

2020-21 Re-Opening School Plan

Willerton School

As we prepare to re-open schools on September 8, 2020 in Beautiful Plains School Division, we continue to prioritize the safety, health and well-being of our communities by doing our part to reduce the spread of COVID-19. With the advice from our Chief Medical Officer and Manitoba Education, Willerton School is planning to maximize health and mitigate risk proportionate to the level of COVID-19 infection determined by Manitoba Health.

As we continue to live in an unprecedented time with the pandemic, this plan assists in navigating responses to possible questions for the upcoming school year. **All levels support continued learning for students in BPSD for the 20-21 academic school year.** Our school plan provides some specific details regarding the school day structure. For additional information on practices such as cleaning protocols, helpful definitions (ex. Physical distancing, cohorts, blended learning), and the [BPSD screening tool](#) you can refer to our BPSD Restoring Safe Schools document found on our divisional website.

On July 30, 2020, the [provincial announcement](#) indicated that level 1 will be followed based on MB public health guidelines for September. Announcements regarding any changes to levels will be posted on the BPSD website.

MB Education Response Levels	
Level 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All K-12 students return for in-class learning. Grade 9-12 students will be in-class to the greatest extent possible. Blended learning for high school students may vary from school to school
Level 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> K-8 students are prioritized for in-class learning Grade 9-12 will participate in teacher-led remote learning, with limited use of school facilities for specific programming and assessment.
Level 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remote learning in place for all grades, Schools are closed to the public with the exception of Kindergarten to Grade 6 students of critical workers

**See Contingency Plan for Instruction on page 7 for more details about response levels

Beautiful Plains School Division Priorities

- Well-Being of students, families and staff
- Maintaining connections between school staff and students
- Prioritizing literacy and numeracy focusing on essential outcomes

Welcoming Our Students Back

We are extremely excited to welcome back the students and staff of Willerton School. Teachers will return full time on September 2nd while Educational Assistants return on September 3rd. Staff will be working hard to set up new classrooms and to create a safe, inclusive and compassionate learning environment. On Tuesday, September 8, 2020 we hope to welcome all K-12 students back to Willerton School.

This year, Willerton School has an enrollment of 49 students. Mrs. Cathcart returns to teach K-3, while Mrs. Jacobsen will teach grades 4-6. Mr. Wollmann will teach grades 7-9 and supervise high school students. Mr. Allen and Mrs. Ballard will be teaching Phys. Ed. and Music on alternating days. Mrs. Van Kommer is our resource teacher, and visits about once a week.

Requirements for Student/Staff Attendance

Students and staff must be in good health to attend school. Before leaving for school each day, parents need to use the BPSD MB Covid-19 Screening Tool using the following guidelines:

- If a student/staff shows any symptoms, they must stay home
- Students are expected to notify the school if they are feeling ill at school; for any students who start showing any symptoms at school, parents will be contacted and students will go home
- Students need to remain at home until there are no symptoms and they have been advised it is safe to return
- Staff will be greeting students at the door for classroom entry to screen for any visible physical symptoms
- Students/staff must self-isolate for 14 days if they have travelled outside MB excluding western Canada, the Territories or Ontario west of Terrance Bay. Please contact the school to indicate the reason for absence.
- Students will need to stay in assigned area unless directed otherwise by staff
- Bring a snack that does not require preparation at school (no microwave use); bring a water bottle with name labelled
- Please refer to [BPSD student attendance expectations](#) for additional information

Reporting and Contact Tracing for Covid-19

If a person in the household has been diagnosed with COVID-19, they are required to consult [Health Links](#) prior to attending and follow their directions. In the event of a student or household member reports that they have received a positive test for COVID-19:

- The parent/guardian will immediately advise the school principal, who will then notify the superintendent
- To facilitate contact tracing, we record attendance regularly and accurately. This includes maintaining a daily log of all visitors and itinerant staff who access the building
- As required by public health, we will provide contact information for other students or staff who are “close contacts” of the individual receiving the positive test result

- Public health officials will communicate with close contacts and advise the wider school community. As a school, we are not permitted to communicate this information without specific direction from public health officials
- Contact tracing involves identifying the contacts of a positive case and contacting those individuals who may have been exposed.
- Public health will identify cohorts/groups of staff, students, volunteers, and visitors in the school for a specified timeframe and contact students, staff, and families if they have been in close contact with a confirmed/probable case to determine whether they need to self-isolate or self-monitor and when they can return to school
- Public health will recommend testing to staff, students, volunteers, and visitors who may have been exposed to a positive case and assess the need for the school to be closed for a period of time
- We will clean and disinfect areas where exposures took place; these areas will not be used until they are determined to be safe.
- If there is an outbreak at a school, this will be announced through Manitoba media bulletins and public health will provide instructions to those who have been in close contact.

Personal Hygiene and Respiratory Etiquette

Please help us teach our students about proper hygiene and respiratory etiquette. You can do this at home:

- MB Public health recommends masks as an additional layer of protection. We encourage mask use when possible. Students will be encouraged to bring masks and wear them at school when they can remove the mask independently.
- Remind them to wash their hands with soap and water regularly and especially
 - After coughing or sneezing
 - Before and after eating
 - After toilet use
 - When hands are visibly dirty
- Ensure they cover their mouth and nose with a tissue or into their sleeve. Throw out tissues in the garbage and then immediately wash hands or use alcohol-based hand sanitizer
- Remind students to avoid touching face (eyes, nose mouth) with unwashed hands
- We have hand sanitizer available at our entrances and around the school. Please remind your child to use the sanitizer when entering and leaving the school and classroom
- Students/staff presenting symptoms at school will be sent home

Student Well-Being

Student and staff well-being is a priority for us as we navigate through this pandemic together. If you have any concerns regarding your child, please contact the school and we will work with your family to provide the resources and assistance as best we can. For general information on mental health and well-being, our [divisional website](#) has a list of online resources that are being updated regularly.

Details	September 2020
Arrival and Dismissal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reduce crowding, students will be assigned entrances and lockers in grade or family groups. See attached map. • Students will wash hands at arrival and dismissal
Movement of Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular in-class movement breaks, recess, and Phys. Ed classes will continue. • Indoor or outdoor non-contact sports (e.g., tennis, soccer) may occur with physical distancing during the play, except for brief exchanges of close contact as recommended by Public Health and MB education. • Any field trips that occur will be entirely voluntary and accompanied by appropriate parental permission. Enhanced planning for field trips will ensure that all public health guidelines are met.
Recess/ Breaks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will be asked to wash hands with soap and water before and after recess • Sports equipment will be cleaned/sanitized daily • Family groups will use assigned entrances when leaving and entering
Snacks and Beverages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will be asked to wash hands with soap and water before and after eating snacks • No food or water bottle sharing are permitted between students
Hand-washing	<p>Staff and students will wash their hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds at the following times:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • at the start of the day and before going home • after going to the washroom • before preparing food • before and after eating • after getting hands dirty • after wiping noses or handling dirty tissues • after coughing, sneezing, or blowing nose • after cleaning tasks (staff) <p>To avoid crowding, students will be assigned specific sinks for hand-washing</p>
Sanitizing	<p>Lowers the number of germs to safe levels, as judged by public health standards.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stations will be placed throughout the school • Sanitizing will be used when handwashing is not available • Washrooms and high touch surfaces will be sanitized twice daily
Disinfecting	<p>Kills germs on surfaces or objects. Works by using chemicals kill germs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disinfection of washrooms and high touch surfaces will happen daily
Physical Distancing	<p>Physical distancing will be practiced to the fullest extent possible in all parts of the school throughout the school day. This will include the way students enter and exit the school at designated entrances and leaving sufficient space between desks and tables. Two metres is required to the greatest extent possible. One metre is permissible only if two metres can't be maintained. In situations where physical distancing of 2 metres cannot be maintained, students in grades 4-12 are mandated to wear face masks. Younger children may also wear masks.</p>
Masks	<p>Masks will be used by students from grades 4-12, teachers, support staff, and contract workers. Masks must be worn in common areas throughout the school and when physical distancing of two metres is not possible. Students should bring their own cloth masks. Reusable masks must be changed every day or as needed.</p> <p>Each school must provide masks and other PPE to staff and students who do not have their own as needed.</p> <p>Medical masks will be used in situations where students and/or staff members exhibit COVID-19 symptoms while at school both by the person with symptoms and the caretakers.</p> <p>All staff and students must wear a mask when riding the bus.</p>
Classroom	
Classroom Configuration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our classroom arrangements support physical distancing for 1 meter or 2 meters, as designated by Public Health • Outdoor spaces are also being used when possible • Hand sanitizer or hand washing will be used for entry and exit from the classroom • Ventilation systems will be on at all times

<p>Instruction</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are focusing on teaching outcomes rather than the amount of time per subject (a cross-curricular approach is recommended) • Based on MB education’s guidelines, we are prioritizing essential outcomes in literacy and numeracy in all areas • Mb essential outcomes can be accessed at https://sites.google.com/a/manitobarurallearning.org/mrlc/tools-and-resources • Physical Education will continue with playing and learning outdoors encouraged as much as possible. • Music classes will begin on September 21st. Choir and singing will be minimal during term one, with the focus on music games, theory and instruments. • Any equipment that must be shared will be sanitized between classes • Teachers will be preparing blended learning environments for possible class cancellations
<p>School Supplies and Personal Belongings</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student supplies will be labeled with their name and organized into personal containers • Based on current public health guidelines, we are recommending that you send your child with a non-medical mask when the mask can be removed independently. • Masks will be used by students from grades 4-12, teachers, support staff, and visitors. Masks must be worn in common areas throughout the school and when physical distancing of two metres is not possible. • For any materials that need to be shared, students will hand wash/sanitize before and after use. Materials will also be sanitized after use. • Students will be assigned lockers in family groups
<p>Cleaning Plan</p>	<p>We are following Manitoba School Boards Association guidelines regarding school cleaning. Students, staff, and anyone helping with cleaning duties will receive training in regards to the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Know the difference between cleaning, disinfecting and sanitizing (See below) 2. Routinely Clean and disinfect surfaces and objects that are touched often 3. Clean and disinfect correctly 4. Use products safely

Contingency Plan for Instruction Levels Two or Three

When in-class learning (Level One) is not possible, the following plans will be implemented on an as-needed basis. Willerton School could be transitioning from one level to another with as little as 48 hours notice.

Level Two (Blended Learning): K-8 students and students with special needs will be prioritized for in-class learning and 9-12 students will participate in teacher-led remote learning with limited use of school facilities for specific programming and assessment. The full two metres of physical distancing are required with masks worn by students 4-12 where this is not possible. Teaching will prioritize core curriculum and required courses. Teachers will facilitate regular contact with students to keep them engaged in remote learning with the standards for remote learning clearly articulated. Access to learning resources, including technology and connectivity will be actively sought.

Level Three (Remote Learning): The school is closed and all students are engaged in teacher-led remote learning. This may take place with the support of an on-site volunteer appointed and trained before-hand. Physical distancing, masks, and hygiene measures will be observed with the dissemination and return of instructional materials. Teaching will focus on literacy, numeracy, and other curricular areas as time and resources permit. Teachers will facilitate regular contact with students to keep them engaged in remote learning with the standards for remote learning clearly articulated. Access to learning resources, including technology and connectivity will be actively sought.