

FALL 2021 RETURN TO SCHOOL



The Saskatchewan government and the Saskatchewan Health Authority have provided guidance to school divisions to support the safe return to school and resumption of activities for students and staff.

Northwest School Division will continue to work throughout the school year with the local Medical Health Officer, to ensure the safety of staff and students, and make changes to the return to school plan, as necessary.

This is a living document. We ask NWSD families for their cooperation and understanding, as our Return to School plan may change with short notice, to adapt to the evolving health situation in our region.

Safe Attendance	Masking Indoors: Masks are required for all elementary students (PreKindergarten to Grade 6) and staff who work directly with them. Masks must be worn in all common areas, halls, washrooms and in group work settings. It is appropriate for students to remove their mask when seated at their desk or when taking part in strenuous activity. Masks are strongly recommended for students in Grade 7 to 12 and all other school staff. Other: Masks are required for visitors to NWSD facilities. Masks are not required outdoors. Masks are not required for Physical Education. Illness in Care Students, staff, families who are ill should stay home. Schools will: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify an appropriate isolation area for anyone who is ill until they can leave the facility.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Provide the student with a medical mask to wear.○ Notify the caregiver to pick up the student immediately.○ Remain with the student until they are picked up.• Once the student has left, staff in contact with the student should wash their hands thoroughly.• The areas where the student was located are to be cleaned and disinfected. Communications
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	NWSD will provide multiple modes of ongoing communication between school and home.
Safe Transportation	<p>Transportation</p> <p>Transportation will continue cleaning and disinfection as standard practice.</p> <p>Masks are required to be worn on buses by all students and staff.</p> <p>Masks are required to be worn when staff transport students in private vehicles.</p>
Safe Access	<p>School-day Structure</p> <p>No prescribed school-day structure is required.</p> <p>Visitors</p> <p>Limit non-essential visitors to school facilities.</p> <p>All visitors must register at NWSD facilities using the Contact Tracing form posted at building entrances.</p> <p>All visitors to NWSD facilities must wear a mask.</p> <p>External user groups will not be able to access NWSD facilities for the duration of Semester 1.</p>
Safe Facilities	<p>Facilities</p> <p>School will continue to utilize physical distancing practices, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinating the flow of traffic throughout hallways and common spaces. • Assigning students to specific school entrances. <p>NWSD will continue to utilize enhanced cleaning and sanitizing protocols.</p> <p>Hand-sanitizing stations will be available throughout facilities, in addition to the permanent hand-washing facilities.</p>
Safe Classrooms	<p>Masks</p> <p>Masks are required for all elementary students (PreKindergarten to Grade 6) and staff who work directly with them. Masks must be worn in all common areas, halls, washrooms and in group work settings. It is appropriate for students to remove their mask when seated at their desk or when taking part in strenuous activity.</p> <p>Masks are strongly recommended for students in Grade 7 to 12 and all other school staff.</p>

	<p>Hygiene</p> <p>Promote appropriate hand hygiene.</p> <p>Hand sanitizer will be available in every classroom and at the main entrance of all schools and school division buildings</p> <p>Physical Contact</p> <p>Schools will do their best to space students appropriately in classrooms and common areas.</p> <p>Instruction</p> <p>Full Saskatchewan curriculum will be taught by teachers.</p> <p>NWSD continues to offer Kindergarten to Grade 12 programming through the Northwest Virtual School to students.</p> <p>The Provincial Education Interim Plan provides guidance for this area.</p> <p>Assessment</p> <p>Provincial exams are optional for the 2021-22 school year.</p>
<p>Safe Activities</p>	<p>Sports and Fitness Activities</p> <p>Resume regular activities, within the parameters of the NWSD Return to School Plan</p> <p>Dance, Drama, Band, Choir</p> <p>Resume regular activities, within the parameters of the NWSD Return to School Plan</p> <p>Extra-curricular Activities and Field Trips</p> <p>Resume regular activities, within the parameters of the NWSD Return to School Plan</p> <p>With the removal of public health orders in Saskatchewan, large events such as assemblies, guest events, and other similar events are permitted. However, SHA would advise that smaller event sizes are considered and alternate delivery modes are used where possible. An example to consider is if the weather permits and is appropriate, events should be held outdoors.</p> <p>Nutrition Programs</p> <p>Resume regular activities, within the parameters of the NWSD Return to School Plan</p>

	<p>Continue good practice of controlling areas where children are preparing food and/or eating (seated, hand hygiene, cleaning and sanitation of food surfaces, etc.).</p>
<p>Other Items</p>	<p>Vaccinations</p> <p>Staff assume the shared responsibility of assisting one another in maintaining healthy and safe workplaces.</p> <p>Staff are encouraged to avail themselves of all Ministry of Health recommended vaccinations.</p> <p>Staff are encouraged to discuss the efficacy of recommended vaccinations with their personal health care providers.</p> <p>Anyone turning 12 this year and older is currently eligible for vaccines.</p> <p>Rapid Testing</p> <p>Continue to follow current practice.</p> <p>Contact Tracing and Quarantining</p> <p>The collaboration between the Saskatchewan Health Authority and schools will continue and will reflect the needs of the school as required.</p> <p>When cases are identified in schools, schools and school divisions will continue to be notified by public health officials in order to inform students and caretakers. Contact tracing will continue to occur, and unvaccinated close contacts may be directed to self-isolate as deemed appropriate by public health.</p>