

Dear Kerrisdale Parents/Guardians,

Please read the information carefully as there are new routines and expectations to support the health and safety of our entire community. If you have family or friends dropping off or picking up your child(ren), please make sure that you share all of these plans with them as well. For those parents/guardians who drive to school, please follow the rules of the road, drive slowly and carefully around our school and watch for pedestrians. Thank you!

NEW School Expectations / Health and Safety Routines

Many of our new health and safety expectations were introduced in June 2020. Some school and classroom expectations, however, have changed. More restrictions have been put into place to ensure the health and safety of students, staff and families.

Before School

- Parents/guardians must complete a “Daily Health Check” on child/children before leaving home and entering school. Please post Daily Health Check in your home and build this check into your morning routine. ***Students must not enter Kerrisdale School sick.***
- Tell your child’s teacher and our school office if your child has allergies (grass, dust, food etc.)
- Students need to arrive at school on time and dressed appropriately for the weather.
- Please do not send your child to school early. We will continue with our staggered start.
- Students in Kindergarten to Grade 7 will need rain gear, running shoes and rain boots for walking and spending time outdoors this year. Children will ALWAYS be outside at recess and lunch. Teachers will be emphasizing outdoor learning this year and taking students outside. PE classes will be outside sometimes as well. Teachers may ask parents/guardians to send other items for outdoor learning.
- Pack your child a full and labelled water bottle, food for snacks and lunch, and any school items (eg. agendas and homework) they need for the day.
- Pack a litter-less lunch as much as possible. Most litter will be returned home in lunch bags.

Drop Off at School

- Students need to arrive at school at two different times 8:50AM for our intermediate classes and 9:00AM for our primary classes and Divisions 6, 7 & 8 (Grade 3/4 classes). Students must make every effort to arrive on time. You will be contacted by the Principal if your child arrives regularly late for school as our office and classrooms cannot function smoothly with repeated late arrivals.
- Parents/guardians of children in Grades 1-7 say goodbye to their child on the sidewalk. Children in Grades 1-7 can then walk to their meeting area. It is recommended that parents and children determine a consistent meeting place for drop off and pick up. Please let the teacher know if your child is having difficulty with this routine. We are asking that no parents wait inside the parking lot. This is too dangerous.
- Students line up and wait outside school in their special meeting area until they are led inside the school by their teacher or an assigned staff member at 8:50 or 9:00am.

Entering Our School

- All student and staff must wash or sanitize hands upon entry to school.
- Students and staff only in our school. Parents/guardians must not enter our school at this time unless you have arranged a meeting with the principal. Only essential workers are allowed in our school. No volunteers, guest speakers or presenters are allowed in our school at this time.
- Late students enter by the front door and wait outside of office for staff direction.

Recess & Lunch Breaks

- We will have two different recess and lunch breaks (see schedule below) to reduce large groups from gathering and congestion in stairwells and halls.
- Students MUST stay on school grounds for lunch.
- No deliveries or drop offs of food during the school day.
- Play structures including swings are open. Physical distancing will be encouraged by staff.
- Students will wash/sanitize hands before and after eating and before and after being outside whether for learning or a break.
- Students will eat lunch in classroom with staff supervision. No lunchrooms in use.
- Classrooms tables will be wiped down by school engineer after students have eaten.
- Students will exit and enter building using the same door they entered at for recess and lunch breaks.

Recess & Lunch Schedules

Recess 1 - 10:30 am – 10:45 am –primary learners k-4

Recess 2 - 10:50 am – 11:05 am – intermediate learners 4-7

Lunch 1 – 11:25 am – 12:12 pm –primary learners k-4

Lunch 2 – 12:12 – 1:00 pm –intermediate learners 4-7

Learning and Masks

- Assemblies and large gatherings will not be held in our school at this time.
- All staff, students in Grades 4 to 12, and visitors are now required to wear a face mask while indoors in schools and on school buses. Students in kindergarten to Grade 3 are encouraged to wear a mask indoors in schools and on school buses.
- Respect is expected for all those who wear masks at all times.
- Staff who are not part of a learning group must wear a mask when working with students.
- Students and staff will be expected to “stay right” walking down hallways and going up and down stairs.
- Staff will work with students to maximize physical distancing and minimize physical touch.
- Shared materials in classrooms will be limited. A lot of furniture has been removed and stored within our school to create space in classrooms and around our school.

Response to Illness

- If your child is ill during the day, parents/guardians will be notified immediately. ***Parents/guardians needs to be available for picking up their child right away if contacted by the school.*** Parents need to have an emergency contacts who they can rely on to pick up their child if they cannot make it to school within a short period of time. This is for everyone’s safety. We will be sending out verification sheets again this year, if your main phone number has changed please call the office as soon as possible.

Pick Up & After School

- ALL Students will be dismissed at 2:50 or 3:00 pm. Students will be walked out of school by staff to their meeting areas.
- ***Parents/guardians of children in Kindergarten are allowed on school grounds to pick up their child.*** One parent/guardian who is wearing a mask may pick up their child on school grounds.
- ***Parents/guardians of children in Grades 1-7 need to find a regular place to meet on the sidewalk side of the fence, off of school grounds. Children in Grades 1-7 will walk from their designated meeting area to meet their parent.*** Please let your child's teacher know right away if this meeting your child off our school property is a safety issue for your child.
- Students and parents/caregivers need to leave the school/school grounds after school is dismissed at 3:00 pm. Groups of parents and students gathering after school on our school grounds is not safe.
- Please have your child go to the office if they cannot find you and we will call and ensure a parent can come and meet their child.
- Staff will supervise outside after school until 3:15 pm to ensure that students leave the school property.
- Once students have exited the school, there is no longer access to school (e.g no bathroom use).
- We will not be holding extra-curricular activities or going on field trips at this time.

Entry/Exit Plan

Class meeting places will be shared with students; these will not change.

Gym and Library

Students will continue to participate in gym and library with modifications.

Phone Use

Students will only have access to a phone for emergencies.

Safe Arrival

To Report Your Child's Absence or Late:

Please call 604 713 5159 and make sure to give the school number #41 prior to 9 am on the first day of the absence or late arrival.

The following information should be included and please speak slowly and clearly:

- Kerrisdale #41
- Student first and last name
- Grade and Division
- Indicate whether the Absence / late is AM or PM or All day or the # of days

If questions, please contact Dawn Sadler Principal at dsadler@vsb.bc.ca

Thanks for your support - we are looking forward to a great year.

Dawn Sadler