

## 2020/2021 School Re-Entry – Resource Document

*This document provides information regarding school re-entry policies and procedures for the 2020/2021 school year for Kainai Board of Education, Westwind School Division, Livingstone Range School Division, Lethbridge School Division and Holy Spirit Catholic School Division. All implemented school division re-entry plans will be based on the Alberta Government's School Re-Entry Plans. Currently, all schools in Alberta are to operate under Scenario 1 – (Near Normal Operations), except for reserve schools as they are not mandated to follow the recommendations from the province.*

For the 2020/2021 school year, the Alberta Government has created three scenarios for how ECS-12 schools could operate as part of their re-entry plan.

**Scenario 1:** In-school classes resume (near normal with health measures)

**Scenario 2:** In-school classes partially resume (with additional health measures)

**Scenario 3:** At-home learning continues (in-school classes are suspended/cancelled)

2020/2021 School Re-Entry Plan:

<https://open.alberta.ca/dataset/a3910dd5-d52f-4a7d-821f-a381002419e9/resource/03c07743-31bc-46d1-9c65-b39335c4f3ad/download/edu-2020-2021-school-re-entry-plan-2020-0827.pdf>

K-12 School Re-Entry Plan – Guidance and plans for students to start the 2020/2021 school year:

<https://www.alberta.ca/k-to-12-school-re-entry-2020-21-school-year.aspx>

COVID-19 Information – (Guidance to School Re-Entry – Scenario 1):

<https://open.alberta.ca/dataset/3bc9f561-36aa-4ac8-8e73-afce55227c05/resource/f71d4554-d91b-4c69-82ed-6bd7efc322e8/download/covid-19-guidance-for-school-re-entry-scenario-1.pdf>

COVID-19 Information – (Guidance to School Re-Entry – Scenario 2):

<https://open.alberta.ca/dataset/85be3335-611d-42a3-a607-4f2bd14e7ea8/resource/862308af-d334-431f-bfd3-4e22a8d3f205/download/covid-19-guidance-for-school-re-entry-scenario-2.pdf>

Be advised that each school division and the individual schools within the division have the discretion to add additional policies and procedures to keep students safe above and beyond the province's re-entry plan guidelines. To make sure you know the proper information regarding this information for the school your child(ren) is attending; we suggest for you to contact the school as well as check out their website, including the school divisions website they're a part of, so you're aware of their operational procedures for the 2020/2021 school year.

**Kainai Board of Education:**

KBE School Re-Entry Statement:

[https://kainaied.ca/UserFiles/Servers/Server\\_687160/File/2020-08%20KBE%20Schools%20Re-Entry%202020\\_2021.pdf](https://kainaied.ca/UserFiles/Servers/Server_687160/File/2020-08%20KBE%20Schools%20Re-Entry%202020_2021.pdf)

Kainai Board of Education 2020-21 School Re-entry Plan Handbook:

[https://kainaied.ca/UserFiles/Servers/Server\\_687160/File/2020-08%20KBE%20Re-Entry%20Plan%202020-2021.pdf](https://kainaied.ca/UserFiles/Servers/Server_687160/File/2020-08%20KBE%20Re-Entry%20Plan%202020-2021.pdf)

**Westwind School Division:**

Return to School Plan-Scenario 1: <https://www.westwind.ab.ca/download/292376>

Return to School Guide-Scenario 1: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1shLLWCU695qEFYfDoGYOogPkaeE1ISBtCQX4iLAI8ic/edit>

School Re-Entry FAQ: <https://www.westwind.ab.ca/school-re-entry-2020/frequently-asked-questions>

**Livingstone Range School Division:**

Scenario 1 – School Re-Entry Plan: <https://www.lrsd.ca/download/283070>

School Re-Entry Plan 2020/2021: <https://www.lrsd.ca/download/283115>

Home Education FAQ: <https://www.lrsd.ca/services/lrsd-pursuit/home-education>

**Lethbridge School Division:**

Re-Entry Plan – Scenario 1: <https://www.lethsd.ab.ca/download/295115>

2020/2021 School Re-Entry Plan – Parent Guide: <https://www.lethsd.ab.ca/download/283103>

Questions and Answers – COVID-19: <https://www.lethsd.ab.ca/download/283106>

**Holy Spirit Catholic School Division:**

School Re-Entry: [https://www.holyspirit.ab.ca/division/school\\_re-entry](https://www.holyspirit.ab.ca/division/school_re-entry)

(The website link above will connect you to Holy Spirit Catholic School Division's – School Re-Entry web page. On this web page you'll find other web links that will contain their most updated information for school re-entry for the 2020/2021 school year.)

Listed below are some key information points from each school division, we feel parents need to know in order make the best decision for their child(ren) and family for the 2020/2021 school year.

***Flexible Learning Options***

**Kainai Board of Education**

KBE will be providing an "Out of School Learning" opportunity for students. If parents/guardians choose the "Out of School Learning" option, KBE is requiring that parents/guardians fully register their child with KBE to ensure learning materials will be constructed and distributed in a timely manner. The "Out of School Learning" option will be made available to parents/guardians regardless if they have access to internet or not.

**Westwind School Division**

Westwind School Division will offer flexible learning options for the 2020/2021 school year.

To access flexible learning options, students will register with the Westwind Alternate School (WAS). WAS offers the following options for schooling at home. For more information, please contact the Principal of Westwind Alternate School at [mike.devuyst@westwind.ab.ca](mailto:mike.devuyst@westwind.ab.ca).

- **Option 1 - HOME EDUCATION:** As the parent, you are in charge of this program and will be responsible for providing your child with an education. (Grade 1 - 12) You will be responsible for designing an education program for your child and submitting it to a teacher-facilitator for approval at the beginning of the school year.

- **Option 2 - PERSONALIZED EDUCATION PROGRAM (PEP):** This is a teacher-directed home-based (distance) learning opportunity for students from Grade 1 - 9. It is collaborative as the WAS teacher works very closely with the parent(s) to ensure that the student is receiving a full Alberta education.

- **Option 3 - HIGH SCHOOL OUTREACH:** The Outreach Program is a very flexible Grade 10 - 12 option with a variety of instructional delivery models and a number of different scheduling and attendance opportunities. Outreach provides the ability for students to be enrolled full-time at WAS or to be enrolled full time at their regular high school and take one course or a few courses at WAS. There are Outreach locations at Cardston, Magrath, Raymond and Stirling.

\*Families should understand that schooling through the WAS will differ from the at-home/online learning delivery students experienced in the spring with classroom teachers providing delivery. WWSD teachers in community-based schools will be required to focus all of their time and energy on their school classrooms and will not be required to support students choosing not to attend in-person classes.

Parents can pursue any other educational programs they feel meet their child's needs outside of WWSD.

Parents/students will have until September 21, 2020, to evaluate the education option they have selected to determine whether it is the right decision for their child(ren). Changes to any school enrollment, after September 21, 2020, will need approval, which is at the discretion of the school Principal.

\*If you are considering not having your child(ren) returning to their designated school in the Fall, please [CLICK HERE](#) to complete a survey that will help Westwind plan and better understand your concerns and learning needs. WWSD would like to have all surveys completed by August 25, 2020.

**Livingstone Range School Division**

At home-learning, based on the same curriculum taught at the community-based schools, will be available for students from Grade 1-12 for the 2020/2021 school year.

Students from Grade K-9 will do their at-home learning in a blended format, which comprises on-line teaching sessions, digital assignments and practice work while being supported by a Livingstone Range School Division teacher or teachers depending on the grade level.

High School students will do their at-home learning in a similar structure to in-class learning. Students will attend virtual live sessions to receive instruction from their teacher while completing assignments on-line.

Students can either start the school year in the classroom or do at-home learning and will have the opportunity to change their learning options later on in the school year if they decide.

Students can either change from at-home learning back to in-class instruction or vice versa.

Please remember, due to the risk it poses for the student to fall behind in their studies and the challenges it provides for teachers to support the student's learning, the school division does not want to have students changing back and forth with their learning option throughout the school year.

Chromebook computers will be available for any student who is in need and has chosen to do at-home learning.

## Lethbridge School Division

At-home learning based on the same curriculum taught at community-based schools is available for students from Grade K-12.

However, in order for an educational delivery model to be developed by Lethbridge School Divisions for their 2020/2021 school year, a survey was sent to parents in late July to gain feedback.

The survey was used to determine how many learners would be subscribing to at-home learning and in-school learning.

Please be advised that the new school year staffing/learning model has already been developed based upon the results of the survey, so any students who did not have one completed on their behalf have already been assigned to in-school learning to start the year.

Throughout the school year, students will have the opportunity to switch from at-home learning to in-school learning, or vice versa, at three time periods, which are classified as Pivot Points.

Students are required to decide if they want to change their learning style before the set Pivot Point deadline to allow the school division enough time to restructure teachers and support for students.

If a student decides to change their learning style after the pivot point deadline, they may have to wait until the next pivot point period to get their request facilitated.

The three pivot point periods for the 2020/2021 school year are as follow:

- Pivot Point One: November 10 - last day of the first quarter. Parents will receive notification before the end of October.
- Pivot Point Two: January 29 - last day of the second quarter. Parents will receive notification in the first week of January.
- Pivot Point Three: March 31 - last day of the third quarter. Parents will receive notification in the first week of March.

At-home learning will be available for students and reviewed on an ongoing basis based on pivot points. Any new students arriving in the division will be placed in in-school learning. New students to the division wishing to register at a school will need to contact the school administration they plan on attending. The administrators at the school will determine the availability of at-home learning, should the student request that model.

**Holy Spirit Catholic School Division**

An at-home learning option is available for students between Grade K-12 that will align with the curriculum being taught in class.

Students will work from home in a digital format to complete their education program, which comprises on-line teaching sessions, digital assignments and practice work while being supported by a Holy Spirit teacher or teachers depending on the grade level.

Students will form cohort groups with other students from the same grades from different schools for their at-home learning.

All on-line learning sessions, which are face-to-face with a teacher, are mandatory for students to attend, just like regular schools.

Any on-line sessions missed by the student can be completed later by watching a recorded version of the lesson.

Students who decide to do at-home learning will have the opportunity to return to in-class instruction. If a student chooses to change from at-home learning to classroom instruction must request a change in writing to the school administration at least one month before returning.

At this time, there will be no learning devices supplied to students who choose to do at-home learning. If individual families have concerns, they should connect with their child's school.

For more information about at-home learning with Holy Spirit Catholic School Division:  
[https://www.holyspirit.ab.ca/division/school\\_re-entry/at-home\\_learning](https://www.holyspirit.ab.ca/division/school_re-entry/at-home_learning)

### ***Transportation***

#### **Kainai Board of Education**

All buses will be brought into the Co-op bus bay to be cleaned and sanitized before August 31. Each bus will be equipped with a hand free pump sanitizer for the students to use and each driver will have their own hand sanitizer, which can only be used by the driver.

All students riding the bus will be provided with a face mask before entering the bus. Face masks are mandatory to wear by students between Grade 4-12 who ride the bus and optional for students between Grade K-3.

Blood Reserve School Bus Co-op would like to have parents assess their child(ren) each morning for symptoms of COVID-19, like cough, fever, shortness of breath, runny nose, or sore throat before sending them on the bus.

Students are not allowed to consume any food or drinks while on the bus for safety reasons.

A designated seating plan will be made and assigned to students riding the bus, and students from the same household will be made to sit together up to three, pending on space. If possible, one student will be assigned per seat on the bus.

The bus's loading procedure will be back to front and unloading will be front to back to minimize the physical interaction amongst students riding the bus. All Bus Drivers will be required to wear a face mask. Drivers will also be provided with a face shield to wear during stops when assisting students on the bus.

The assistant and or bus driver will clean and sanitize after students exit the bus to prepare for their next trip.

All Drivers will attend COVID-19 Safety Training before driving the bus by Health Officials from Blood Tribe Department of Health. All Drivers and Assistants will be required to get tested for COVID-19 prior to the first day of driving. If an individual has tested positive in the past and has successfully surpassed the isolation period, a letter from the Blood Tribe Department of Health will be required.

#### **Westwind School Division**

Bus service will only be available for students who live further than 2.4 km away from the school. Any student who lives within 2.4 km away from the school will need to find alternate transportation to get to school.

Face masks are mandatory to wear by students between Grade 4-12 who ride the bus and optional for students between Grade K-3.

	<p>A designated seating plan will be made and assigned to students riding the bus, and students from the same family will be made to sit together. The bus's loading procedure will be back to front and unloading will be front to back to minimize the physical interaction amongst students riding the bus.</p> <p>The bus driver will clean and sanitize the bus after students exit the bus to prepare for their next trip.</p>
<b>Livingstone Range School Division</b>	<p>There have been no changes to the operational routes for Livingstone Range School Division buses other than the COVID-19 protocols that have been put in place.</p> <p>Face masks are mandatory to wear by students between Grade 4-12 who ride the bus and optional for students between Grade K-3.</p> <p>A designated seating plan will be made and assigned to students riding the bus, and students from the same family will be made to sit together. The bus's loading procedure will be back to front and unloading will be front to back to minimize the physical interaction amongst students riding the bus.</p> <p>The bus driver will clean and sanitize the bus after students exit the bus to prepare for their next trip.</p>
<b>Lethbridge School Division</b>	<p>All student who uses city transit will be required to wear face masks due to the City of Lethbridge's new bylaws regarding face coverings.</p>
<b>Holy Spirit Catholic School Division</b>	<p>Any Holy Spirit Catholic School Division, schools located in Lethbridge, will utilize the city transit, which requires the wearing of face masks for all students due to the City of Lethbridge's new bylaws regarding face coverings.</p> <p>To help ensure the safety of the driver and students, bus service used for schools located outside of the City of Lethbridge will only be available for students who live further than 2.4 km away from the school. Any student who lives within 2.4 km radius from the school will need to find alternate transportation.</p> <p>Face masks are mandatory to wear by students in Grade 4-12 who ride the bus and optional for students in Grade K-3.</p> <p>A designated seating plan will be made and assigned to students riding the bus, and students from the same family will be made to sit together. The bus's loading procedure will be back to front and unloading will be front to back to minimize the physical interaction amongst students riding the bus. The bus driver will clean and sanitize the bus after students exit the bus to prepare for their next trip.</p>



### **Additional Notes:**

***(The information written below comes from various resources, which include the Alberta Government's School Re-Entry Plans, multiple School Division Re-Entry Plans, Announcement from Dr. Deena Hinshaw and the City of Lethbridge's Face Mask Bylaw.)***

- Temperature checks will not be conducted on anyone entering a school. Temperature checks will only be used on students and staff who feel ill while at school to determine if they need to self-isolate and be sent home.
- Students will need to bring their own school supplies as the sharing of items will not be permitted. (Teacher's & Principals will work with individual families who experience difficulty with purchasing necessary supplies.)
- The delivery of education for students could change from the different Scenarios made by the Alberta Government throughout the year, depending on COVID-19, so be prepared to help your child learn at home if this happens.
- Students who feel ill, while at school or while riding the bus will be self-isolated in a room at the school with a supervisor present, who will check to see if the student is showing any symptoms of COVID-19. Parents or Guardians will then be notified and will be required to pick up their child immediately. To make sure a student has the means to be picked up if they are feeling ill, schools require parents to provide alternative contact.
- Schools will be dedicating time to teaching students safe practices at school, including cleaning protocols of shared equipment, physical distancing, traffic flow in the hallways, hand washing or sanitization, etc.
- Face masks will be made mandatory for school staff and students between Grade 4-12 to wear in classrooms, hallways and buses. For students who are in Grade K-3, face masks will be optional to wear. Exemptions will be allowed for students and school staff who can't wear masks due to health conditions.
- Water fountains may be closed at some schools except for water refilling stations, so its recommended to have your child(ren) bring a water bottle, so they have drinking water while at school.
- Some schools may implement a staggered arrival and departure schedule to reduce the number of students entering and leaving the building at once, so check the specific school they are attending to find out what practice they will use.

- Classes involving food preparation may occur as long as students don't share food with students or stay outside the cohort.
- Different schools will have different practices for how they will administer shared equipment, like computers used for their classes. For example, students could be responsible for disinfecting the equipment they use, or schools might dedicate a piece of equipment to a student for a period of time to minimize the amount of contact on that piece of equipment.
- Microwaves will be in operation at schools. However, there may be different procedures in how they are used at different schools.
- All schools will encourage no overcrowding of students in washrooms at one-time, while some schools might define a set number regarding the number of students allowed inside the washroom.
- Lunchtime could be set at staggered times at schools, so check the school your child(ren) is attending to determine their practice.
- Recess breaks will still be allowed at all schools. To reduce intermingling amongst students, individual cohort groups will take their recess break at separate times. Please remember students in Grade K-3 will not have to wear face masks during recess breaks as its not mandatory for them to do so based on the province's school re-entry plan.
- Some schools may use staggered times for ending classes to minimize the amount of foot traffic in the hallway. Some schools may even set traffic flow parameters as well.
- Students and staff will be required to frequently hand wash throughout the school day. For example: before and after they enter the school, the classroom and other times during the day depending on the activity they are doing. Hand sanitization dispensers will be located at school entrance/exits, classroom entrance/exits and near high touch equipment like microwaves.
- Cleaning and disinfecting of the school will be done at least two to three times per day or more.
- Depending on the size of classrooms and the number of students, desks are to be arranged to have six feet of distance between them. If the six feet spacing is not possible, desks will be placed in a fashion to create the maximum distance of space between them. Also, desks will be set so students will not be sitting face-to-face with each other, but rather in rows.

- For cohort groups, which consist of a mixture of Grade 3-4 students, face masks will be required to be worn by both parties.
- Field trips that require travel are not permitted at this time.
- Schools have the flexibility to offer extra-curricular activities and school team practices.
- Assemblies may still operate at schools if they can facilitate them while ensuring physical distancing.
- Lockers may not be used in some schools due to physical distancing between them.
- Physical education will still operate this school year. Schools will try to play activities outdoors as much as possible since that is a safer environment. Schools will try to play activities that allow for more physical distance amongst students with minimized contact and sports equipment that is needed will be disinfected after each use.
- Hot meal programs may be shut down at schools due to rules involving food from AHS guidelines, so check the school your child(ren) is attending to find out what they will be doing regarding this service. However, school cafeterias will continue to operate to provide lunches as long as they follow AHS guidelines.
- School libraries will continue to operate as long as they follow AHS Guidance for Libraries. Any returned item to the library will be stored for 72 hours before being put back in use. Hand sanitizer will be available, and seating within the library will be arranged to enable physically distancing.
- Music classes will be allowed to operate under certain conditions. In-person singing, cheering, or the playing of wind instruments should be postponed. Other alternatives are encouraged instead, like recording or live streaming individual performers; lessons focused on music appreciation or theory and the playing of low-risk instruments (ex: percussion or string instruments). Music items used are to be disinfected after each use, and classrooms are to be arranged to allow for physical distancing.
- *To help keep everyone inside schools safe from COVID-19, a daily self-screening questionnaire must be reviewed each day to determine if a student or school staff member is ok to enter the building. Visitors who wish to enter a school must also review a self-screening questionnaire to determine if they are safe to proceed into the school as well.*  
<https://www.alberta.ca/assets/documents/edc-covid-19-screening-questionnaire-english.pdf>

- **Remember, the City of Lethbridge's new Temporary Mandatory Face Covering Bylaw has some exemptions to the wearing of face coverings in some facilities, which includes schools. Due to this, the Lethbridge School Division and Holy Spirit Catholic School Division have decided to continue to follow the guidelines set by the Alberta Government's Guidance for School Re-Entry - Scenario 1. Students from Grade 4-12 will still be required to wear face masks, while it will be optional for students in Grade K-3.**  
<https://www.lethbridge.ca/City-Government/Bylaws/Pages/Face-Covering-Bylaw.aspx>

\*On Friday, August 21, Chief Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Deena Hinshaw, announced the response plan for how schools should react if there is a COVID-19 outbreak. Dr. Hinshaw says that if there are more than two cases of COVID-19 linked to each other that are confirmed within 14 days, outbreak protocols are to be implemented in Alberta schools.

After one case is confirmed, an "alert status" will be triggered. The school will be required to work with Alberta Health Services to do contact tracing, while also informing parents and guardians with a message about the situation.

Now, if two confirmed cases are reported within 14 days of each other or are "epidemiologically linked," a letter will be sent to parents, followed by a decision made by the government in collaboration with public health officials about whether to go online or close the school. If there are five or more cases reported at a school, the outbreak is to be publicly reported. When an outbreak is declared over, Alberta Health Services will inform the school administration.

Last, during the school year, regardless of COVID-19 test results, if an absence rate exceeds 10 per cent or more in a school, schools need to report this information with AHS, so they are alerted "to potential outbreaks of other diseases."

**\*Please be advised that schools may delay their previously stated first day of school in order to prepare for students and make sure all safety measures are put in place.**

**\*This document's creation was for the intended purpose to be used as a resource to help guide and link Blood Tribe parents/guardians to the information they may need to prepare for the 2020/2021 school year. If you have any questions about the information you read on this document, please contact the school or school division your child(ren) is attending to get answers to your concerns, not Blood Tribe Administration.**