



Tilbury Area Public School

January 2022

Tilbury Area Public School
Telephone: 519-682-2260
Mr. K. Rakuc, Principal
Mrs. D. Blair, Secretary

Tilbury Area Public School Website
<http://tilbury.lkdsb.net/>
Lambton Kent District School Board
<http://www.lkdsb.net/>

Principal's Message

Thank you for your support this month as we transitioned to remote, teacher-led learning. This decision is a proactive measure by the Government of Ontario to further support the health and well-being of Ontarians. The health and safety of our students and staff is a top priority for the LKDSB. The LKDSB continues to gather information and will follow directions from the Ministry of Education, local and provincial public health officials. The LKDSB will provide updates as soon as new information becomes available. You are encouraged to visit the LKDSB website for full details. At this time, students are scheduled to return to in-person learning on Monday, January 17th, 2022.

Parents/guardians with a question or concern about their child should contact the school by phone or electronically (by email or through the "Contact Us" form on the website). If you call the school, please leave a message with your name and phone number so that we are able to return your call.

We appreciate your ongoing support in promoting the overall health and well-being of students and staff. Please visit the LKDSB website (www.lkdsb.net) regularly for up-to-date information. Wishing everyone a happy, healthy, and prosperous new year.

Daily Screening Protocols

Prior to attending school, all students, staff and visitors must complete the daily [COVID-19 School Screening assessment tool](#). It is very important that this is completed everyday, for each student in your family, and that the directions of the screening tool are followed prior to attending school.

While the need to complete the screening each day continues to be in place, the Ministry of Education has also directed all elementary students to confirm they have completed the Ontario COVID-19 School and Child Care Screening for the first two weeks following the return to in-person learning prior to coming to school each day on these dates.

The process outlined below will be used in the 2021 – 2022 school year whenever the Ministry of Education directs schools to implement the daily on-site confirmation of self-screening.

The Ontario COVID-19 School and Child Care Screening is available using the link below and must be completed each day for each child prior to coming to school, even after the confirmation dates indicated above: <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>

There are two different procedures in place during the dates indicated (January 17th – 28th):

1) Kindergarten to Grade 3 Students and Self-Contained Special Education Classrooms

Parents/Guardians of Kindergarten - Grade 3 students and self-contained special education classrooms will confirm the completion of the COVID-19 screener in one of the following ways:

- responding to a school messenger email for each of their K-3 students that will be sent to families each morning
- completing and sending the form that was sent home with students for each day during the dates indicated above
- contacting and confirming directly with your child's teacher using the typical means of communication for the class or contacting the school office staff (please let us know if you are unable to access the online screening tool)

2) Grade 4 to Grade 8 Students

During morning attendance from Monday, January 17th to Friday, January 28th, 2022 the teacher will confirm with the student that they have completed the Ontario COVID-19 School and Child Care Screening that day.

If a student has not completed the screener, they are to complete the screener at that time.

Regular safety protocols will remain in place for students who exhibit symptoms once at school.

If your child is going to be absent for any reason, including illness, please continue to contact the school office directly.

The LKDSB continues to follow directions from the Ministry of Education, local and provincial public health officials. Additional information and resources are available on the LKDSB's [Parent/Guardian Resources website](#). Information is also available on [Chatham-Kent Public Health](#).

Please visit the LKDSB website (www.lkdsb.net) regularly for up-to-date information.

Parent Council

Are you interested in joining the school's Parent Council? Our next TAPS Parent Council Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 12th, 2022 at 6:30pm. At this time, this meeting will be held virtually. Please email the principal at krzysztof.rakuc@lkdsb.net if you are interested for further details. Everyone is welcome to attend!

Playground Closed for the Winter season

Please be aware that during the winter season, the playground equipment is closed during school time and after hours. The following winter conditions can make equipment unsafe for use:

Freezing temperatures – At temperatures below 0 C, very few types of protective ground surfacing remain resilient enough to offer any degree of protection to a falling child – regardless of depth. If the ground cover is frozen, the play equipment is NOT safe for use.

Snow build-up – Snow can cause two problems on a play structure – firstly, it can make play surfaces very slippery; secondly, it can create suffocation hazards if the openings at the end of tube slides or similar structures become closed in by drifting snow.

Ice or freezing rain – As noted above, ice or freezing rain can make play surfaces, hand grips and stairways very slippery, increasing the risk of slip and fall injuries.

Clothing – Winter clothing is much different than normal clothing. Synthetic materials, such as nylon, reduce sliding resistance, particularly on plastic slide beds. This can increase the travel speed on this equipment to a dangerous level, and if combined with frozen ground cover, as described above, can increase the chance of injury. Winter clothing is also very bulky and is more likely to have drawstrings or hooks and clips which can become entangled in components of the equipment.

Coming Soon – Kindergarten Registration 2022-2023

Please stay tuned for more details about the LKDSB's Kindergarten Registration events for the 2022-2023 school year.

Information Regarding Children's Mental Health

Student mental health continues to be a top priority. Students and/or parents/guardians should contact the school if supports are required. [Visit the LKDSB Mental Health & Well-Being website](#) or access:

- Kids Help Phone, which offers 24/7 counselling and referral services across the province. To use this free resource, children can call 1-800-668-6868, or text CONNECT to 686868.
- School Mental Health Ontario also has a number of great resources for students, parents and families on their website at <https://smho-smsso.ca/>.

Stay Connected

The LKDSB will continue to post information from the Ontario Chief Medical Officer of Health and Chatham-Kent and Lambton Public Health regarding the coronavirus (COVID-19) on the Board and school websites to inform school communities as it becomes available.

For more information, please visit the [Chatham-Kent Public Health](#) and [Lambton Public Health](#) websites.

Please see the information below and contact the school directly should you have any questions.



200 Wellington Street, P.O. Box 2019, Samia Ontario N7T 7L2

Phone: 519-336-1500 or 1-800-754-7125
Fax: 519-336-0992

January 7, 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health and Ontario Health have provided school boards across the province, including the Lambton Kent District School Board with voluntary PCR self-collection testing kits for symptomatic elementary and secondary students and education staff who are being dismissed from school mid-day. The test kits will be provided upon request from parents/guardians or students while supplies last. This approach is intended to minimize disruptions for children and families.

The tests are minimally invasive (e.g. nasal mouth and saliva testing). The test kit will include information on how to use the self-collection kit and instructions to drop it off at a participating community location if and when necessary. Individuals can access their test results on the Ontario COVID-19 online test results portal. In the case of a confirmed positive result for COVID-19, please follow the directions of the Ministry of Health, your local Public Health Unit and the [COVID-19 School Screening Assessment tool](#).

Participation in the take-home PCR self-collection testing is voluntary. If you have any questions about your child, please contact the school. Health-related questions can be directed to [Chatham-Kent Public Health/Lambton Public Health](#) or your personal health care professional.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Howitt'.

John Howitt
Director of Education
Lambton Kent District School Board