

Maude Clifford Public School
2020-2021 Re-Entry Plan
Information for Parents and Families





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Effective date: August, 2020

The contents of this document represent school expectations for operations during the COVID-19 pandemic and may supersede existing Administrative Procedures.



Principal's Message

Dear Maude Clifford Families,

We'd like to extend our sincere thanks to everyone in our school community for your support and patience as we prepare to welcome your children back to our school. Being apart has been a challenge for us all, and we're so excited to have our school filled with laughter, smiles and the joy of learning once again.

Though our passion for education and excitement for learning remain the same, there are many changes to our regular school routines and procedures as we head into the 2020-2021 school year. Protecting each other is a shared responsibility among all members of our school community and we all have a critical role to play in following the safety protocols set out by Alberta's Chief Medical Officer of Health. These protocols are intended to reduce the risk of Covid-19. The Alberta Government and GPPSD re-entry plans do not depend on one single strategy, but many strategies that work together to support the safest environment possible within the complex dynamics of a school community.

I would encourage parents, if you have not done so, to familiarize yourself and your child to the GPPSD Re-entry Plan 2020-2021 School Year. www.gppsd.ab.ca/schoolre-entry. The staff of Maude Clifford will be focusing on building our students social and emotional skill set and supporting their wellness as we know that the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted everyone in different ways.

We have designed this Start Up Parent Information Guide to provide you with information regarding our school specific operations and procedures. Your child's home room teacher will be emailing you a welcome letter and classroom startup information later this week. Please reach out to your child's teacher or school administration if you have questions or would like additional information. We are confident, that despite the unique circumstances of our school year, that it will continue to be an enjoyable, engaging learning environment for our students.

Thank you for your on-going support!

Mr. Mestinsek
Principal

Mrs. Holman
Vice Principal



Overview and Purpose

Implementation of this School Re-Entry Plan is subject to change and direction from the Chief Medical Officer of Health and Alberta Education. It is based on the best available information and conditions related to the COVID-19 pandemic. This plan will evolve and be adjusted as new information becomes available. We will maintain an updated copy of this plan on our school webpage.

School Re-Entry- Scenario 1 Near Normal Operations

Near normal operations means that a student's experience at school will remain relatively the same as it has been in the past. The things that may be different are physical distancing, use of masks, increased hand hygiene, and entry and exit practices that are more structured. The school year and school day will remain relatively the same.

Guiding Principles

- The well-being of students and staff is our priority
- Students will experience optimal learning
- Maude Clifford staff will follow all health measures and guidelines established by Alberta Health Services and Alberta Education
- Parents are the primary decision-makers for their child's health and well being
- Staff will engage in professional collaborative learning

At any point during the school year, the province could decide whether schools across Alberta, schools in a particular region, or individual schools and classrooms need to move from one scenario to another. This decision will always be made by a medical officer of health in collaboration with education officials.

Supporting Safety and Wellness

Supporting Mental Health and Wellbeing

COVID-19 Screening

Before leaving home, staff, students, visitors, and volunteers who will access the school for work or education, must self-screen for symptoms each day prior to entering the school using the screening tool (Appendix A). In some cases, where identified by school or program administrators, active health checks may be necessary.

Anyone that reports symptoms will be directed to stay home, seek health care advice as appropriate (e.g., call Health Link 811, or their primary health care practitioner, or 911 for emergency response), and fill out the [COVID-19 Self-Assessment for Albertans](#) to determine if they should be tested.

Anyone with a pre-existing medical condition (e.g. allergies) that has symptoms that could be caused by COVID-19 should be tested for COVID-19 at least once to confirm that it is not the source of their symptoms before entering or returning to school. Inform your school of any pre-existing medical conditions.



Responding to Illness

All students and staff will be required to isolate if they develop symptoms during the school day. Our isolation room at Maude Clifford will be the Kindergarten classroom that is not being used this year. Students will need to be picked up by their guardian once they have received a call from the school. Guardians will call the school when they arrive and will meet their student at the kindergarten doors located at the front of the school.

If a student develops symptoms while at the school:

- The student will be asked to wear a non-medical mask (if they are able to) and be isolated in the designated isolation area or at least 2 meters away from other students.
- The parent/guardian will be notified to pick up the student immediately.
- The student's belongings will be brought to the isolation area.
- Parents picking up students in isolation must call the office on arrival. Your student will be brought out to you by a staff member, with their belongings.

Cohorting

In order to support cohorts as much as possible, we've implemented changes to our procedures. Like a typical year, students will spend much of their time at school in class with their teachers. The parts of our schedule that require changes are entry/exit procedures, lunch and recess procedures, and transition times (students moving to their Phys. Ed. class). Although the student's class will be the principle grouping for most of the day, entry/exit and recess will be divided into 4 cohorts: ECS, Grades 1-2, Grades 3-4, and Grades 5-6. Entry will be supervised by teacher teams to ensure spacing and proper hand sanitization. Exit for recess or dismissal will be staggered to promote physical distancing. During recess, classes and/or grade cohorts will be separated by supervising staff on their respective playgrounds.

What School Will Look Like

Physical Distancing

Schools will determine necessary controls to put in place to promote physical distancing when possible.

- Students will enter and exit the school through their assigned doors only.
- Hallway movement will be reduced and closely monitored
- Signs will be posted and floor marks will be used to control spacing.
- Limit bathroom occupancy and if possible, identify bathrooms for cohorts.
- Students will have assigned seating in class and at lunch
- Desks will be arranged in rows with students facing the front

This is to maintain cohort integrity as much as possible and help assist with cohort contact tracing, if required.



Masks Use in GPPSD Schools

Space restrictions in our schools limit our ability to ensure two meters of physical distancing between individuals; therefore, face masks will be worn by all staff and all students in grades 4-12:

- In classrooms
- In hallways, common areas and washrooms
- On the bus at, all times, and at transfer points (all grades K-12)
- Anywhere else, as directed by school staff

Situations when masks are not required:

- If students are seated and the teacher/staff member is in a designated area at the front of the class with at least two meters of physical distance from the closest student, the teacher/staff member may remove their mask. The teacher/staff member will explain to students why this practice is safe while modeling/reinforcing behaviors.
 - If staff are able to remain behind a physical barrier, they are not required to wear a mask.
 - During physical activity.
 - For individuals with exemptions.
 - K-3 students while at school. However, we are asking K-3 students who can wear a mask, to do so.
- On the first day of school, school-provided masks will be distributed at the door as students enter. If possible, students in grades 4-6 should wear a home-provided mask on the first day. Masks are subject to the same conditions as other articles of clothing in each school's dress code.

Drop off and Pick up

A school map is attached with entry and exit points indicated. Staff will be present at each door to direct students and supervise entry to the school. If your child arrives late, please have him/her proceed to the main office door. A supervisor will monitor the main door after the regular arrival time. **Parents will not be permitted to accompany their child into the building.**

Our traffic loop can become very congested during pickup and drop off. Instead of accessing the loop, please do your best to arrange a pickup point near the school or have your child walk home from school (if age appropriate). If you must use the loop, please observe one-way traffic flow, do not leave your vehicle, and limit your time in the loop so everyone can be picked up safely and quickly.

Arrival at School

Doors for all students will be opened at 8:10 AM.

ECS: Kindergarten doors next to the school main door.

Grades 1-2: East Exit (near the sand box area)

Grades 3-4: Main Entrance

Grades 5-6: West Exit (near the bike racks and basketball court)

There is a map at the end of this document to help you find your door. Student should follow the directions of staff as they enter the school.



Dismissal

Classes will be dismissed one at a time to promote distancing, starting at 3:00 PM. Older siblings who need to escort a younger sibling should exit their assigned door, then proceed to their sibling's door and wait outside to meet them. Alternatively, a pre-arranged meeting spot could be used by students that need to find each other after school. Parents waiting for their children should wait a safe distance from the doors (area will be marked) or set a pre-arranged spot nearby the school to meet their child.

Visitors and Volunteers Entering the school

Visitors, including parents, will only be permitted in the school by appointment. All visitors must self-screen using the attached screening tool (Appendix A) before they enter the school.

If the individual answers 'YES' to any of the questions, they will not be admitted into the school.

Supplies

- In addition to the supply lists at www.schoolstart.ca, we are asking you to bring the following, if you can:
- Some extra masks for your child to use during the day.
- Individual hand sanitizer
- A container of disinfectant wipes

Note: we recognize these items may be difficult to find and understand if you're unable to bring them.

Use of Cubbies

- Each student will have a designated cubby in their class to store their personal items. ECS students will use the cubbies in the ECS boot room. Teachers will control access to promote physical distancing as much as possible.

Food

- Students are not permitted to share food.
- Food provided by the family will be stored with the student's belongings.
- All students must wash their hands before and after eating.
- Microwaves are not available for student use
- Please try to send food in containers/packages that your child can open themselves. Adults will assist when necessary. Having items that can be opened independently will reduce the amount of contact that others have with your child's lunch items.
- At this time, we cannot accommodate parents dropping off lunch for students at the school. Please call the school if your child is without a lunch and we'll work out a solution.

Shared Materials

- Our teachers will limit the number of shared materials that are needed for instruction; however, there will be times when students will share materials
- Materials will be sanitized before and after individual students use them
- To reduce the need to share materials, individual kits have also been created for students with commonly used items (varies by class)



Physical Education

- Physical Education instruction will continue for all grade levels
- **Physical Education will be outside as much as possible** as outlined in the Alberta Education Re-entry plan documents. Please ensure your child brings seasonally appropriate clothing to school each day that supports outdoor physical education.
- Activities that allow for physical distancing are preferable when possible
- Students are not required to wear masks during physical education

School Council Meetings

School Council will continue to meet regularly throughout the school year. Whether these meetings will be in-person or online is still to be determined. Communication will be sent prior to the annual AGM on **October 6th, 2020 at 7:00 PM.**

Stepping Stones Kids Squad

Stepping Stones is planning to offer after-school care/programming for Maude Clifford students only. Exact starting dates are still being determined, and program availability is dependent on enrollment.

Contact Stepping Stones at (780) 532-9684 for more information!



Appendix

Appendix A: COVID-19 Screening Questionnaire

COVID-19 INFORMATION

PARENTS/GUARDIANS/STUDENTS/STAFF/VISITORS/VOLUNTEERS/SERVICE PROVIDERS MUST USE THIS QUESTIONNAIRE DAILY TO DECIDE IF THEY SHOULD ENTER THE SCHOOL

Risk Assessment: Initial Screening Questions

1.	Do you, or your child attending the program, have any of the below symptoms:	CIRCLE ONE	
		YES	NO
	• Fever	YES	NO
	• Cough	YES	NO
	• Shortness of Breath / Difficulty Breathing	YES	NO
	• Sore throat	YES	NO
	• Chills	YES	NO
	• Painful swallowing	YES	NO
	• Runny Nose / Nasal Congestion	YES	NO
	• Feeling unwell / Fatigued	YES	NO
	• Nausea / Vomiting / Diarrhea	YES	NO
	• Unexplained loss of appetite	YES	NO
	• Loss of sense of taste or smell	YES	NO
	• Muscle/ Joint aches	YES	NO
	• Headache	YES	NO
	• Conjunctivitis (Pink Eye)	YES	NO
2.	Has the person attending the activity/facility travelled outside of Canada in the last 14 days?	YES	NO
3.	Have you/your child had close <u>unprotected*</u> contact (face-to-face contact within 2 meters/6 feet) with someone who has travelled outside of Canada in the last 14 days <u>and who is ill**?</u>	YES	NO
4.	Have you/your child attending the program or activity had close <u>unprotected*</u> contact (face-to-face contact within 2 meters/6 feet) in the last 14 days with someone who is ill**?	YES	NO
5.	Have you/your child or anyone in your household been in close <u>unprotected*</u> contact in the last 14 days with someone who is being investigated or confirmed to be a case of COVID-19?	YES	NO

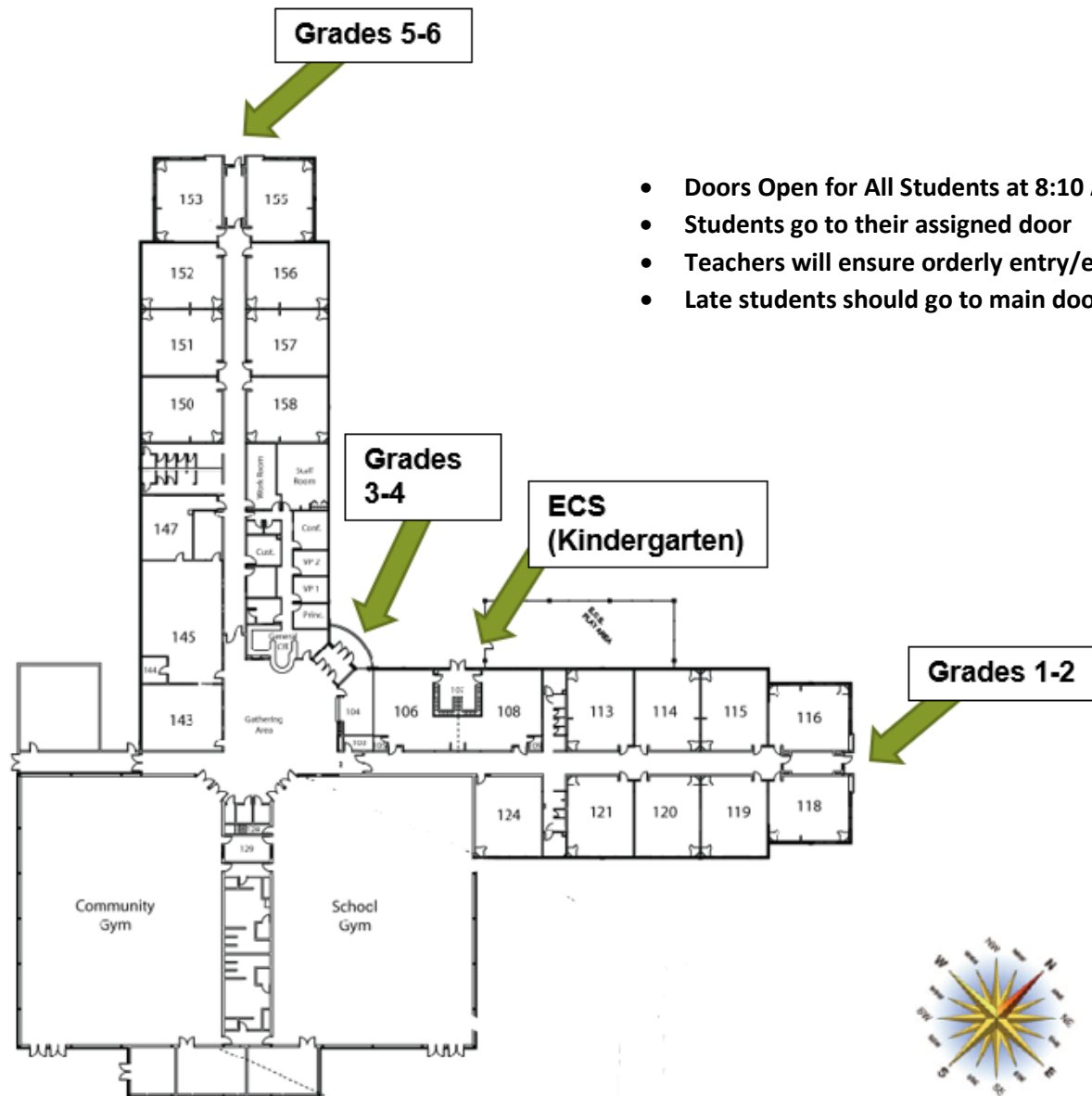
* "unprotected" means close contact without appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE).

** "ill" means someone with COVID-19 symptoms on the list above"

If you have answered "Yes" to any of the above questions, please **DO NOT** enter the school at this time. You should stay home and use the [COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool](#) to determine whether you need to be tested for COVID-19.

If you have answered "No" to all the above questions, you may attend school.

Appendix B: Arrival and Dismissal Map



- Doors Open for All Students at 8:10 AM
- Students go to their assigned door
- Teachers will ensure orderly entry/exit
- Late students should go to main door for entry