

Questions and Answers about School Re-Entry 2020/21:

1. Who has to complete the Self-Screening Questionnaire and how often?

Parents, students and school staff must review and complete the self-screening questionnaire each day before going to a school building or school-related activity. Visitors to the school must also complete this questionnaire to determine if they may enter a school. The Self-Screening Questionnaire is accessible on our Aurora website: www.auraschool.ca. This questionnaire is also available in multiple languages online at: <https://www.alberta.ca/k-to-12-school-re-entry-2020-21-school-year.aspx>

2. If my child or a teacher tests positive for COVID-19 what happens?

If a student or staff member at Aurora tests positive for COVID-19, the zone medical officer of health will work with our school division:

- to quickly identify when symptoms developed
- to quickly identify and contact people who had close contact with the person who tested positive, offer testing, and set the isolation measures
- people are legally required to isolate for 14 days if they live with or are a close contact of a person who tested positive for COVID-19.
- Aurora school division administration will:
 - notify staff and parents if a case is confirmed at school
 - support students and staff to learn or work at home if they are required to self-isolate
- If a school has 2 or more COVID-19 positive cases:
 - the school would be considered have an outbreak
 - medical officers will assess the spread and exposure risk to determine if it affects multiple grades and areas, or is confined within close contacts of a confirmed case, and provide specific recommendations - an outbreak may not automatically lead to school closure.

3. Do I have the option for my child to learn at-home for the 2020/21 school year?

Yes, at Aurora we are developing a learning support at-home program that will include virtual real-time learning with Aurora teachers blended with a variety of instructional and learning supports. Students attending this home-based learning program will have to commit to a minimum of one term (approximately 3 months). This will allow our administration team to ensure that sufficient staff and resources can be allocated to best support and deliver our Aurora learning support home-based program for our students across all grades.

4. My child has pre-existing medical conditions or risk factors. What should I do as the parent(s)?

Consult with your child's medical physician to consider the health risks and make a decision about returning to the school. Our Principals at Aurora are available to share options including our in-school and at-home learning programs. A student showing COVID-19 symptoms, who has allergies, or other pre-existing medical conditions that cause similar symptoms must get at least one negative COVID-19 test result before returning to school. These symptoms would be the baseline health status for the particular child. The student can attend school as long as their baseline health status remains the same. Please speak with your child's Principal for any additional confidential support or information.

5. What is expected for my child with school uniforms and do I need a separate uniform for each day of the week?

Our Aurora uniforms are an important part of our learning environment at Aurora. Please plan to have your child wear a clean and washed uniform or suitable substitute each day to school. Monday is dress uniform day and all students should wear their uniform. If an Aurora uniform is not available for the rest of the week, a student may wear navy pants and a white or navy dress shirt or polo top a maximum of two times a week. Students may not wear jeans; shirts should be plain. Uniforms should be washed in hot water with detergent after each day they are worn.

6. If my child becomes sick at school, I as parent am expected to pick up my child immediately. How much time is considered immediate/prompt?

The immediate pick up of students who are ill is a requirement of Alberta Education, Alberta Health Services and Aurora School. When a student becomes ill at Aurora, or Aurora school-related activity, the student will be isolated from other students and supervised by a staff member. Parent(s) of the student will be called for immediate pick up. Our expectation is that a parent or their designated emergency contact(s) will pick up the child promptly and within a reasonable time in relation to their distance from the school.

7. Can Aurora implement Scenario 2 or Scenario 3 along with Scenario 1 for the start of the school year?

The Minister of Education in consultation with Alberta Health Services determines which Scenario that school jurisdictions in Alberta will follow at any particular time. Currently, as of July 21, 2020 and updated on August 4, 2020, our schools will be following Scenario 1 as shared and directed by the Minister of Education, Honourable Adriana LaGrange. This information is subject to change as updated by the Minister of Education.

8. My child takes the school bus to Aurora on a daily basis. What precautions will there be?

The Aurora School buses will be cleaned and sanitized before and after the morning route as well as for the afternoon route. Students are expected to wear face masks at all times on the school bus and sanitize their hands with their own supplies before entering the school bus. Students should social distance from others while waiting at the bus stop. Families and siblings will sit in the same area of the bus. All students will have a designated seat on the bus. Loading of the school bus will be done in a manner to minimize students passing other students within the bus.

9. Do students still get recess outside?

Yes, students will be provided with recess breaks outside. Recess breaks will include a staggered release along with specific areas of the field utilized and marked to optimize social distancing. Students will sanitize their hands before and after returning to school.

10. Do all students and staff have to wear a mask?

As updated on August 4, 2020 by the Minister of Education, all staff and students (Grades 4 to 12) are expected to wear a face mask. Students in Kindergarten to grade 3 have the option to wear masks, and we strongly recommend that masks be used, especially when 2 meter separation between students and/or staff is not possible such as on school bus and other school activities. Further mask details:

- Grade 4 to 12 students and staff must wear masks where physical distancing cannot be maintained, including on school buses and shared areas such as hallways.
- Masks are required in the classroom when close contact between students, or students and staff, is occurring. Masks should be used for the duration of this activity.
- Exemptions will be made for students and staff who are unable to wear a mask due to medical or other needs.
- Mask use for kindergarten to grade 3 students is optional, but strongly recommended at Aurora
- All students and staff will get 2 reusable masks. Government will distribute more than 1.6 million masks to 740,000 students and 90,000 staff.
- School staff will get one reusable face shield to use in schools at their discretion. A mask must still be worn while wearing a face shield.

11. If a student is sent home due to COVID-19 symptoms at school, when can the student return to school?

The parent(s) of the student should get further medical support for their child, which should also include a COVID-19 test. After the confirmation of a negative test result, the student would be allowed back to school. Parents should also consult with their family physician for additional supports for their child.

Please be aware that information is subject to change as it becomes available from Alberta Health Services and Alberta Education.