



REOPENING OUR SCHOOLS

SEPTEMBER 2020

Revised: August 27, 2020



Lambton Kent
District School Board



READY, SET, SCHOOL!

The Lambton Kent District School Board (LKDSB) looks forward to welcoming students for a safe start of the 2020-2021 school year.

The Ministry of Education directed that LKDSB elementary and secondary schools will reopen in September with a return to full-time, in-class learning with enhanced safety measures. The LKDSB’s plan for the return to school in September will provide a safe launch to the upcoming school year and reduce the opportunities for transmission of COVID-19. The plans incorporate the most current information from the Ontario Ministry of Education, Public Health, consultation with LKDSB educators and education workers, and our communities.

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 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.

SAFETY MEASURES





Student and staff safety are the top priorities for the LKDSB. As we begin the 2020-2021 school year, LKDSB is prepared to respond to changes, as necessary, based on directions from the Ministry and provincial and local Medical Officers of Health.

We understand that some families may have further questions after reading the plan outlined in this report. The LKDSB will continue to provide updates and communicate with parents/guardians as per the typical means of communication. Should you have specific questions about your child, please contact your school.

Additional information is posted at www.lkdsb.net.





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STUDENTS

Parents/guardians are required to assess their children daily and disclose whether they are experiencing any signs of illness, and are expected to keep them home if they are. Parents/guardians will be provided with a checklist to perform daily screening of their children 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.

Staff members will be provided with information on signs and symptoms of COVID-19 in students so that appropriate action can be taken if students develop symptoms during the day.

Students feeling sick should remain at home while waiting for test results, Public Health authorities will advise on individual return to school conditions and timelines for students.

Signs prompting self-assessment screening will be posted on the exterior doors of our schools.



STAFF

Prior to entering the school, all staff will be required to complete a self-assessment on a daily basis.

Staff members will promptly notify their Principal or Supervisor if they fail the daily self-assessment.

If a staff member is experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19, they must stay home from school and should seek testing and appropriate medical attention.

All staff 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.

Staff feeling sick should remain at home while waiting for test results, Public Health authorities will advise on individual return to work conditions and timelines for staff.

As with all health-related matters, the LKDSB follows the direction of Chatham-Kent and Lambton Public Health.



ELEMENTARY: Students in Kindergarten to Grade 8 will have a staggered entry, with half of the student population attending on Thursday, September 10 for one day and the other half of students attending on Friday, September 11. All Senior Kindergarten to Grade 8 students will attend daily as of Monday, September 14.

Junior Kindergarten students will have a staggered entry, beginning Tuesday, September 15, with half of the students attending for one day. The remaining Junior Kindergarten students will attend on Wednesday, September 16. All Junior Kindergarten students will attend daily beginning Thursday, September 17.

All Elementary Alternative Learning & Lifeskills Program (ALLP) students will attend on Thursday, September 10.

Parents/guardians should prepare to make alternative childcare arrangements for the first two weeks of school based on this schedule.

ELEMENTARY LEARN AT HOME: The first day of school for all Virtual Learn at Home Elementary School students is Monday, September 14.

Chris Moore, Principal of the Virtual Learn at Home Elementary School, will be in contact with families prior to the start of the school year.



SECONDARY: Secondary students will also have a staggered entry. To support school orientation for our incoming Grade 9 students, classes for Grade 9 students will begin on Monday, September 14. The first day of classes for students in Grades 10 – 12 will be on Tuesday, September 15.

All secondary Alternative Learning & Lifeskills Program (ALLP) students will begin on Monday, September 14.

SECONDARY LEARN AT HOME: The first day of school for all Virtual Learn at Home Elementary and Secondary School students is Monday, September 14. Paul Wiersma, Principal of the Virtual Learn at Home Secondary School, will be in contact with families prior to the start of the school year.

The chart on the following page summarizes the staggered entry safe return to school plans:



		MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI
Sept 7-11	ELEMENTARY	7 Labour Day	8 Staff preparing for safe arrival of students	9	10 Group 1 SK-Grade 8 students	11 Group 2 SK-Grade 8 students
	ELEMENTARY	14 All SK-Grade 8 students	15 All SK-Grade 8 students Group 1 JK students	16 All SK-Grade 8 students Group 2 JK students	17 All JK-Grade 8 students	18 All JK-Grade 8 students
Sept 14-18	SECONDARY	14 Grade 9 students	15 Grade 9-12 students	16 Grade 9-12 students	17 Grade 9-12 students	18 Grade 9-12 students

All LKDSB Virtual Learn at Home Elementary and Secondary School students will begin on Monday, September 14.

All elementary students in Alternative Learning & Lifeskills Program (ALLP) will return on Thursday, September 10. All secondary students in Alternative Learning & Lifeskills Program (ALLP) will return on Monday, September 14.

Note: All families will receive an individual communication from the school to indicate which dates their students will attend.



ELEMENTARY

Before the first day of school, all families will be notified of their child's teacher and designated entrance door.

Upon arrival at school, up to 15 minutes before the morning bell, 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. Each student will be designated a location for their materials (coat, backpack, etc.) that will be consistent.

KINDERGARTEN

Kindergarten students will be welcomed back to school with continued risk mitigation strategies. Routines will be put into place that emphasize physical distancing where possible, hand hygiene, optional masking, cohorting, and cleaning to mitigate risk. Additional teaching staff, beyond what is necessary for class size regulations, will be hired to support smaller class sizes.

Classroom routines with risk mitigation strategies will be emphasized, including: physical distancing where possible, hand hygiene, lunch, recess, morning entry, washroom access, and daily interaction.

Junior Kindergarten students will begin in-person school on Monday, September 14. New students will then be able to join into the school and classroom routines with their classmates.





SECONDARY

Student timetables will be emailed directly to secondary students. Upon arrival at school, students will enter the school and go directly to their Period A class. Students will not be able to access lockers. Classrooms will be open 15 minutes prior to the first bell.

Students must be wearing masks to enter the school.

Entrance and safety protocols will be communicated to students and parents through their respective principal prior to the start of the school year.

Student Activity Fees will be reduced for this school year.



Students will be taught to maintain physical distancing from others whenever possible. We recognize that it may be difficult for some of our students who are younger or have special education needs. As directed by the Ministry of Education, students will maintain physical distancing of up to one metre, where possible. When physical distancing is not possible, multiple strategies including: hand hygiene, masking, cohorting, and cleaning are in place to mitigate risk.

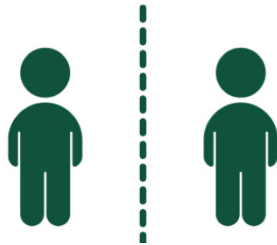
At the elementary school level, classes will resume according to a conventional in-person model. In addition to in-class safety measures, when students are not in their classrooms, efforts will be made to ensure that students maintain appropriate physical distancing. Schools will remove unnecessary furniture, such as guided reading tables, and place student desks or tables to maximize distance between students. 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. Reorganizing classroom space will also allow teachers more space to instruct.

At the secondary level, classes will resume according to a conventional model – full-time in-person classroom learning. Schools will remove unnecessary furniture and arrange desks/tables in classrooms with as much distancing as possible.



In order to support physical distancing and minimize the handling of cash, families are encouraged to use SchoolCash Online.

Building services staff, principals and custodians will review each school layout and ensure controls are in place to maximize distancing in hallways, school offices, washrooms, and any common areas. School staff will determine specific plans to maximize the distance between students through the removal of unnecessary classroom furniture, routines that limit hallways congestion; restricting the capacity of washrooms; and staggering recess/lunch/transition times.





Proper hand hygiene is one of the most effective strategies to prevent the spread of most respiratory viruses including COVID-19.

Students and staff will be encouraged to wash their hands regularly, practice proper respiratory etiquette (such as sneezing into their elbow) and avoid touching their face, eyes, nose and mouth. Regularly scheduled hand hygiene breaks will be incorporated into the school's routine.

Wall mounted and/or free-standing hand sanitizer dispensers will be placed at entrances and exits, and hallways. Additionally, sinks with soap and water are available in many classes.

Signage will be placed at all sinks in schools to explain the steps for effective hand washing.

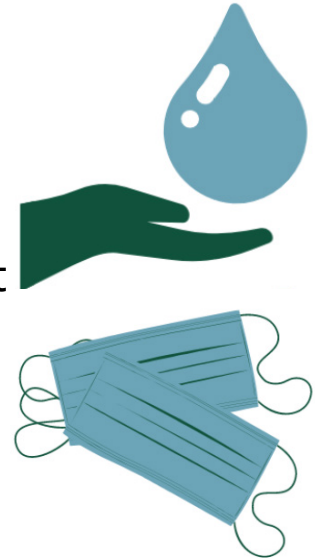


STUDENTS AND MASKS

Students in Grades 4 to 12 will be required to wear non-medical or cloth masks indoors in school, including in hallways and during classes. Outdoor times like recess can be used as opportunities to provide students with breaks from wearing masks as long as the students are organized to remain within their cohorts.

Students in Kindergarten to Grade 3 will be encouraged but not required to wear masks in indoor spaces.

Students are encouraged to practice wearing masks and learn what type of mask is most comfortable for them. Parents/guardians should provide non-medical masks or cloth masks for their children to wear to school. The LKDSB will provide backup non-medical masks for students who do not have their own. Face coverings that provide a tight seal at the chin and nose and cover the mouth are permitted (a gaiter for example), whereas face coverings that do not provide a tight seal at the chin and nose and cover the mouth are not permitted (a bandanna for example).



[Click here to watch a video with information to support students to help prepare them to wear masks at school.](#)

For some students with special needs, or significant medical conditions, wearing a mask may be problematic. Families should work with your school to determine if your child may be exempt from wearing a mask.

Parents/guardians can expect that there will be time spent in class during the first days of school reviewing the proper use of masks, hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette.



STAFF AND MASKS

School-based staff who are regularly in close contact with students will be provided with appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), including masks. The PA Days that occur prior to school opening will incorporate specialized training on the care and wearing of PPE including LKDSB-provided masks.

Where masks are worn, students and staff will be instructed to perform hand hygiene before putting on and after touching or removing their mask.



The Lambton Kent District School Board will follow the direction and guidance of Chatham-Kent and Lambton Public Health, as well as the Ministry of Education's [Operational guidance: COVID-19 management in schools](#).

Any student who experiences symptoms of illness while in school will be immediately separated from others and placed in a separate room. Isolated students will be supervised, physical distancing maintained, and personal protective equipment provided.

Schools will notify parents/guardians immediately and they will be told to pick up their child from school as soon as possible. The parent/guardian will be asked to receive their student at a specific door when they arrive at school. Parents/guardians will be directed to consult their health care provider, including getting tested at a COVID-19 testing centre.

Parents/guardians should immediately inform the school if their child has tested positive for COVID-19 and will not be attending school.



If a staff member develops symptoms of illness, they will be directed to return home and seek medical attention. If they cannot leave immediately, the staff member will be isolated in a specific area until they are able to leave.

Schools will report any suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19 within the school to the local health unit.

To support successful case and contact management, schools will ensure records of classes, transported students, and visitors to the school are maintained and readily available to be provided to the Public Health authority for contact tracing purposes.

Timelines for the individual student or staff member to return to school or work will be under the direction and guidance of the local Public Health authority.



Cleaning protocols will be enhanced as a method of reducing the likelihood of transmission of COVID-19. Additional temporary custodial staff will be hired for the duration of the pandemic and will be responsible for enhanced cleaning protocols that align with Ministry of Education School Re-opening Guidelines.

Enhanced cleaning will focus on high touch surfaces, which includes washrooms, eating areas, doorknobs, light switches, and other shared objects. Area rugs, soft furnishings and other hard to clean items will be identified and may be removed from schools.

Hand washing and sanitization by students and staff throughout the day will also support the maintenance of a clean and safe school environment.



Chatham-Kent Lambton Administrative School Services (CLASS) works with the LKDSB on overseeing and implementing transportation. Visit the CLASS website for more information about student transportation for the 2020-2021 school year: <https://cklass.ca/covid19/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 (as described above) and will sit with their siblings or classroom cohort.

CLASS commenced accepting 2020-21 courtesy seat applications online through the Parent Portal on August 10. Visit the CLASS website at <https://cklass.ca/parent-portal/> for details and to start the process.

Parents/guardians of students eligible for busing who will not be using the service are asked to opt out/decline transportation online at <https://class.mybusplanner.ca/Workflow/> or call CLASS offices at 1-877-330-4287 to help ensure ridership assignments are accurate.





ANNUAL FIRST TIME RIDER PROGRAM

Due to ongoing COVID-19 impacts, CLASS has altered our annual First Time Rider Program, originally scheduled for Saturday, August 15, 2020. Please note: There will not be an in-person program option for this year. The First Time Rider Program is available for parents/guardians to view anytime, exclusively online at www.cklass.ca/services/student-transportation/school-bus-safety/#firstride.

For additional information regarding student transportation, visit the CLASS website at <https://cklass.ca/covid19/student-transportation/> Topics include: cohorting and physical distancing; bus cleaning; and hygiene and masks on the bus; among others.



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.





At this time, only essential visitors will be allowed to enter the school and must do so by making pre-arranged appointments. Any visitors to a school will be required to self-screen and to wear a medical mask while on school premises.

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.

Communication between parents/guardians and teaching staff or administration will be through phone calls or email.

Visits to ensure school safety, such as inspections by fire prevention officers or by Public Health representatives, will continue to take place.



ELEMENTARY

Students will be required to bring their own food.

Students will eat their lunch with their class in a designated area. Students will not be allowed to share any food. Students will not be able to access lockers.

The LKDSB is working with its student nutrition program partnerships to develop a plan for the 2020-2021 school year. Further information will be provided as it becomes available.

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

Students will bring refillable water bottles instead of accessing drinking fountains. Lunch items will be available for students who forget their lunch.



SECONDARY

Students will be required to bring their own food as cafeteria food services and self-serve vending machines will not be available.

Students will remain in their Period A classroom to eat lunch and will not share food. Students will not be able to access lockers. The use of common spaces, such as cafeterias, libraries/learning commons and hallways, will not be available for students to eat lunch. Students will not be permitted to leave the school premises for lunch.

Students will bring refillable water bottles instead of accessing drinking fountains.

The LKDSB is working with its student nutrition program partnerships to develop a plan for the 2020-2021 school year. Further information will be provided as it becomes available. Food will be available for students who forget their lunch.





The LKDSB partners with a number of child care providers who provide child care options in our schools.

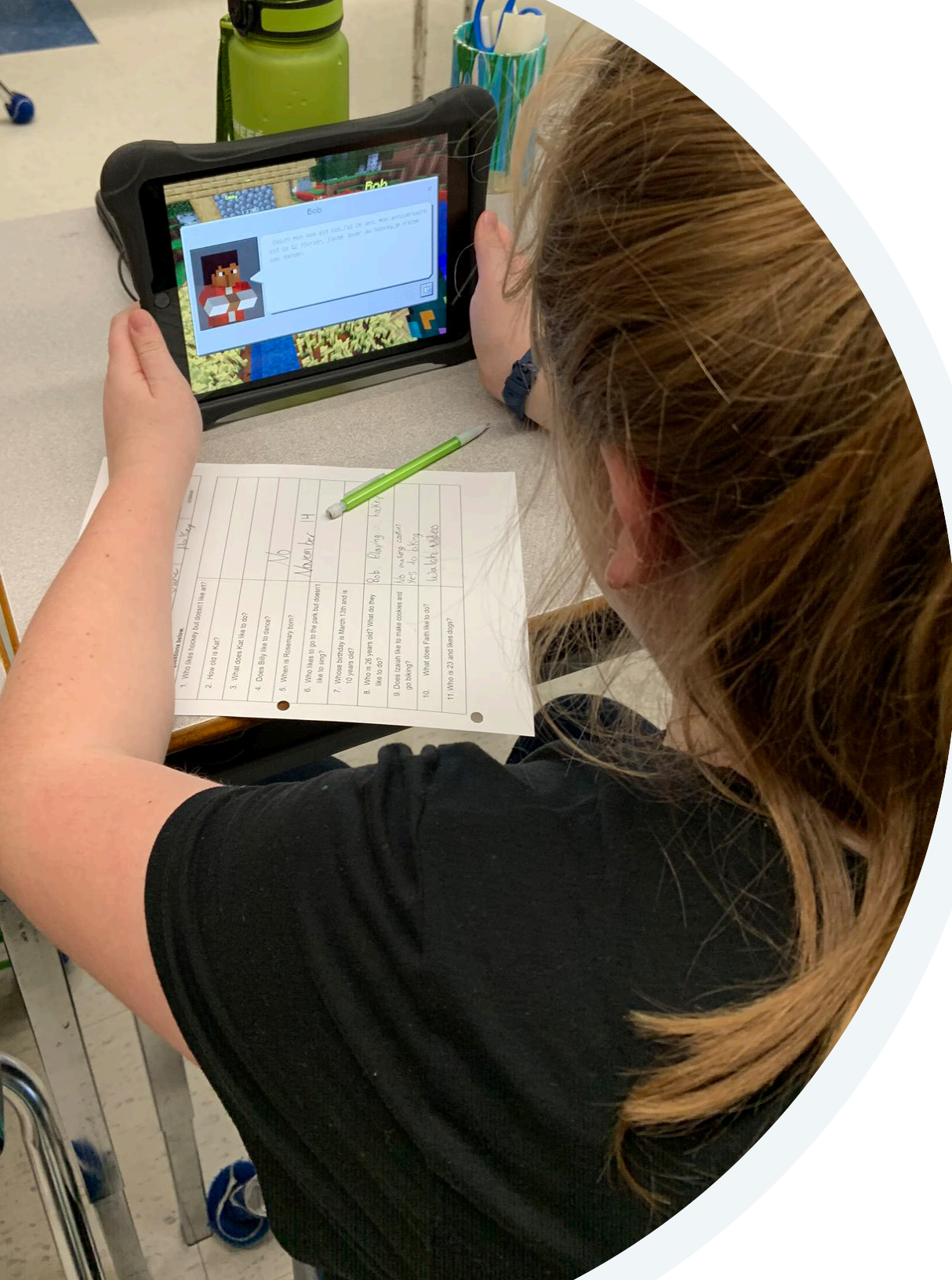
Chatham-Kent Lambton Administrative School Services (CLASS) works with the LKDSB on overseeing and implementing all child care initiatives.

The LKDSB and CLASS continues to work closely with all child care providers to ensure that child care and 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/>



All Community Use of Schools will be cancelled and will be reevaluated at a later date.



TEACHING AND LEARNING

Questions	Answers
1. Who likes Dooney but doesn't like art?	Bob
2. How old is Karl?	14
3. What does Karl like to do?	When he's
4. Does Billy like to dance?	When he's
5. When is Rosemary born?	When he's
6. Who likes to go to the park but doesn't like to sing?	When he's
7. Whose birthday is March 13th and is 10 years old?	When he's
8. Who is 26 years old? What do they like to do?	When he's
9. Does Iziah like to make cookies and go baking?	When he's
10. What does Fain like to do?	When he's
11. Who is 23 and likes dogs?	When he's



Students in Kindergarten to Grade 8 will attend full days, 5 days a week, with enhanced safety measures. Based on the choice for in-person or Learn at Home attendance for students, schools will be reorganized before the school year begins, and periodically during the school year to allow for adjustments between in-person attendance or Learn at Home.

All students with special needs will attend a full day of school, five days per week. Students in self-contained ALLP classrooms will attend a full day of school, five days per week.

School re-organization before the school year and at specific dates during the school year will consider class size, timetable, and public health considerations. Flexibility to change from in-person attendance or Learn at Home may:

- Be limited due to school enrolment, class size, timetables, and public health guidance;
- Be different from school to school (based on the number of students, staff, etc.); and/or
- Not occur until the next re-organization date.

Due to school re-organization, before school begins, students may not have the same teacher that was communicated in June to families.





As school reopening planning has continued to evolve, we have had to make some revisions to our original plan. All secondary students will resume daily full-time, in-person classroom learning unless they choose Learn at Home.

To support school orientation for our incoming Grade 9 students, classes for Grade 9 students will resume on Monday, September 14. Students in Grades 10 – 12 will resume classes on Tuesday, September 15.

LKDSB is adopting the quadmester approach. The school year will be divided into four blocks of approximately 44 days of instruction. Students will participate in one course per day, alternating weeks for two courses in a quadmester, rather than the usual four periods per day over a full semester. In total, students will take eight courses per year in the quadmester approach, the same number of courses as in a traditional semestered approach.

Refer to Tentative Quadmester Dates for secondary schedule.



TENTATIVE QUADMESTER DATES:

QUADMESTER 1	QUADMESTER 2	QUADMESTER 3	QUADMESTER 4
September 14 – November 13 (includes exam days)	November 16 – February 1, 2021 (includes exam days) Feb. 2 is a PD Day	February 3 – April 19, 2021 (includes exam days)	April 20 – June 28, 2021 (includes exam days)
Students will participate in Courses A and B from their quadmestered timetable. Students will alternate Course A course one week, Course B course the next week	Students will participate in Courses A and B from their quadmestered timetable. Students will alternate Course A course one week, Course B course the next week	Students will participate in Courses A and B from their quadmestered timetable. Students will alternate Course A course one week, Course B course the next week	Students will participate in Courses A and B from their quadmestered timetable. Students will alternate Course A course one week, Course B course the next week

Note: Should conditions change secondary scheduling may be revised



Sample schedule for Quadmester 1: Period A and B from regular student timetable*

Week of:	Students will attend the following from their timetable:	Week of:	Students will attend the following from their timetable:
September 14	Course A	November 16	Course A
September 21	Course B	November 23	Course B
September 28	Course A	November 30	Course A
October 5	Course B	December 7	Course B
October 12	Course A	December 14	Course A (week before Winter Break)
October 19	Course B	January 4	Course B
October 26	Course A	January 11	Course A
November 2	Course B	January 18	Course B
November 9	Course A (3 days) (exams Nov. 12, 13)	January 25	Course A (2 days) Exams Jan. 28, 29, Feb. 1

*Dates are subject to change



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.



The Education Act notes that schooling is mandatory for students under 18, so daily attendance (whether face-to-face or electronically) is expected. As such, LKDSB parents/guardians are required to indicate whether their child(ren) will be attending in-person classroom learning or Learn at Home.

After August 28, parents/guardians will have limited opportunities within the school year to switch their child's school experience from Learn at Home to face-to-face 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.

Parents/guardians who did not complete the pre-registration survey (either by phone or electronically), or have further questions about their selections, are encouraged to contact their child's school.

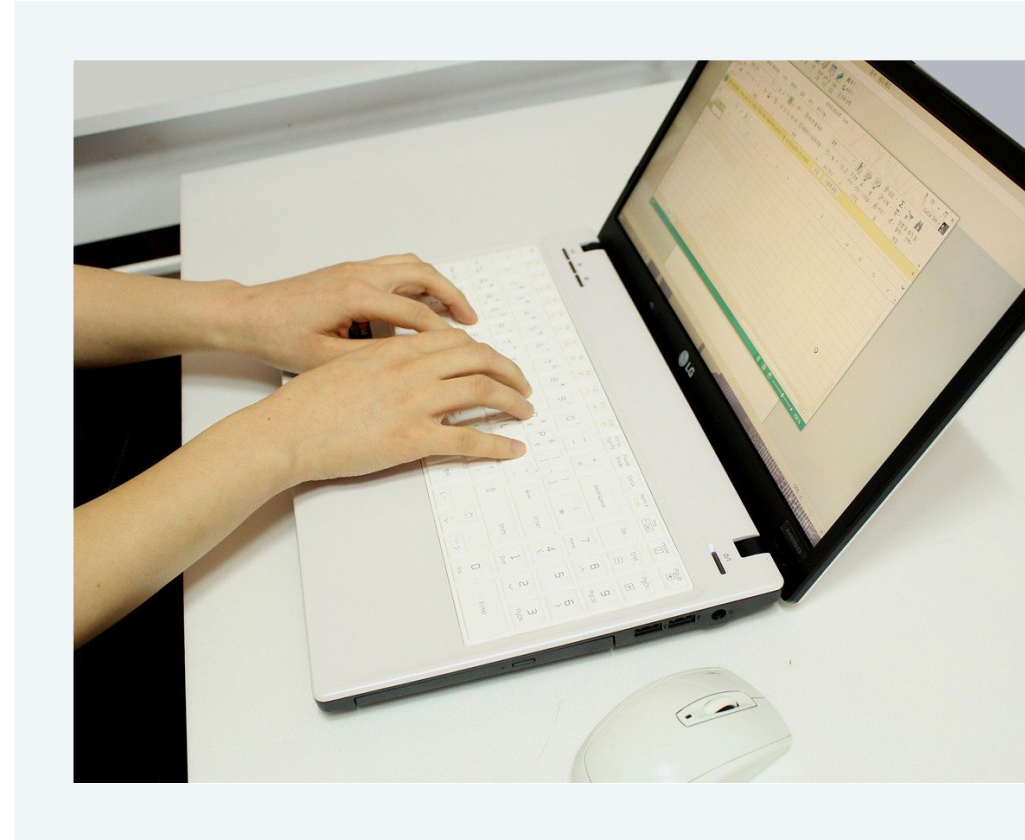


ELEMENTARY

Learn at Home requires daily attendance, 300 minutes of student learning each day, includes all curriculum areas, and frequent, live contact with a teacher during school hours. Students will be enrolled in a virtual course through a newly created LKDSB Virtual Learn at Home Elementary School. Learn at Home classes will not be associated with student home schools. The Principal of the LKDSB Learn at Home Elementary School, Mr. Chris Moore, will communicate with all Learn at Home students before the start of school. Students are under the administration of the Virtual Learn at Home Elementary School while they are participating in Learn at Home instruction, as well as have access to academic and well-being supports.

Staying connected to the student's home school is an important part of our planning. Whenever possible, staff from the student's home school is encouraged to stay connected with students attending the LKDSB Virtual Learn at Home Elementary School, such as through online newsletters. Virtual Learn at Home students will also graduate with the graduating class at their home school.

Student attendance will be taken daily.





The school day will be:

- 8:50 am School day begins, attendance is taken;
- 8:50 am - 9:30 am Period 1;
- 9:30 am - 10:10 am Period 2;
- 10:10 am - 10:30 am Morning Break;
- 10:30 am - 11:10 am Period 3;
- 11:10 am - 11:50 am Period 4;
- 11:50 am - 12:30 pm Lunch;
- 12:30 pm Afternoon begins, attendance is taken;
- 12:30 pm - 1:10 pm Period 5;
- 1:10 pm - 1:50 pm Period 6;
- 1:50 pm - 2:10 pm Afternoon Break;
- 2:10 pm - 3:10 pm Period 7;
- 3:10 pm Dismissal

Student learning daily minimum learning time by grade level:

KINDERGARTEN:

- 180 minutes of live (or synchronous) learning each day.
- 120 minutes of on-demand (or asynchronous) learning each day.

GRADES 1 - 8:

- 225 minutes of live (or synchronous) learning each day.
- 35 minutes of on-demand (or asynchronous) learning each day.



Exceptions to the synchronous learning minutes should be discussed with the Learn at Home Elementary School Principal.

Students will have frequent, live contact with their teacher. Live (or synchronous) learning will include text, video, or voice communication that allows teachers to instruct and connect students in real time. Live learning supports the well-being and academic achievement of students with immediate feedback from teachers and student to student interaction. Live learning will include whole class, small group, and individual interactions.

On-demand (or asynchronous) learning is not delivered in real time. It may include watching pre-recorded video lessons, completing assigned tasks, or contributing to online discussion boards.

Students will Learn at Home using LKDSB provided platforms:

- SeeSaw (Kindergarten - Grade 6)
- Google Classroom (Grade 4 - Grade 8)
- Google Meet Video Conferencing (Kindergarten - Grade 8)

Live (synchronous) learning does not constitute 'supervision' and the school cannot be held responsible for student behavior/accidents that happen at home.

LKDSB will assess whether there are students who need access to a device or Internet and take steps to distribute school resources to ensure students can stay connected, wherever possible, to learning.

For families who have elected to participate in the Learn at Home option, the requirements for synchronous learning may be accommodated on an individual basis.



There will be limited opportunities throughout the year to return to face-to-face learning if you chose for your child to begin the year in the Learn at Home model. Students and families may be put on a waitlist for face-to-face learning, depending on availability.

Moving students between face-to-face learning and the Learn at Home Elementary School is similar to moving physical schools mid-year. Some gaps are likely as math units, science topics, or other curriculum areas may already have been taught in the student's new class. Instructional gaps of this nature are similar to moving between schools during the school year.

Students who attend the Learn at Home Elementary School will return to the school they attended in the 2019-20 school year at the November, February, and April re-organization dates unless their address changes and are in a new school's area.



SECONDARY

Students who choose Learn at Home will be engaged in remote learning five days per week. Students will be removed from the face-to-face timetable they were scheduled in at their home school and enrolled in virtual Learn at Home courses through a newly created LKDSB Virtual Learn at Home Secondary School. Once students are removed from their home school timetable, they will lose the seat in the in-person class. Should students wish to return to face-to-face learning there is no guarantee that they will be able to get their original timetable.



Students are under the administration of the Virtual Learn at Home Secondary School while they are participating in Learn at Home instruction, as well as have access to academic and well-being supports. The Principal of the LKDSB Virtual Learn at Home Secondary School, Mr. Paul Wiersma, will communicate with all Learn at Home students prior to the start of school.

While students are enrolled in the LKDSB Virtual Learn at Home Secondary School, they will not be able to enter the school premises or participate in school activities. Learn at Home will operate in quadesters (refer to the Scheduling – Secondary section for description).

Staying connected to the student's home school is an important part of our planning. Whenever possible, staff from the student's home school is encouraged to stay connected with students attending the LKDSB Virtual Learn at Home Secondary School, such as through online newsletters. Virtual Learn at Home students will also graduate with the graduating class at their home school.



Students who choose Learn at Home will be enrolled in a D2L Brightspace. They will be registered in two classes per quadmester with students and teachers from throughout the LKDSB. Students who choose Learn at Home may not have the same timetable or course selections they requested in the spring. All attempts will be made to honour student course requests; however, the priority for Learn at Home will be to provide compulsory courses. As such, there will be limited optional courses available in the Learn at Home program.

Student attendance will be taken daily.

The LKDSB Virtual Learn at Home Secondary School bell schedule is as follows:

TIME	CLASS
8:20-11:00 am (150 minutes plus a ten minute break)	Morning session
11:00-11:50 am (50 minutes)	LUNCH
11:50–2:30 pm (150 minutes plus a ten minute break)	Afternoon session

Synchronous learning does not constitute supervision and the school board cannot be held responsible for student behavior / accidents that occur while students are engaged in Learn at Home.

Synchronous learning: Learning that happens in real time. Synchronous learning involves using text, video, or voice communication in a way that enables educators and other members of the school- or board-based team to instruct and connect with students in real time. Asynchronous learning: Learning that is not delivered in real time.



Asynchronous learning may involve students watching pre-recorded video lessons, completing assigned tasks, or contributing to online discussion boards.

For Secondary students in Grades 9 -12 the daily minimum synchronous learning time requirement will be 225 minutes for a 300-minute instructional day. The synchronous learning will be provided for large and small groups of students each day, in a manner similar to in-person classroom teaching. Synchronous learning time may include students working independently and in small groups while engaged in a virtual classroom with the teacher overseeing their learning and available for questions.

Students may be exempted from the minimum requirements for synchronous learning, on an individual basis. Requests for an exemption must be made in writing. To support meaningful access to education, alternative learning approaches will be put in place for all exempted students. Exempted students will be provided with a daily schedule or timetable per course.

LKDSB will assess whether there are students who need access to a device or Internet and take steps to distribute school resources to ensure students can stay connected, wherever possible, to learning.



STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL EDUCATION NEEDS

Families with elementary and secondary students with special education needs may elect to participate in Learn at Home. Students will engage in a combination of asynchronous or synchronous (during school hours) learning. Daily attendance is required.

Where appropriate, educators will provide more opportunities than the minimum requirements for synchronous learning for students with special education needs, based on their individual strengths and needs, and provide differentiated support and instruction.

Educators will continue to provide accommodations, modified expectations, and alternative programming to students with special education needs, as detailed in their IEPs. If it is not possible to meet a student's needs through synchronous learning, educators and families will work together to find solutions. Families with children with special needs are encouraged to reach out to their school team to discuss their child's transition back to the school setting.

There will be limited opportunities throughout the year to return to face-to-face learning if you chose for your child to begin the year in the Learn at Home model. Students and families may be put on a waitlist for face-to-face learning, depending on availability.



For all students with special education needs, accommodations and/or modifications will be implemented as outlined on their Individual Education Plan (IEP). In developing and updating IEPs, changes to the learning environment and remote learning needs will be considered. Parent/guardian consultation is a critical component of the IEP development and families are encouraged to work with their child's school team to review and update the child's IEP.



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. School teams will organize available resources to support the needs of the students within their school. Sensory supports will continue to be available for student use. Itinerant special education supports such as Speech and Language Pathologists, Psychoeducational Clinicians and our High Needs Team will be scheduled at the school and service will be provided outside of the regular classroom area, respecting all necessary safety requirements.

Community agencies LKDSB partners with to support students, such as those provided by Pathways Health Center for Children and Children's Treatment Centre of Chatham-Kent, will continue to be provided in the school setting. School teams will work directly with community agencies to establish the schedule for service. Service will be provided outside of the regular classroom area, respecting all necessary safety requirements.

MEDICALLY FRAGILE STUDENTS

In addition, for students who are medically fragile, consultation with the school team, including community agencies and parents/guardians will take place to create and implement plans to support the health and safety needs of the student and the staff who work with them.



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. In preparation for the return to school in the fall, members of our school teams will be available to support students and families. Families are encouraged to contact their school team to discuss their child's transition back to the school setting.

Our staff will be provided with additional training and resources to support them to understand how to identify students who may be struggling and who may require additional mental health supports to assist them to be successful.

Parents and Guardians who believe their child may require mental health supports are encouraged to contact their school to discuss their concerns.

For additional resources, please access information at:
<https://www.lkdsb.net/Board/Community/MentalHealth/>





ELEMENTARY CURRICULUM SPECIALISTS

Students will continue to be taught by curriculum specialist teachers which may include the subjects: French, Indigenous Language, Arts, Music and Physical Education. Each classroom will be limited to a homeroom teacher and two curriculum specialists. Rotary instruction will not occur.

MUSIC

Students will continue music instruction with some safety precautions. The precautions include:

- No shared instruments (including recorders, keyboards, and ukuleles);
- Upon completion of use, instruments will be thoroughly cleaned and stored for five days before being assigned to another student for exclusive use;
- Vocal music will only occur outdoors, it will not be part of indoor music class at this time; and
- Curriculum partner teachers who provide music instruction will teach in the homeroom.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Students will continue Physical Education (P.E.) instruction with some safety precautions. The precautions include:

- Activities are to be non-contact;
- Equipment will be distributed to each classroom and balls, etc. will be brought to the P.E. class location;
- Before and after the P.E. activities, students will wash or sanitize their hands;
- P.E. classes should make use of outdoor spaces as much as possible;
- During P.E. classes outdoors, masks are not required, however indoor P.E. classes require Grades 4 to 8 students to wear a mask; and
- Students will bring their water bottles to P.E. class.



FRENCH IMMERSION

Students enrolled in French Immersion will continue to be provided with instruction according to district guidelines. For French Immersion classrooms who share teachers, 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.



OSSD GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

For those students graduating before February 2021 who have not yet met the literacy graduation requirement, they will be enrolled in the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Course (OSSLC) in the first quadmester. Graduating students will need to meet the 40-hour community involvement graduation requirement. Virtual opportunities to meet this requirement are being sought.

ART, DANCE AND DRAMA CLASSES

Adaptations for Art, Dance and Drama courses will reflect adherence to physical distancing expectations. Use of shared objects will be limited where possible. Students will be encouraged to practice proper hand hygiene before and after use of shared objects or equipment.

The following documents provide additional resources and suggested practices:

- [Drama and Dance: Reopening Schools in Ontario in September 2020](#)
- [A Framework for the return to Music Classes in 2020/2021](#)
- [Visual Arts Media Arts Reimagined: Recommendations for Reopening Schools](#)



CO-OPERATIVE EDUCATION, OYAP AND SHSM

To the extent that work placements are available, all cooperative education (including specialized co-op) and Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP) students will attend work placements. As always, coop teachers conduct site visits and placement assessments to ensure that it is a safe environment, that students are following protocols specific to the site and are in accordance with the Ministry of Education curriculum. Sector-specific training and certification will be provided prior to the work placement for OYAP students. Cooperative education is a key component of the Specialist High Skills Major Program, OYAP and Dual Credit Program.

DUAL CREDIT COURSES

College partners have determined that Semester 1 Dual Credit courses will be delivered virtually. Classes will be held synchronously on Thursdays and Fridays from 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. from October 1/2 to December 17/18.

FAMILY STUDIES

In foods classes students may be involved in preparing food. However, students may not share food with other students.

The use of shared objects in sewing and parenting classes will be limited. Students will be encouraged to practice proper hand hygiene before and after use of shared objects or equipment (i.e. sewing machines). To start the semester Virtual Care babies will not be used.



MUSIC

Most overall expectations from the secondary music curriculum can be met without the use of instruments. As such, semester one instrumental music classes will begin without the use of instruments. The use of instruments will be re-evaluated after the start of the semester at which time students will be assigned one instrument for the quadmester. Vocals classes will be paused until further notice.

Further resources and recommendations can be found on the [Ontario Music Educators' Association \(OMEA\) website here](#).

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

For Health and Physical Education courses, efforts will be made to address the overall expectations of the Active Living and Movement Competence strands. Teachers will plan physical activities that support physical distancing while also limiting the use of shared equipment. Where possible, consideration will be given to holding physical education classes outside. Gymnasiums will be used where physical distancing measures can be followed. Students must wear mask for indoor activities in the gymnasium. Masks are not required for outdoor activities.

Use of shared equipment will be limited. Students will be encouraged to practice proper hand hygiene before and after participating in physical activity and equipment use.

Further resources can be found at [Ontario Physical and Health Education Association \(OPHEA\) website here](#).



SWAC

School Within A College (SWAC) classes are traditionally hosted at Lambton College (Sarnia) and St. Clair College (Chatham). At this time both colleges are starting the Fall semester with virtual course offerings – as such SWAC classrooms will be temporarily relocated until the colleges re-open for face-to-face learning.

TECHNOLOGICAL EDUCATION

Teachers will plan activities that support physical distancing while also limiting the use of shared equipment. Students will be encouraged to practice proper hand hygiene before and after equipment use.

Further resources and recommendations can be found at the [Ontario Council for Technology Education's \(OCTE\) website here](#).





ELEMENTARY

Initially, there will be no extracurricular activities or field trips. We will monitor the situation and make decisions about these activities on a case-by-case basis.

Any large gatherings, such as assemblies, will be cancelled for the foreseeable future.

Only students who are attending in-person, classroom learning can participate in school-based activities, field trips, and gatherings. Class and school cohorts must continue to be maintained to support well-being.

SECONDARY

LKDSB will start the year with no in-person extracurricular activities (sports and clubs). The situation will be monitored, and individual activities may be reviewed on a case-by-case base.

Any field trips that require group transportation will be cancelled until further notice. Local walking class excursions to an outdoor setting may proceed.

School assemblies or other large gatherings (e.g., concerts or dances) are cancelled until further notice. Virtual options should be offered instead of in-person gatherings.

For secondary graduation ceremonies that were postponed from the spring, schools will engage with their school community to determine how to conduct the celebrations in order to meet physical distancing and safety guidelines.



In addition to the plans above, the LKDSB has also prepared comprehensive plans should public health or Ministry of Education require a shift to an Adaptive or Full Learn at Home model.

The Adaptive model limits cohorts of students to 15 in each classroom. This requires students attending alternate days.

Full Learn at Home would be implemented if schools are closed for a short or long term.



A vital required element of the Lambton Kent District School Board's COVID-19 Safety Plan is student self-screening. Please use this checklist to perform daily screening of your child, before your child arrives at school. The list of symptoms below are based on the COVID-19 Reference Document for Symptoms (Version 5.0 – May 25, 2020).

Does your child have any of the following symptoms of COVID-19: (Identify any/all that are not related to seasonal allergies or pre-existing medical conditions)

- Fever
- New onset of cough
- Chills
- Unexplained fatigue
- Headache
- Sore throat
- Runny nose
- Stuffy or congested nose
- Lost sense of taste or smell
- Difficulty breathing
- Difficulty swallowing
- Pink eye
- Digestive issues (nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, stomach pain) or
- For young children; sluggishness or lack of appetite



Students must not come to school if they are experiencing any of these symptoms. Please seek testing and appropriate medical attention. Any students who are ill should not attend school. Students who test positive for COVID-19 should follow the directions of their local public health unit and/or health care providers.

Students who have been exposed to someone with a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19, should follow-up with the child's health care provider, contact Telehealth Ontario (1-866-797-0000), or visit an assessment centre for testing.

Parents/guardians should follow the established procedure for notifying the school administration of the child's absence from school.

Timelines for the individual student or staff member to return to school or work will be under the direction and guidance of the local Public Health authority.



REOPENING OUR SCHOOLS

We look forward to a safe start to the 2020-2021 school year.

Visit the LKDSB website for up-to-date information: www.lkdsb.net

READY, SET, SCHOOL!