

## **Fact Sheet – Health and Safety**

The Richmond School District will continue to place the highest priority on the health and safety of our students, their families and our staff. All decisions within the district will be made with the intent of doing everything possible to adhere to the health and safety guidelines developed by the provincial health officer.

### **Planning**

- The district's return to school plan has been developed to meet the expectations of the provincial [health and safety guidelines](#).
- The district will be operating in Stage 2 of the government's [5 Stage Framework for K-12 Education](#).

### **Prevention**

- All staff and students will receive a health and safety orientation at the start of the school year to ensure they understand and are able to practice the necessary guidelines of physical distancing, hygiene, mask wearing, working within and across cohort groups.
- Students, with the support of their families, will be required to do a daily health check prior to coming to school. Students and staff who identify symptoms of illness will need to stay home until assessed by a health-care provider AND symptoms have been resolved.
- Frequently touched surfaces will be cleaned twice every 24 hours and general school cleaning will happen once a day.

### **Masks**

- Every student and staff member will receive two reusable masks when they return to school.
- Any student or staff member may choose to wear a mask at any time.
- All staff and secondary students will be required to wear masks while in high traffic areas such as hallways or when outside of their learning group.

### **Hygiene**

- Handwashing and sanitizing stations will be available in all schools.
- Regular handwashing will occur throughout the school day.
- Frequent reminders about respiratory etiquette and limiting physical contact will be shared with students and incorporated into ongoing learning.
- Food and beverages are not to be shared.

### **Physical Distancing**

- Physical distancing will be promoted and practiced in our schools. However, according to the provincial health and safety guidelines, people in a learning group do not need to stay two metres apart at all times, but they must limit physical contact.
- Access to schools will be limited to staff and students. Other visitors such as parents and guardians can request an appointment through the school office.
- Traffic flow in common spaces will be managed with directional signs.