



FOOTHILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 57 (PRINCE GEORGE)

4375 Eaglenest Cres. · Prince George, B.C. V2M 4Y5 · Tel: (250) 562-2862 · Fax (250) 564-3825

January 10, 2022

Dear Parents / Guardians,

As you are aware, the Ministry of Education and Health has announced enhanced safety protocols to be put in place for schools effective today, January 10th, 2022.

Thank you for your patience as we worked last week to try and address the concerns and meet the expectations raised by the Provincial Health Office, Ministry of Education and our local Board of Education. Our primary goal remains to keep everyone at Foothills Elementary School safe as we continue to operate during a pandemic. In response, there have been some changes to the operation of the school as we begin to welcome students back this week, following our winter break. Here is the information you need to be aware of for classes starting today.

We are asking that if your child is unwell, please keep them at home. Please ensure you have completed the Daily Health Check for, or with your child before you send them to school. The Daily Health Check is at the end of this letter. Masks are very important in our school; **please ensure that your child has a good supply of masks** and is fitted properly. Students will be asked to wear their mask prior to entering the building. We will be having staggered entries and exits while still maintaining our existing bell schedule. Children may be asked to wait outside (unless it is an in day) a little longer while another class enters or exits the building. Physical distancing is a very important safety protocol, and we are asking all students to be aware of and be respectful of other people's space following the six feet Covid safety protocol.

We will be going over these enhanced safety protocols with our students and ask that you review them with your child(ren) as well. Students will need warm clothing appropriate for winter weather. We will be trying to go outside as much as possible over the winter months and students need to be dressed appropriately for this.

How can you help:

- Ensure your child completes a health check every day - keep your child home if feeling sick.
- Pick up close to afternoon dismissal 2:27 pm.
- Follow recommendations of the PHO - contact the school if your child is away.
- Drop off your child close to the morning bell 8:30 am.
- Visitors are limited to those that support activities that are of direct benefit to student learning and well-being.

at Foothills we "SOAR"

How we can help:

- Students will line up outside in their divisions and will receive direction from their classroom teacher on entry and exit to the building.
- Teachers will let students in one division only at a time.
- Reduce any congestion in common areas.
- Reinforce mask wearing and hand hygiene.
- In the event that the school is short staffed, we have a plan in place to ensure students can still attend. This may include combining classes.
- In the event that school must close, teachers have developed a package that will be posted to the school website. Communication will be sent out via email, and on the school website on how to access the learning. We will also work with families where this may be an issue.

As of today, we are open to all students. Thank you for your understanding as we navigate these unprecedented times and follow safety protocols for the well-being of our students, staff and community.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mr. Murphy".

Mr. Murphy,
Acting Principal, Foothills Elementary School

DAILY HEALTH CHECK

KEY SYMPTOMS OF ILLNESS	WHAT TO DO
Fever (above 38°C)	If yes to 1 or more of these symptoms: Stay home. Contact a health care provider or call 8-1-1 about your symptoms and next steps.
Chills	
Cough	
Difficulty breathing	
Loss of sense of smell or taste	
OTHER SYMPTOMS	WHAT TO DO
Sore throat	If yes to 1 symptom: Stay home until you feel better.
Loss of appetite	
Headache	If yes to 2 or more of these symptoms: Stay home for 24 hours. If symptoms don't get better or get worse, contact a health care provider or call 8-1-1 about your symptoms and next steps.
Body aches	
Extreme fatigue or tiredness	
Nausea or vomiting	
Diarrhea	
INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL:	WHAT TO DO
Have you returned from travel outside Canada in the last 14 days?	If yes: Fully vaccinated students, staff and other adults who have travelled outside of Canada may qualify for the fully vaccinated traveller exemption . Students, staff and other adults who are not fully vaccinated and have travelled outside of Canada CANNOT attend school for 14 days after arrival , as part of federal requirements .
CLOSE CONTACT	WHAT TO DO
Have you been notified by public health that you are a close contact of a person confirmed to have COVID-19?	If yes: Follow the instructions provided by Public Health.

You can also check your symptoms with the [K-12 Health Check](#) or the [BC Self-Assessment Tool](#).

Call 8-1-1 with any questions about symptoms of illness. If you have severe symptoms, like difficulty breathing (struggling to breathe or you can only speak single words) or chest pain, call 9-1-1 or go to the nearest Emergency Department.

Visit the [BC Centre for Disease Control website](#) for more information on COVID-19.