Welcome back!

We know that our staff, students and families are busy preparing for the school year. Our excitement about returning is paired with questions, concerns and uncertainty. As always, our goal is to work alongside of our families to provide a safe, healthy, positive environment for learning.

In the following pages we will outline current plans for École Dundonald School’s reopening. Our school plans are based on the Provincial Guidelines and reopening plans outlined in the Saskatoon Public Parent and Caregiver Reopening Handbook. Please refer to the Parent and Caregiver Reopening Handbook for general information on Saskatoon Public Schools reopening plan. The division parent handbook provides detailed information on many important topics including: Safety Precautions; Curriculum and Assessment; Support Services; Food and Nutrition programs; Facilities; Students. The guidelines of the Parent Handbook will be adhered to by our school along with elements specific to our school.

The following information represents an overview of our plan for a safe return to school at École Dundonald. It is our hope that these initial protocols will answer the many questions you may have about school return. As we work with staff, students and families, we will add more details and information to our plan. Watch for an update newsletter next week!

Please note that the plan is subject to change at any time based on direction from Saskatchewan’s Chief Medical Health Officer. Changes will be communicated as they occur.

Our staff is working hard to prepare the school for the safe return of our students. For a quick list of ways you can support us! check out the to do list at the end of this document. We look forward to supporting our families as our students return!

Please feel free to email DundonaldSchool@spsd.sk.ca or call the school at 306 683-7200 with any questions.

Sharon Champ  Principal
Michelle Jarčan  Vice Principal
What’s Happening?

Week of August 24–28: Staff will be calling families who are already registered to welcome you back, answer any questions you may have and to inquire about your registration plans. *This phone contact will replace our typical registration day.*

Wednesday, August 26: Families who are new to EDDS will be invited to come to the school to register between 9:30 –11:30. Please see the information in the next section about protocols for parents entering the building.

Week of August 31–September 4: Staff will confirm registration numbers and create tentative class lists for the first few weeks of school.

September 8-11: Staggered Starts

- Kindergarten children will be notified by their child’s teacher about the staggered start details.
- Grade 1-8 - Each class will be divided in half. Half of the students will attend Tuesday and Thursday. Half the students will attend Wednesday and Friday. Bussing will be in place. Please do not send school supplies.
- These staggered starts will give children and families time to familiarize themselves with the routines and protocols we have established.

Let’s Take Care of One Another

Our return to school will focus on teaching the students the preventive routines necessary for us to work and learn together safely.

Clean hands

- Students will be taught and will practice effective handwashing habits and routines.
- Every time adults and students enter and leave a room they will sanitize their hands.

Masks

- Masks are recommended for our Kindergarten–Gr.3 students.
- Masks are mandatory for all adults and Grades 4-8 students.
- All adults and students in Grades 4-8 will wear masks in the hallways, washrooms, classrooms and other indoor spaces.
- Saskatoon Public Schools will provide one reusable mask for each student. Additional disposable masks will be made available to students when needed and required.
- Students are welcome to bring their own masks.
- In some situations, wearing a mask may not be possible for a student. In these instances, school staff members will work with parents/caregivers to consider accommodations. More information can be found on the [CDC website](https://www.cdc.gov).

Arrivals and Departures

Kindergarten
Mrs. Krivoshen and Mme. Gabruch will be in contact with their families to outline specific plans for Kindergarten arrivals and departures.

Grades 1-8

- Our first bell rings at 9:00 and students are dismissed at 3:30.
- To prevent mixing in larger groups of children, we ask that children are dropped off as close to bell time as possible.
- To limit the number of students who enter through one door, we will use all of our external doors. Classrooms will have designated entry and exit doors.
- Students will meet their teacher outside the building, at an assigned spot near their door at first bell. Children will be walked outside by their teacher to the same spot at the end of the day. Classes will enter and exit one at a time through their assigned doors. *These meeting spots will be communicated to families before their child’s staggered start day.*
- To minimize the number of adults in our building, we ask that families meet at their child’s designated muster spot.
**Recess and Lunch**

Children will use the same set of doors for recess and lunch as they do for arrival and departure. They will exit and enter one class at a time. They will hand sanitize on their way out and on their way in.

- Children will share a designated space on the playground with one other class. These recess teams will rotate between different play spaces on the playground.
- Children will remove their masks before exiting the building.
- To accommodate these groupings we have added an additional recess time in the morning and afternoon.

**Lunch**

We encourage every child who is able to do so to go home for lunch.

To reduce congestion at exits and on the playground, we have divided our 50 minute lunch into two periods.

- Half of our population will have recess first and the other half will eat.
- During the second half of lunch they will switch spots.
- Our new daily schedule is:

  - **First Bell:** 9:00
  - **AM Recess A:** 10:25
  - **AM Recess B:** 10:50-11:05
  - **Lunch:** 11:55-12:45
  - **PM Recess A:** 2:00—2:15
  - **PM Recess B:** 2:25—2:40
  - **Dismissal:** 3:30

**Classrooms**

As stated in the SPS Handbook and Ministry guidelines, physical distancing within the classroom is challenging. We will focus on sanitation, hygiene and limiting physical contact.

- Classroom furniture has been minimized in order to maximize classroom space.
- Arrows will be placed on the floor to encourage safe flow of traffic.
- Students will stay within their own classroom group as much as possible.
- Students will not share learning materials or food.
- Items that are shared (laptops etc.) will be disinfected between use.
- Students will not bring their supplies to school until their teacher communicates their class plan for safe storage of school supplies.
- Staff are currently developing our locker plan
- While we await detailed protocols, students will do their PE outdoors.
- We are currently awaiting details on Music and Band protocols.

**Shared Spaces**

**Hallways and Washrooms**

- We will work to limit unnecessary traffic between different areas of the school.
- Washrooms will be designated for different groups of children.
- To support physical distancing students will follow directional arrows.

**Water Fountains**

- Water fountains have been disabled.
- Water bottle filling stations are available.
- Students should bring a filled water bottle to school each day.

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*Do NOT share*
- electronic devices
- writing instruments
- supplies
- food
Preventing and Responding to Illness

Please see the SPS Handbook on page 5 and 8 for details on preventing and responding to illness.

Thank you for keeping your child at home if they are unwell. Call the office at 306-683-7200 to let us know.

If your child is ill at school we will call to ask that they are picked up immediately. We have a safe isolation space near the office where the child will wait until the parent arrives.

Transportation

Wedge Road is always a busy place for pick ups and drop offs. We ask that families with children in Grade 4-8 drop the older students and any younger siblings on Hunt Road and have them walk across the park to the school. Families with children in Grades K-3 please use the Wedge Road drop off.

Students are encouraged to walk, bike or scooter to school.

Check out our new bike racks securely situated on the junior tarmac.

Our bus providers will be practicing their own safety protocols. All students who ride the bus will be required to wear a mask.

Visitor Access to the School

As stated in the SPS Parent Handbook, Parents/caregivers are encouraged to contact the main office to make an appointment if they need to come to the school. At this point, we request that this occur only if necessary. Thank you for helping us minimize the number of different people who enter our building every day.

To contact the school we ask that you call 306 683 7200.

Once they have been assigned, your classroom teacher will highlight the best way to communicate directly with them.

Guest Entry Protocol

- All confirmed guests will enter through the main doors.
- All visitors who enter our building must use the sanitizer that is mounted to the right of the main door, wear a mask and have filled in a health questionnaire.
- The form can be filled out by using a smartphone to scan the QR code posted at the entry door of the school, which will go directly to the questionnaire site. Paper copies will be available as needed.

Before and After School YMCA

The YMCA is developing protocols that align with the school division expectations. They will communicate their arrival, departure and safety plans with registered families. Contact 306 652 7515 for more information.

Dundonald Preschool

The preschool is working hard to develop the protocols needed for school start. Please call Mrs. Sperling with any questions. 306-382-4490

Family To Do List

There are so many details involved in our return to school. Here are some things you can do to prepare yourself and your family.

- Model calm for your child.
- Stay informed. **We will send a follow email next week.** Watch for updates on our school social media.
- Call the school at 306 683 7200 if your phone number or email address has changed.
- Call the school if you have changed your plans regarding in school or online learning.
- Make a family plan for absences during an illness.
- Make plans for your child to come home for lunch if possible.
- Encourage your child to practice wearing a mask.
- Practice hand washing routines.
- Encourage independence in opening containers, putting on clothing and caring for their own materials.
- Send a filled labeled water bottle every day
- **Wait to send school supplies until you receive confirmation from your child’s teacher.**
- Take a deep breath and remember, our staff is here to support your child, answer your questions and work with you to ensure a safe, healthy, happy return to school.

Staying Connected

Updated versions of our parent handbook and other important information can be found on our Parent Portal or School Website.

As details and changes occur this fall, we will email our families.

Please call the office at 306 693 7200 to let us know if your phone number or email address has changed.

Follow us online for updates!

We know this is a challenging time! Let’s be patient with one another! We will work together as a school community to find our way through our return to school. We will send you new information as soon as we can. Thank you for your patience, your good questions and support in the upcoming days!