school.
- We ask that no parents or visitors enter the school.
- During the day, a child who must leave can be picked up outside the main school door.
- Visual indicators will be placed in the hallways to ensure the direction of traffic.
- Staff will avoid heavy traffic, assessing the density of students in the corridor before going out with the group.
- Physical distancing should be respected as much as possible between the different "cohort".

## **School Materials**

- All school supplies must be identified with the student's name and each will have a specific place to leave their school supplies in their class.
- No school supply sharing will be accepted. Please make sure that your child has everything they will need and that all your child's materials are clearly identified.
- No school supplies should circulate between home and school. Only the lunch box will be allowed to move between school and home. At this time, personal computers are not allowed for reasons of COVID transmission and computer security.
- The manipulatives used in the classroom will be disinfected between each use.

## **Lockers**

- Each locker will only be used by one student.
- When traveling, wearing a mask is required.

## **Washrooms**

- A maximum of two students can use the washroom at the same time.
- Students should wash their hands when leaving the classroom.
- The effective hand washing method will be posted in washrooms.

## **School life**

- Water fountains are open for refilling water bottles and are cleaned frequently.
- Upon arrival at school, all staff and students should take their body temperature.
- At each class entry and exit, the students will wash or disinfect their hands.
- Each student's workspace and chair will be identified.
- For students having to change classrooms, chairs and tables will be disinfected between each period.
- The teacher will share resources, assignments and communications via email or the TEAMS platform.

## **Parents Meetings' and Extracurricular activities**

- It is recommended to communicate by email or phone. Virtual meetings can be organized between the teacher (or the principal) and the parent through the TEAMS platforms.
- All extracurricular activities (sports and others) are canceled until further notice.

## **Library**

- The library will be closed to student circulation.
- The teacher can borrow books for the students in their class.
- No library book will be allowed to circulate between school and home.
- Once the reading in class is finished, the books will be put in isolation for 3 days and then the cover will be disinfected.

## **Recess**

- Students must stay with their cohort during recess.
- A rotation schedule between different outdoor play stations will be established.
- Play structures will be disinfected regularly.
- At the end of and the re-entry of recess, all students must wash their hands.
- If equipment is used, it will then be disinfected in a container provided for this purpose.
- Surfaces and other objects will be cleaned regularly during the day.

## **Lunch**

- All meals and snacks will be eaten in classrooms.
- Currently, there is no access to a microwave. It will be necessary to provide a cold meal or use a Thermos.
- The meal will be eaten while respecting physical distancing.
- There will be no food sharing.

## **Gym and Phys Ed**

- Individual sports will be privileged
- Outdoor physical education classes will be preferred.
- The equipment used must be disinfected between each use and there will be no sharing of equipment.
- Students should wash their hands before and after Phys ed in the gymnasium.
- Changing rooms will be used but ensuring that physical distancing is maintained.

### **Plan for Sick Staff Members or Sick Students**

- An isolation room is provided to accommodate anyone showing symptoms of Covid-19 at school, until they can leave the premises.
- When a person is over 38 ° C, they will be automatically isolated and their oxygen level will be taken. A very precise procedure will then be followed.
- If a person develops symptoms related to Covid-19, accompanied by fever, they will be isolated in the room provided for this purpose, until a parent or guardian can come and pick them up quickly.
- Only one staff member will stay with the person showing symptoms at all times, in order to provide care and support.

### **Plan in Case of a Covid-19 Infection**

- If a student or staff member receives a positive result on a Covid-19 test by their doctor, the families of the students and staff will be contacted and invited to be tested.
- That person's immediate environment will be disinfected to prevent spread.

### **Students' Responsibilities**

- Wash your hands regularly, following public health hygiene instructions.
- Tell an adult if you feel sick
- Cough or sneeze into the crook of your elbow.
- Wear your mask when necessary.

### **Parents' and/or Guardians' Responsibilities**

- Ensure open communication and collaboration with the school and respect the protocols in place.
- Keep your child at home when he/she has symptoms related to Covid-19, accompanied by fever.
- Make sure you have a plan in place if the school asks you to pick up your child
- Identify your child's supplies.
- Provide enough masks for your child for the school day. Wash the masks on a regular basis.
- Remind your child of the safety rules put in place during a pandemic.

## School Responsibilities

- Ensure the implementation of security measures.
- Provide a safe and respectful environment while creating a climate conducive to learning.

Do not hesitate to contact the school if you have any questions or if you need clarification. We are happy to work with you in these special times.

École de Bellegarde Staff

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