



John Dolan School
3144 Arlington Avenue
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Phone: 306-683-7290

2021-2022



Saskatoon Public Schools
Inspiring Learning

Trish Reeve
Superintendent

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JDS Parent Handbook

Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year! We have planned for our students and staff to return for another year focused on student learning amid ongoing safety protocols for all during the COVID-19 pandemic. As always, we value communication and transparency and we will provide you with current and relevant information as it evolves.

This document will be received by you personally as well as be posted to our John Dolan website and staffroom portal. *Please note that this document is subject to change at any time based on direction from Saskatchewan's Chief Medical Health Officer.* These changes will be communicated as they occur.

Please refer to the [Elementary Back-to-School Handbook 2021-2022 \(on the school portal\)](#) for all general information on Saskatoon Public Schools reopening plan. This parent handbook provides detailed information on many important topics including:

- Safety Precautions
- Curriculum and Assessment
- Support Services
- Facilities
- Students

The guidelines of the Elementary Handbook will be adhered to by our school along with elements specific to John Dolan School. The following represents our school specific plan for a safe return to school.

Safety precautions

Parents/caregivers must have a plan in case their child needs to be picked up from school due to illness. Please ensure all contact information is up to date with the school. We will continue to use our isolation room where students will wait with a staff member (wearing PPE) until the student is picked up. Students who become ill at school should be picked up immediately upon being informed by the school. Our isolation room is adjacent to the main office area, close to our nurses' office.

If your child is experiencing cold or flu-like symptoms (fever, cough, headache, aches & pains, sore throat, runny nose, loss of taste or smell, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing), they MUST NOT attend school. Please contact HealthLine 811 for direction. If your child is referred for testing, they must remain home and self-isolate until they have received their results and direction from the health authority. Students may return to school when the child is symptom free.

If your child will not be attending school, please call the front desk (306) 683-7290 to report the absence to our school secretary.

Parents/caregivers who enter the school building will be required to wear a mask and use hand sanitizer upon entering the main doors by the office. Parents/caregivers are encouraged to continue to contact the school main office to make an appointment to visit the school or meet with a teacher.

Mask Usage

We will continue this year to promote and will encourage the development of IIP goals to support the usage of masks for our students who can wear a mask. ***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 if students are not, at this point, able to tolerate mask use.***

Our staff is required to wear masks at all times other than when they are alone on their breaks. When needed or preferred, staff will employ the use of face shield when working closely with a student who requires personal care or supervision in the isolation room.

Scheduled breaks

Programs will spend time on the sensory playground in individually scheduled blocks and gradually move to blocks scheduled with another cohort group. We will continue to sanitize frequently touched surfaces prior to each program group entering.

Student Entry to the School

While there are some reductions of physical distancing protocols, we will continue some best practices to ensure the safety of our students. Students will be met by a staff member outside of the school and will be accompanied to their program classrooms. Staff members will take turns entering a bus and leave with a student prior to another student being greeted by the designated staff member assigned to accompany them. Parents/caregivers driving their student to school, please inform the program teacher and we ask students to wait in the vehicle for a staff member to arrive to meet them.

Storage of student materials

Students outer wear, lunch kits, backpacks and other materials will all be secured in separate spaces assigned specifically to them. As much as possible, individual bins for each student will be available for their school materials to support their programming. These bins will undergo additional cleaning between uses and student materials will be separated from each other. Communication devices assigned to specific students will ONLY be used by the individual and will be cleaned after each use. Program teachers will inform further to the specifics of each classroom about their classroom plan.

Hygiene

Proper hand hygiene is a key element to reducing the spread of illness. Students will be taught to follow proper hand hygiene routines and this activity will be a focus for the development of IIP goals regarding personal health. This will include washing hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and the frequent use of hand sanitizer. Visual instructions for proper hand washing will be displayed beside every sink. Verbal, non-verbal and visual prompts will be incorporated into student routines each day to build independence with these tasks to promote generalization of this skill in other settings. Along with the student's personal hand sanitizer brought from home, there will be hand sanitizer available at entrances and in every classroom space.

Student Grouping

Our goal is to increase interactions between Program groups this year in accordance to the SHA guidelines and the progression of the COVID-19 spread. To begin our year, we will not be planning shared activity time within the same space for extended periods of time. Any shared spaces (e.g. sensory playground, gym, Snoezelen sensory room, swings & bikes) will be scheduled for one program's use at a time with additional time allowed for extra sanitization of surfaces between program groups. We are fortunate, in our building, in that our programs have the use of bathrooms & personal care areas available for their cohort's exclusive use. Additional cleaning/sanitization will be scheduled between each student/staff use.

Student access to water

Students are asked to bring a reusable water bottle filled from home. Water for refills will be available in program classrooms if required.

Itinerant Staff

Itinerant staff who serve the needs of students here at John Dolan School include speech and language pathologist, educational psychologist, hearing impaired and visually impaired teachers, Occupational Therapists, Physical Therapists and Special Education consultants. These individuals must follow the guidelines for visitors to the school. They are required to follow masking and sanitation protocols as well as ensure they are in good health to enter the school and also for contact tracing purposes should that be required.

Transportation

The transportation service company is responsible for sanitizing their vehicles after each run. For those students who can currently wear a mask for transportation, they should do so. However, many of our students cannot wear a mask and will not be required to do so. Drivers, school staff, and parents/caregivers who assist students must wear a mask. At this time, students will be assigned specific spots on the bus which will remain consistent. Caregivers/parents will assist students in sanitizing their hands upon entering the transportation service and must wear a mask when assisting their child as they enter the vehicle.

If parents/caregivers are driving their student to school this year, we ask that they remain in their vehicles with their student(s) until staff can assist students in entering the school building. Upon entering the school with staff, students will again have their hands sanitized as they enter their program setting. At the end of the day, staff will bring the student to the parent/caregiver's vehicle.

SCC Meetings/IIP Conferences

SCC meetings and division-wide SCC assembly meetings will be conducted in-person or virtually. Watch for more information from the school.

IIP meetings will be held virtually, in-person or over the phone. Watch for more information from your Program Teacher.

We are excited to see our students return and be a part of their learning journey again this year!

School Bell schedule

Arrival 8:50 a.m.

Dismissal 2:25 p.m.

Darlene Schultz, Principal
John Dolan School