



**RIVER VALLEY SCHOOL**  
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## **RIVER VALLEY SCHOOL**

### **2020-21 Re-entry Guidelines**

#### **Scenario 1**

In-school classes resume (near normal with health measures)

Implementation of this School Re-Entry Plan is subject to change based on direction from the Chief Medical Officer of Health. It is based on the best available information and conditions related to the COVID-19 pandemic. This plan will evolve and be adjusted when information becomes available as the status of the COVID-19 pandemic changes.

Last updated December 2, 2020

Dear River Valley School Parents and Guardians,

Even during the most adverse of times, River Valley School continues to be an innovative and inclusive school that endeavours to harness the innate curiosity in children to ensure that every student, regardless of age or ability, will flourish academically, socially and emotionally. Within the current challenging context of the COVID-19 crisis, the school's mission and values remain at the heart of all that we do to ensure that every student is capable of achieving their personal best. Anticipating the Government of Alberta's decision to re-open schools this fall, we have developed extensive plans, consistent with our school's vision and context, to support the safe and healthy return of our students and staff for the 2020-2021 school year.

Reducing the risk of COVID-19 outbreaks in our school will require the dedication and support of our entire community. Such measures as hand hygiene, respiratory etiquette, physical distancing, increased frequency of cleaning and disinfecting, the diligent and daily completion of the health screening questionnaire by every student and staff member, and, of course, having staff and students stay home when sick or exhibiting any symptoms of COVID-19, are all important to the health and wellbeing of our entire RVS community. With the goal of further reducing health risks for our community members, the school has taken the additional measures of staggered drop-off and pick-up, the implementation of an adjusted timetable, the procurement of additional resource equipment to reduce the sharing of materials, and the hiring of additional custodial and cleaning staff. Alberta Health Services (AHS) has advised schools to follow protocols as closely as we can, and, at River Valley School, we have aimed to go above and beyond those expectations where possible.

The main objective of this document is to outline our entire plans for school reopening in September 2020, following the health protocols outlined in [Scenario 1 of the Government of Alberta's School Re-opening Plan 2020-21](#). While we are looking forward to being back together again soon, it is important to note the return to in-class learning is not without risk. All possible measures are being put in place to minimize risk, but we cannot guarantee complete safety. This document outlines exactly what health protocols will look like for all of us. It will require a collective effort to keep our school open and everyone safe. We thank our community members for working with us through this turbulent time, and for allowing for our students to return to their learning at school. We look forward to seeing them again soon.

Warm regards,



**Carolyn Breland**  
Head of School



**Brett Undershute**  
Board Chair

## Table of Contents

<b>STUDENTS AND FAMILY SECTION</b>	4
<b>Health Measures</b>	4
Daily Self-Screening Practices	4
Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)	4
Illness While at School	5
Confirmed Cases of COVID-19	5
Students and Staff with Pre-Existing Conditions	5
Testing and Demonstrating Clearance to Return	6
Mental Health	6
<b>School Operations</b>	7
Student Cohorting	7
Drop-off and Pick-up Procedures	7
Visitors, Parents, and Volunteers	9
Physical Distancing	9
Student Flow Inside the Building	9
Classroom Setup	9
Shared School Spaces	10
Washrooms	10
Postponed Events	10
Water Fountains, Water Bottles	10
Lunch, Snacks, and Healthy Hunger	11
Recess and Daily Physical Activity (DPA)	11
Student Co-curricular Clubs	11
Field Trips	11
School Uniform	11
School Technology	12
<b>Learning</b>	12
Courses and Subjects	12
Arrowsmith Program	12
Supporting Remote Learning While Self-Isolating or Ill	12
Accessing the Learning-at-Home Program	13
Learning Support Team	13
COVID-19 Protocol Education	13
Substitute Teachers	13
<b>KIDS CLUB SECTION</b>	14

Health Measures	14
Drop-off and Pick-up	14
<b>TRANSPORTATION SECTION</b>	15
Bussing	15
<b>BUILDING AND CLEANING SECTION</b>	15
Cleaning	15
Community Use of the School Building	16
<b>APPENDIX A - DAILY SELF-SCREENING QUESTIONNAIRE (see below)</b>	16

## STUDENTS AND FAMILY SECTION

### Health Measures

#### Daily Self-Screening Practices

- In order to prevent the spread of infection, students, teachers and staff who have signs and/or symptoms of COVID-19 (according to Ministry of Health and local Public Health guidance) must stay home and decisions about testing and return to school should be guided by the Ministry of Health in consultation with local Public Health protocols.
- Before leaving home, staff and students who will access the school for work or education must self-screen for symptoms each day that they enter the school using the [Alberta Health Daily Checklist](#) (see Appendix A).
- Families will be provided a copy of the screening tool with the expectation that it needs to be completed on a daily basis.
- Families will not be required to provide a physical copy of the completed self-screening tool to the school each day; however, in order to contribute to the health and well-being of the whole RVS community, it is imperative that the tool is completed honestly and that the directions are followed exactly as indicated on the tool.
- Signs will be posted reminding persons not to enter the school building if they have COVID-19 symptoms, even if symptoms resemble a mild cold.
- Strict stay-at-home policy will be in place for any students or staff exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 (refer to the Alberta Health Services screening questionnaire).

#### Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- Practices such as physical distancing, hand washing, staying home when sick, and increased environmental cleaning continue to be priority public health measures.
- Mask use for students in grade 1 to grade 6, as well as all school staff, will be mandatory. Staff will be required to wear masks in all settings where physical distancing cannot be maintained, and students will be required to wear masks in all shared and common areas, such as hallways and on buses.
- Mask use for students in pre-junior kindergarten to kindergarten will be optional, but strongly recommended at drop-off and pick-up times.
- School staff will have the option to wear face shields in addition to masks.

- As indicated in the “Illness While at School” section of this document, students who become ill at school will be provided with masks and staff will wear gloves, a mask, and a face shield while attending to the student exhibiting signs of illness.

### **Illness While at School**

- Students exhibiting signs of illness will be immediately moved to a designated health station. The student’s parent or guardian will be notified and advised to pick up their child within one hour of notification, as per Alberta Government guidelines. If the parent is unable to pick up their child, they must designate an emergency contact for student pickup. It is the expectation that students are picked up by the parent, guardian, or emergency contact.
- Students in the designated health station will be supervised by staff at all times.
- All other staff and students will be kept out of the designated health station while the student exhibiting signs of illness is occupying that space.
- Students in the designated health station will be provided with a face mask.
- Strict hand-washing practices will be followed within the designated health station.
- Physical distancing will be maintained in the designated health station where possible.
- Staff will wear gloves, a mask, and a face shield while attending to the student exhibiting signs of illness.
- The staff supervising the student may use an electronic thermometer to take the temperature of the student.
- After the student is picked up, the designated health station will be thoroughly cleaned. All items that came into contact with the student will be cleaned and disinfected as soon as the student has been picked up. Items that cannot be disinfected (e.g., paper, books, cardboard, etc.) will be removed and stored in a sealed container for 72 hours.

### **Confirmed Cases of COVID-19**

- In the event that River Valley School is connected to a confirmed or probable case of COVID-19, the school will work directly with Alberta Health Services (AHS) to facilitate a public health investigation, which may result in the school closing some or all in-person classes.
- The decision to send a cohort/class home or to close a school will be made in consultation with the local Medical Officer of Health.
- The local Medical Officer of Health will work with school authorities to quickly:
  - identify cases
  - identify close contacts
  - create isolation measures when needed
- If the school closes in-person classes, programming will continue remotely.
- A COVID-19 case will not automatically lead to a full school closure.
- Students or staff that have tested positive for COVID-19 will not be permitted to return to school until a 14-day quarantine period has passed.

### **Students and Staff with Pre-Existing Conditions**

- Individuals who have allergies or ongoing health concerns and who are exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms should be tested for COVID-19 to confirm that it is not the source of their symptoms. This will establish a baseline for the individual.

- Families with children with pre-existing conditions involving COVID-19 symptoms will be required to disclose those conditions to the Director of Enrolment Management (email: [admissions@rivervalley.school.ca](mailto:admissions@rivervalley.school.ca)). All staff will be made aware of the student's condition in order to monitor symptoms daily.
- River Valley School will keep records of students' known pre-existing conditions. If a student and/or staff member's symptoms change (e.g., worsen, additional symptom, change in baseline), the student and/or staff member must stay home or be sent home and must be tested for COVID-19 to confirm that it is not the source of their symptoms before entering or returning to school.

### Testing and Demonstrating Clearance to Return

- One of the essential strategies to support the health and well-being of all members of the River Valley School community is testing. Should anyone answer "YES" to any of the daily screening questions, they are prohibited from entering the school. Students and staff must stay at home if they are exhibiting any symptom related to COVID-19.
- [COVID-19 Self-Assessment tool](#) should be used to determine whether a staff or student needs to be tested for COVID-19. If they are tested and cleared to return, they will need to demonstrate evidence of the negative test to the school. The school will not keep a copy of the results but will know that it is safe for the student to return.

### Mental Health

- If anything, COVID-19 has taught us a lot about who we are. Determination, kindness, understanding, as well as humility are a few things that come to mind. Together, we have experienced bumps along the way and as we have adapted to new circumstances, we have learned so much. As a school, we are proud of the resiliency we have shown during these uncertain times, and hopeful as we continue our journey together towards improved mental health outcomes for all.
- The return to near normal, in-person learning in Scenario 1, will have important mental health benefits to students and staff alike.
- We will continue to focus on positive mental health practices and support of staff, students and parents, throughout the 2020-21 school year.
- If your child is struggling with the return to school, please let your child's teacher and/or an administrator know as soon as possible.
- If you and/or one of your family members are struggling at this time, you may find the following mental health resources helpful:
  - Mental Health and Addiction COVID-19 Community Funding Grant
    - [Mental Health and Addiction COVID-19 Community Funding Grant](#)
  - Mental Health Helpline: Phone - **1-877-303-2642**
    - This toll-free helpline provides confidential and anonymous services, crisis intervention, information about mental health services and referrals to other agencies.
  - Kids Help Phone: 1-800-668-6868
    - [kidshelpphone.ca](http://kidshelpphone.ca)
    - Text CONNECT to 686868
  - Health Link - Phone 8-1-1
  - Alberta Health Services
    - [Help in Tough Times](#)
    - [Healthy Together](#)

- [Métis Nation of Alberta COVID-19 Mental Health Information](#)
- [Social-Emotional Learning](#)
- [Trauma-informed practice](#)
- [Working Together to Support Mental Health in Alberta Schools](#)
- [Alberta Community and Social Services - Children's Mental Health](#)

## School Operations

### Student Cohorting

- The risk of transmission of COVID-19 is reduced by limiting exposure to others. Contact tracing is also more feasible when cohorts are maintained. A cohort is defined by Alberta Education as a group of students and staff who remain together. Cohorting will decrease the number of close contacts a case of COVID-19 would have in a school and assist public health officials in their efforts to trace contacts and contain an outbreak.
- Outside of transition times, breaks, and recess, students will remain with their homeroom cohorts where possible. For staggered timetabling purposes, students will be divided into the following broader cohorts:
  - **Cohort A** - Pre-Junior Kindergarten, Grade 1, Grade 4
  - **Cohort B** - Junior Kindergarten, Grade 2, Grade 5
  - **Cohort C** - Kindergarten, Grade 3, Grade 6, and UE
- Three separate schedules have been designed for each cohort in an effort to mitigate student flow in the hallways and stairways, as well as to create as much space during breaks and recess as possible.
- Each cohort was thoughtfully designed to include one class from our Early Learning program, one from Division 1, and one from Division 2. This will make it possible to further promote physical distancing within each cohort.
- During this highly unusual time, we encourage our families to consider limiting their child(ren)'s out-of-school programming and increasing after-school engagement with students from their homeroom and/or at-school cohort. This effort will support the mental health of our students by strengthening the connection to our River Valley School community, while reducing risk of exposure to COVID-19 through the participation in multiple external cohorts.

### Drop-off and Pick-up Procedures

- Following Alberta Health Services guidelines, measures have been taken to reduce the risk of exposure to COVID-19. These measures include limiting the number of students and staff interacting with each other at drop-off and pick-up times and promoting physical distancing as much as possible.
- All staff and students must utilize hand sanitizer prior to entering the building and before entering their classroom. Once in the school, students will move directly to their classes.
- Parents/guardians and guests must not enter the school at any time, including during drop-off and pick-up.
- No person should enter the drop-off or pick-up area if they have symptoms of COVID-19 or have been in contact with any person who has tested positive for COVID-19.

### *Drop-off*

- Our morning drop-off window from 8:10-8:30 AM will remain the same, as this arrangement, along with early morning Kids Club and Bussing, naturally promotes staggered entry into the school.
- Each cohort has been assigned to a specific entrance, and students within those cohorts must *only* use the doors indicated below to enter the building:
  - **Front Door:**
    - All JK Students (and siblings)
    - Grade 1-5 students with NO siblings
  - **Back Door:**
    - Little Kids Club
    - All walk-in students
    - Pre-JK, Kindergarten and grade 6 students (and siblings)
    - Grade 1-5 students WITH siblings
  - **Exterior Gym Door:**
    - Big Kids Club
    - Bussing Students
- If students arrive after 8:30 AM, they will be required to use the front entrance, as our receptionist will need to buzz them in.
- Students in Kindergarten to Grade 6 will be expected to independently walk from their vehicle to their designated entry point (see above).
- Families with students in Pre-Junior Kindergarten may temporarily park their vehicles on the far side of the traffic circle at the rear of the school in order to unbuckle their children and walk them to the steps at the back door, where they will be met by a staff member.
- Families with students in Junior Kindergarten may temporarily park their vehicles in the parking spots to the right of the front entrance in order to unbuckle their children and walk them to the front steps, where they will be met by a staff member.
- Families who are utilizing the walking-in option are to follow the walking path parallel to Bowness Rd. and students will enter through the back door.

### *Pick-up*

- In order to promote physical distancing and to minimize traffic congestion during pick-up, we will be staggering traffic route pick-up times, as well as walk-in times as follows:
  - **3:00 PM:**
    - Pre-JK, JK and K students WITHOUT siblings
  - **3:30 PM:**
    - Pre-JK, JK and K students WITH siblings
    - All grade 1-6 students
- All students being picked up via the traffic route option, including those in Pre-JK and JK, will wait outside at the back of the school in their supervised designated area, while following physical distancing guidelines. It is imperative that families arrive at their designated time in order to reduce congestion and avoid traffic back-ups.
- Families who are utilizing the walking-in option are to follow the walking path parallel to Bowness Rd. and pick off at the indicated walk-in area

- Mask use will be required for all parents and/or guardians using the walk-in pick-up option. Within the walk-in pick-up area, parents and/or guardians will also be required to physically distance from other parents and/or guardians, other students, and staff at all times.
- The maximum number of exit doors will be utilized at the end of the day to mitigate the flow of students within the building.
- During inclement weather, alternate arrangements will be made and communicated to all families.

### **Visitors, Parents, and Volunteers**

- While we value the partnership we have with our families, we will be limiting access to the school building to students and staff only.
- Parent Network meetings will be facilitated via Zoom. For more information, please contact our Parent Network Chair, Kimmy Berthelette, at [parentnetwork@rivalvalleyschool.ca](mailto:parentnetwork@rivalvalleyschool.ca).
- Our Meet-the-Teacher and Progress meetings will be facilitated via Zoom.
- In lieu of in-person meetings with teachers and/or administrators before and after school hours, families may schedule Zoom meetings. Teachers and administrators will also remain available via email or phone.

### **Physical Distancing**

- Teachers will give consideration in their daily planning to encourage activities that lend themselves to physical distancing in the classroom.
- Physical distancing (2 metre spacing) will be promoted where possible.
- In situations where physical distancing is not possible (e.g., busses, classrooms and some sporting activities), alternative health measures will be followed, including extra emphasis on hand hygiene, respiratory etiquette, and cleaning and disinfecting on a regular basis before and after activities.

### **Student Flow Inside the Building**

- Directional signage will be in place in halls and stairways to reduce physical interaction. Students will be educated on the significance and function of the directional signage.
- Designated entrance and exit doors have been assigned to specific student cohorts.

### **Classroom Setup**

- At the end of June, our teaching staff completed an assessment of classroom materials with the goal of reducing unnecessary items and creating more physical space in classrooms. This means that any materials without immediate use have been removed and placed in storage to be brought back into the classroom when they are needed.
- We have also ensured the removal of carpets and non-wipeable fabrics from classrooms. Funds generously donated during our February 2020 Gala, have been used to order full class sets of wipeable cushions for student use during floor activities.
- Efforts have been made to arrange the classroom furniture to leave as much space as possible between students. Our smaller class sizes will naturally aid in physical distancing.

- Teachers will give consideration in their daily planning to encourage activities that lend themselves to physical distancing in the classroom.
- Individual supply kits (e.g., scissors, pencils, erasers, etc.) have been purchased for all students.
- In a situation where it is necessary to share items, the items will be sanitized between uses.

### **Shared School Spaces**

- Masks will be worn by all staff members in shared spaces within the school. Students in Grades 1-6 will be required to wear masks in shared spaces. Students in Pre-Junior Kindergarten to Kindergarten will have the option to wear masks in shared spaces.
- Our gymnasium space will be used to deliver physical education programming.
  - When possible, physical education will take place outside instead of inside.
  - Activities or sports that support physical distancing will be prioritized.
- Grade 1-6 students will continue to attend Music, French, Art, and Drama in specialist classroom spaces. An effort has been made to stagger the timetable to ensure that cohort groups use these spaces on the same day, reducing contact between cohorts.
- As usual, Pre-Junior Kindergarten, Junior Kindergarten, and Kindergarten specialist teachers will deliver their respective programs in homeroom classrooms.
- All classes will continue to use the library once per week. An effort has been made to stagger the timetable to ensure that cohort groups use the library on the same day. After each day the library is in use, the sanitation fogger will be utilized to sterilize the space.
- Use of our zSpace augmented reality lab has been suspended until further notice.
- Lessons based in our Learning Commons will be staggered by cohort, and the area will be disinfected after each learning session.

### **Washrooms**

- As washrooms are shared spaces, students in Grades 1-6 will be required to wear masks in washrooms. Mask use for students in Pre-Junior Kindergarten to Kindergarten in washrooms will be optional, although recommended.
- The cohorting system (i.e., Cohorts A, B, and C) will apply to the use of toilets and sinks. Students and staff will be asked to follow the cohort signage in the washrooms.
- Washroom use will be limited to three students at a time. Students and staff should follow the signage next to the bathroom door for occupancy.

### **Postponed Events**

- Large gatherings and school assemblies will be postponed until further notice. In lieu of these events, the school will be offering virtual alternatives.
- Choir practices and performances will also be postponed.

### **Water Fountains, Water Bottles**

- While water fountains will remain open, they should be used for filling water bottles only. Please ensure that your child brings a water bottle to school each day.
- Water fountain knobs and push buttons are considered high-touch surfaces, and will be regularly cleaned and disinfected.

## **Lunch, Snacks, and Healthy Hunger**

- As usual, students will remain in their classrooms for the lunch period.
- Lunches and snacks will be stored with student belongings.
- Hand hygiene will be practiced prior to and after lunch breaks.
- Students will be encouraged to practice physical distancing while eating.
- In response to COVID-19, as well as for the protection of students with allergies, there will continue to be no sharing of lunch or snacks.
- We will be suspending the service of Healthy Hunger until further notice.

## **Recess and Daily Physical Activity (DPA)**

- Recess and DPA will be staggered by cohort, allowing reduced student flow in hallways and for greater physical distancing in the playground area.
- Each cohort has been assigned an Early Learning class, a Division 1 class, and a Division 2 class, which will help to limit physical interaction between groups within the same cohort.
- Students and staff will be required to sanitize hands when exiting the school for recess and upon entering the school after recess.
- Students will not be permitted to bring items from home to play with at recess or during DPA.
- Each class will be assigned a bag of outdoor play equipment to use during recess and DPA. This equipment will remain with the class to which it was assigned and will not be shared between classes.

## **Student Co-curricular Clubs**

- We have suspended the offering of student co-curricular clubs.
- Select extra-curricular clubs are offered via Zoom after school.

## **Field Trips**

- Field trips (off-site activities) requiring group transportation will be postponed indefinitely, in accordance with the guidance put forth by the Government of Alberta.
- Walking field trips within 5 kilometres of the school building will be permitted; however, groups will be required to remain within their cohorts or homeroom groupings during these activities. Health measures such as physical distancing, hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette will be practiced.

## **School Uniform**

- We will resume our usual uniform guidelines in the fall, with the exception of Physical Education (PE). In order to reduce physical interaction and with occupancy limitations in mind, the use of changing rooms will be suspended until further notice. As such, students will not be required to wear their gym strips for PE. On days that students have PE, regular uniform and gym shoes should be worn for the full day.

## **School Technology**

- Each Grade 1-6 student will be assigned a school iPad to use for the year. This will eliminate the need to share iPads between students.
- Shared devices, such as laptop computers, will be divided into cohorts and/or grade levels to limit the number of students that contact the device.
- Use of our zSpace augmented reality lab has been suspended until further notice.
- All shared devices will be cleaned after each individual use.

## **Learning**

### **Courses and Subjects**

- Teachers will give consideration in their daily planning to encourage activities that lend themselves to physical distancing in the classroom.
- All courses and subject areas will continue, including specialists.
- Specialist timetables have been designed so that specialist teachers only interact with students from the same cohort on the same day.
- As per the guidelines put forth by the Government of Alberta:
  - Learning experiences involving in-person cheering or shouting, or playing wind instruments will be postponed.
  - Lessons focused on music appreciation and/or music theory, and the incorporation of lower risk instruments (e.g., string instruments) will be incorporated.
  - Singing activities have been temporarily suspended.
  - When possible, physical education will be done outside instead of inside.
  - Activities and/or sports that support physical distancing will be prioritized.
  - The use of shared items or sports equipment will be discouraged and equipment that must be shared will be cleaned and disinfected before and after each use.

### **Arrowsmith Program**

- Mask use for students and staff in the Arrowsmith classroom will be mandatory.
- Measures will be taken to ensure that physical distancing is maintained in the Arrowsmith classroom at all times.
- Equipment and tables in the Arrowsmith classroom will be divided by cohort.
- High-touch areas and equipment inside the Arrowsmith classroom will be regularly cleaned and disinfected.
- Staff and students must utilize hand sanitizer prior to entering the Arrowsmith classroom and before leaving the classroom.
- The Arrowsmith Program will remain accessible to students who are required to remain home due to self-isolation or illness, and to students who continue with the remote learning model.

### **Supporting Remote Learning While Self-Isolating or Ill**

- If a student is ill, the priority is rest and recovery. Ailing students will not be expected to access classes or complete assignments during their recovery period.
- If a student is self-isolating but feeling well enough to complete daily schoolwork, classes will be accessible to the student live via Zoom, and lesson materials and assignments

will be available via Seesaw (or Google Classroom in Grade 6). In order to access the program, please provide your child's homeroom teacher with 24-hour notice. This will allow homeroom and specialist teachers time to ensure everything is ready for your child to successfully participate in the program.

### **Accessing the Learning-at-Home Program**

- In-person learning is always better for students, academically, socially, and emotionally. As such, we strongly support in-person attendance. However, we understand that, for a variety of reasons, some families will choose to keep their children home. Some students will also need to remain home during the pandemic due to their own health or that of a loved one.
- All programming in Scenario 1 is being planned, as usual, following our daily timetable. Students not attending in-person will have the opportunity to join classes live via Zoom. Upon entry to the Learning-at-Home program, your child's homeroom teacher will provide you with a Zoom link to access classes. Lesson materials and assignments will be supported through the use of Seesaw (or Google Classroom in Grade 6), and student work will also be submitted and assessed using that platform. Families will be required to make arrangements with homeroom teachers to pick up course-specific supplies.

### **Learning Support Team**

- Services provided by our Learning Support Team, including resource, enrichment, speech pathology and occupational therapy will continue, as necessary.
- Learning Support Team staff will wear personal protective equipment when physical distancing is not possible or during prolonged periods (15 minutes or longer) of one-to-one or small group support.
- High-touch areas and equipment utilized by the Learning Support Team will be regularly cleaned and disinfected.
- Staff and students must utilize hand sanitizer prior to entering the Learning Support Team workspace and before leaving the space.

### **COVID-19 Protocol Education**

- Students, families, and staff will receive continued education regarding health measures being implemented at the school.
- Signs will be posted to remind students and staff of health measures.
- Teachers will educate students on appropriate hand and respiratory hygiene.
- Students will be continually reminded of respiratory etiquette by staff and through the use of age appropriate posters.

### **Substitute Teachers**

- Staff absences will be covered internally, where possible.
- When an external substitute teacher is required, priority will be given to substitute teachers who have committed to working exclusively at River Valley School.
- All substitute teachers will be required to thoroughly review River Valley School's re-entry guidelines before working at the school.

- Substitute teachers will be required to perform daily screening before entering the school. They will also be required to follow and promote all of the health measures outlined in this document.

## KIDS CLUB SECTION

### Health Measures

- In order to protect the health and well-being of our students and staff members, we will follow a zero-tolerance policy for anyone entering Kids Club with symptoms associated with COVID-19. Symptoms to look for include: fever, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, runny nose, nasal congestion, headache, and a general feeling of being unwell. Students and staff with seasonal allergies will be required to be tested for COVID-19 in order to enter the facility.
- Families will be required to complete the daily screening questionnaire (see Appendix A) at home every morning before bringing their child(ren) to school.
- Mask use for students attending Big Kids Club (Gr. 1-6), as well as all Kids Club staff, will be mandatory. Staff will be required to wear masks in all settings where physical distancing cannot be maintained, and students will be required to wear masks in all shared and common areas, such as hallways and washrooms.
- Mask use for students attending Little Kids Club (Pre-JK-K) will be optional, but highly recommended during drop-off and pick-up.
- Kids Club staff will have the option to wear face shields in addition to masks.
- If a child develops symptoms while in Kids Club, the child will be isolated away from other children and provided with a mask, and the parent or guardian will be notified to come and pick up the child immediately.
- Hand sanitizing will take place after entering and before departing the Kids Club space, before and after snacks and meals, before and after outdoor play, and after using the washroom or using a tissue.
- Children may not bring personal items such as stuffies and blankets to school. No personal items other than a water bottle, snack will be allowed in school.

### Drop-off and Pick-up

- Separate doors have been designated for drop-off and pick-up. Big Kids Club will be accessed using the outer gymnasium door (bus door) and Little Kids Club will be accessed using the back door.
- No parents, family members, or guests will be allowed in the building, in an effort to reduce exposure and mitigate risk for our staff and students. Children will be met at the door by a staff member and accompanied to their program.
- Each family must accompany their own child(ren) to the door of the school and wait for them to enter the building. According to physical distancing regulations, carpooling with other families is not recommended.
- Families are asked to respect AHS physical distancing guidelines while dropping off and picking up their children.
- Students must be able to enter the building on their own. If a child has difficulty separating from their parent(s), staff will be there to reassure them and guide them to their program space.

## TRANSPORTATION SECTION

### Bussing

- Our Bussing service is essential in ensuring that all River Valley School students are able to safely travel to and from school each day. Regular transportation service levels will be maintained throughout Scenario 1.
- With the safety of our students and bus drivers in mind, RVS will follow all public health measures in place for transportation, including:
  - No person should be in the pick-up area or enter the bus if they have symptoms of COVID-19.
  - Mask use will be mandatory for all students who ride the bus, as well as for all bus drivers.
  - Students will be assigned seats and a record of this seating plan will be kept in order to assist with contact tracing in the case of a student testing positive for COVID-19.
  - Students who live in the same household will be seated together.
  - When possible, physical distancing of 2 metres between all persons (except household members) will be supported during student loading, unloading and transfers.
  - Students will start loading from the back seats to the front of the bus.
  - Only students from the same household may share seats.
  - Students will start unloading from the front seats to the back of the bus.
  - If a child becomes symptomatic during the bus trip, the driver will contact the child's family and/or the school to make the appropriate arrangements to pick up the student.
  - High-touch surfaces, such as door handles, window areas, rails, steering wheel, mobile devices and GPS will be cleaned and disinfected prior to each run.
  - Thorough cleaning and sanitization of the bus interior will take place after every trip.

## BUILDING AND CLEANING SECTION

### Cleaning

- A thorough cleaning of our entire school facility will be completed prior to school re-entry in the fall.
- Measures will continue to be implemented to meet the new recommendations from AHS around the cleaning and sanitization of our school.
- Regular, enhanced, and as needed cleaning will be performed by custodial staff, along with monitoring to ensure all necessary supplies are available. Daytime custodians will disinfect contact surfaces and high contact areas. Evening professional cleaning services will thoroughly clean all areas.
- Additional custodial staff and cleaning services have been engaged to support the increased requirements.
- School staff will clean and disinfect shared equipment and surfaces between uses and as needed during the course of the school day.

- Additional disinfectant stations have been placed inside the doorways of all classrooms and inside all external doors of the school. Use will be required upon entry and exit of all rooms of the school.
- An extra emphasis will be placed on hand hygiene, respiratory etiquette, cleaning and disinfecting on a regular basis before and after activities.
- Our facilities staff have been trained on the use of sanitizing foggers and a variety of personal protective equipment (PPE).
- The HVAC system has been checked to ensure good ventilation.
- A new dishwasher has been installed in the school with a sanitizing function to allow for regular deep cleaning of tools, manipulatives, and educational toys used in our classrooms.

### **Community Use of the School Building**

- All community use of our school building has been suspended.

## **APPENDIX A - DAILY SELF-SCREENING QUESTIONNAIRE (see below)**