



Amisk School Back to School Plan 2021-2022

Alberta Education – Planning for a new school year

Table of Contents

Health Measures	1
Physical Set up in Schools	2
Daily Operations of Schools	2
Transportation	3
Government Requirements - Symptoms or testing positive for COVID-19	4
Immunization Clinics	4

Health Measures		
1.	Daily Screening	Parents and caregivers must assess their children daily for symptoms of common cold, influenza, COVID-19, or other infectious respiratory disease before sending them to school. Anyone showing symptoms listed on the Alberta Health Daily Checklist must remain home.
2.	Stay Home if Sick	Students or staff who have symptoms are required to stay home. AHS provides guidance on isolation and testing if a staff or student has COVID-19 symptoms.
3.	Handwashing	BTPS is providing hand sanitizer at all school entrances and for all classrooms. Hand sanitizer will be available in all areas of the school for students to use on a voluntary basis. If parents wish to provide different hand sanitizer for their child, they may send it to school with them.
4.	Masks	All students on a bus must wear a mask as per the provincial health order. Masks are recommended by BTPS for students and staff. Amisk School students may wear a mask voluntarily but will not be required to wear them on a daily basis except in the case of a positive case. If there is a positive COVID-19 case within our school, masks will be mandatory for all staff and students for 14 days. (BTPS divisional policy) Parents/guardians and visitors must wear masks when they are in the schools.

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5.	Physical Distancing	Wherever possible, we will promote physical distancing in hallways, washrooms, and common areas. Kindergarten and grade one students will enter and exit using the back door. Grades two and three will enter through the front entrance.
6.	Showing symptoms while at school	Staff will need to go home right away. Students will be moved to our isolation area, parents/guardians will be called, the student will need to be picked up and taken home. A sick child will not be able to ride the bus.
7.	Confirmed COVID-19 case at school	AHS has indicated that schools will not be informed about individual COVID-19 cases. If we receive notification from AHS about a positive case, we will communicate with the school community. If there is a positive COVID-19 case within a school, masks will be mandatory for all staff and students for 14 days. We ask parents and family members to please notify the school if a student receives a positive test result, or if a family member tests positive. Anyone with COVID-19 is legally required to isolate for a minimum of 10 days.
8.	Isolate or quarantine with core symptoms	Everyone is legally required to isolate for a minimum of 10 days if they have a core symptom or until the symptoms resolve (whichever is longer). Please review the core symptom list .
9.	Close contacts or family members of a positive COVID-19 case	If a member of the household has COVID-19, it is mandatory that any staff or student in the same household not attend school as it is a high risk area and if symptoms develop, it is recommended the person must isolate and get tested .

Physical Set up in Schools

1.	Lockers	Students will be able to use lockers provided to them at the school. Siblings will share lockers to maintain cohorting and physical distancing as much as possible.
2.	Cleaning	We are providing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhanced cleaning of high touch areas throughout the day. Enhanced cleaning of ventilation systems.
3.	Physical Distancing	Wherever possible, we will promote physical distancing in hallways, washrooms and common areas.

Daily Operations of Schools

1.	Visitors	All visitors to the school must wear a mask, use proper hand hygiene upon entering, and complete the BTPS daily screening app . This includes volunteers, substitute teachers and presenters. Visitors, students or staff who feel ill or have symptoms of COVID-19 cannot enter the school.
2.	Outbreaks	AHS will continue to support schools if there is an outbreak of respiratory illnesses.

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3.	School activities	To start the year, we will be holding our assemblies virtually, as per direction from the BTPS Back to School plan. We will modify this as conditions and case numbers allow.
4.	Staggered Start	Our school will be having a staggered start (half of each class on Wednesday, Sept. 1 and half on Thursday, Sept. 2) to allow parents to bring their children to school on the first day, while still reducing congestion and the number of people in the building. You will receive a letter from the school (accompanying this Back To School Plan) to let you know when your children will attend. All students will attend on Friday, September 3.
5.	Water Fountains	Water fountains will continue to operate. Students need to bring and fill water bottles to avoid drinking directly from the water fountains. Water fountains will be cleaned throughout the day.
6.	Shared equipment	Students will use and store their own personal school supplies. Amisk School staff will minimize shared equipment, textbooks and materials as much as possible. Materials that are shared will be cleaned after use, where possible.
7.	School libraries	Our library will be in use. Each class will use the library during its assigned library period.
9.	School Nutrition Programs	Our Breakfast program and Hot Lunch programs will proceed as usual, barring further restrictions from either the provincial government or BTPS.
10.	Assemblies	School wide events, assemblies and performances will be virtual as we begin the year. This will be evaluated throughout the year, and if it is safe to do so, we will reinstate our monthly in-person assemblies and invite our community to participate.
11.	Extra-curricular Activities	Extra-curricular activities will be able to begin following all guidelines and health protocols.
12.	Field Trips	As much as possible, to start the year, schools are encouraged to participate in virtual field trips. Day trips may be approved ensuring all safety protocols are followed, physical distancing, and masking requirements. Masks may be required at indoor locations. Overnight trips are not permitted at this time. Parents/guardians are not able to drive students who do not live in their household to field trips or extra-curricular events.
13.	Shared Snacks/Birthday Treats	Students are able to bring treats or snacks to share on birthdays this year if families wish. The treats/food must be purchased, not homemade. An Amisk School staff member will hand out the snacks to the students. More detailed information about birthday celebrations in each classroom will be shared by your child's teacher.
14.	Microwaves	Microwaves will not be available for student use this year, due to time constraints and cleaning issues.

Transportation

1.	Masks	Masks are required on school buses. Students will not be allowed on the bus without a mask.
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2.	Seating Plans	There will be a seating plan on the bus, but it will not need to be the first on loads at the back.
3.	Cleaning	Busses will be cleaned after each bus run.
4.	Pick up of students	Where possible, students need to practice physical distancing.
5.	AHS Guidelines	The government's guidance for school busses is here .

Government Requirements - Symptoms or testing positive for COVID-19

I have symptoms and I test positive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Isolate for 10 days, and Stay home until symptoms have resolved
I have symptoms and I test negative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stay home until symptoms have resolved
I am a student who has not been tested	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> If you are a student and your symptoms include fever, cough, shortness of breath or loss of sense of taste/smell, isolate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> for at least 10 days or until symptoms have improved, and until you have no fever for 24 hours, without using fever-reducing medications whichever is longer A student may have other symptoms (such as chills, sore throat/painful swallowing, runny nose/congestion, feeling unwell/fatigued, nausea/vomiting/diarrhea, unexplained loss of appetite, muscle/joint aches, headache or conjunctivitis). <ol style="list-style-type: none"> If you have one of these other symptoms: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> stay home and monitor for 24 hours. If your symptom improves, return to school when you feel well enough. (Testing is not necessary). If you have two symptoms or one symptom that persists or worsens: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> stay home until symptom(s) are gone. (Testing is recommended but not required).
I am an adult who has not been tested	<p>If you are an adult and symptoms include fever, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat or runny nose, isolate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> for at least 10 days or until symptoms have improved, and until you have no fever for 24 hours, without using fever-reducing medications whichever is longer. <p>Adults who have other symptoms should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> stay home until symptoms are gone.
I do not have symptoms and have a positive test result	Isolate for at least 10 days from the date that you were tested (when the sample was collected).

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Immunization Clinics

	Immunization Clinics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Schools will work with AHS to host these clinics. Parent or guardian consent will be required for students who wish to participate.• For more information on vaccination policies and requirements, contact Alberta Health Services.
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