



# Plympton-Wyoming Public School

Principal: Mr. Andy Parnham

Secretary: Ms. Mary Wood

Website: [www.lkdsb.net/school/plymptonwyoming](http://www.lkdsb.net/school/plymptonwyoming)

Zone 1

(519) 845-3241 (Phone)

(519) 845-0031 (Fax)



**Dear Parents/Guardians,**

We were happy to welcome your child to school for a safe start to the 2020-2021 school year. In order to support the successful transition back to school and assist students with learning school health and safety procedures and risk mitigation strategies, we staggered our school entry for our Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8 students.

We understand that many of the school procedures for the 2020-2021 school year will be new to students; however, we are committed to supporting safe and welcoming transitions to school for our students and families. In addition to supporting student learning, staff will help students become familiar with school and health and safety routines to reduce the opportunities for transmission of COVID-19.

The plan is a multi-layered approach with various safety measures to mitigate opportunities for the transmission of COVID-19. The implementation is a shared responsibility between Lambton Kent District School Board (LKDSB) staff, local Public Health, family households, students and Chatham-Kent Lambton Administrative School Services (CLASS). By collectively implementing the plan, our schools will be safe for our students and staff.

Refer to the School Safety Protocols and the Daily Screening Questionnaire for Parents/Guardians/Students Before Attending School for more information.

Please note: Parents/guardians will have limited opportunities within the school year to switch their child's experience between face-to-face instruction and Learn at Home instruction (or vice versa). Families must notify the school in advance and there may be a waiting period prior to their child's admission to school, depending on scheduling and availability of classroom space.

## **School Arrival Procedure**

Students should not arrive before 8:45 a.m. (15 minutes before the morning bell) and students will proceed to their entrance door directly and enter their classroom. Students will move to their entrance door regardless of transportation, bus, drop-off, before-school programming, or walking. **As students are expected to their classroom, staff supervision will not be available on the playground.** Staff will be available in the school to assist students with finding their homeroom.

**Students in Grades 4-8 must be wearing masks to enter the school, unless otherwise exempted.**

Each student will be designated a location for their materials (coat, backpack, etc.) that will be consistent.

**Parents/Guardians: Please share school arrival information with emergency contacts for the student.**

**Please note: To maintain cohorts and contact tracing, parents/guardians will not be allowed to enter schools at this time, except in case of emergency or a pre-arranged appointment time.**

Parents/guardians of students requiring extra support to help get to class once safely at school should contact the school administrator.

If a student leaves school property during the school day (such as for a pre-scheduled appointment), the student will return to school the next day following the completion of the Daily Screening Questionnaire for Parents/Guardians/Students Before Attending School.

### **Screening**

Parents/guardians are required to assess their children daily and report whether they are experiencing any signs of illness and are expected to keep them home if they are. Parents/guardians should refer to the Daily Screening Questionnaire for Parents/Guardians/Students Before Attending School to perform daily screening of their child before arriving at school.

All students who are experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19 must not attend school and should seek appropriate medical attention as required, including getting tested at a COVID-19 testing centre. The closest testing centre to our school is located at the Central Lambton Family Health Team.

Note: Refer to the School Safety Protocols and the Daily Screening Questionnaire for Parents/Guardians/Students Before Attending School for more information.

### **Before-and-After School**

The LKDSB and Chatham-Kent Administrative School Services (CLASS) continues to work closely with all child care providers who provide child care options in LKDSB schools to ensure that before-and-after-school programs are available to support our students and families.

More information can be found at the following link: <https://cklass.ca/covid19/child-care/>

### **Student Transportation**

CLASS is planning service for all eligible students; there is no need to register for busing. Go to <https://cklass.ca/services/student-transportation/address-eligibility/> in order to confirm your eligibility for transportation. Students will be assigned a bus seat, be required to wear masks and will sit with their siblings or classroom cohort. Additional information is available on the CLASS Student Transportation website: <https://cklass.ca/services/student-transportation/>

Download the MySBI app for school bus updates during the school year, including school bus delays and weather cancellations.

### **Personal Student Items**

Any personal items (e.g., backpack, clothing, water bottles, food, etc.) should be labeled and kept in an area designated for the student and should not be handled by other students.

### **Lunch and Food Services**

Students will be required to bring their own food. Students will eat lunch with their class in a designated area. Students will not be allowed to share any food.

Students will not be permitted to leave school property during lunch.

Students should bring labelled refillable water bottles instead of accessing drinking fountains. If you do not have a refillable water bottle, please contact the school.

### **School Cash Online**

In order to support physical distancing and minimize the handling of cash, families are encouraged to use School Cash Online. Visit the school website to learn more about SchoolCashOnline (click on the orange School Cash Online button).

### **Recess and Playgrounds**

Elementary students will have the opportunity to enjoy recess. At this time, Medical Officers of Health have advised that outdoor activity has reduced risk and that playground equipment may be used. Classes will be assigned specific areas of the playground/schoolyard at recess. Students will practice hand hygiene before and after the break.

### **Student Learning**

Classes will resume according to a conventional in-person model. When specialist teachers provide instruction to a class (such as French), students will remain in their classrooms, and teachers will move between rooms. Minimizing student movement will reduce congestion and student-to-student interaction between classrooms.

For additional information about programming, read the Reopening Our Schools plan section on Programming: Elementary at [www.lkdsb.net](http://www.lkdsb.net).

### **Moving Between Learn at Home and Face-to-Face Instruction**

Families wishing to transfer between face-to-face learning to Learn at Home or transfer from Learn at Home to face-to-face instruction must contact their principal according to the following timelines:

- Fall date: Families notify school by October 22. Student begins new program type on November 16.
- Winter date: Families notify school by January 12. Student begins new program type on February 3.
- Spring date: Families notify school by March 30. Student begins new program type on April 20.

Students moving between program delivery choice (i.e. face-to-face learning or Learn at Home) should anticipate changes in teacher(s). If space is available, the LKDSB will attempt to accommodate all

requests sooner than the dates above; however, this will vary from school-to-school and grade-by-grade and may not be possible. Transportation delays may also occur.

### **Special Education Staff Support**

Teachers, Educational Assistants and other special education support staff essential for daily academic programming in the classroom will use personal protective equipment when physical distancing is not possible. Information about Special Education staff support is available in the Reopening Our Schools plan which can be found at [www.lkdsb.net](http://www.lkdsb.net).

### **Individual Education Plans**

Individual Education Plans (IEP) and Plans of Care for students will be reviewed and updated in consultation with families and school staff as we begin the 2020-2021 school year. Parents and guardians can expect to receive an updated IEP and/or Plan of Care. If parents/guardians have any questions or concerns, please contact our Resource Teacher, Mrs. MacLachlan or our ALLP Teacher, Ms. Gordon.

### **Mental Health**

As a result of the time away from the school setting, we understand that students may be struggling with mental health concerns, such as anxiety and depression. Families are encouraged to contact their school team to discuss their child's transition back to the school setting. For additional resources, please access information at: <https://www.lkdsb.net/Board/Community/MentalHealth/>

### **Reopening Our Schools Plan**

For additional information about the LKDSB's Reopening Our Schools Plan, visit the LKDSB website at [www.lkdsb.net](http://www.lkdsb.net). Please communicate any relevant information with your child's emergency contacts.

We look forward to a safe and welcoming start to the 2020-2021 school year. Should you have any specific questions about your child, please contact us at 519-845-3241.

Sincerely,

Mr. A. Parnham  
Principal