



## Frequently Asked Questions 3

August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020

Our BTPS Re-Entry Plan is found on our website. This Re-Entry plan has additional information about school start up. The responses are based on guidance from Alberta Education and the Chief Medical Office.

	Question	Response
1.	How can I help prepare my student for coming back to school?	<p>Since coming into schools will look a little different, it would be great if parents/guardians would discuss these items at home before school starts up:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At school students will:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need to fill out the <a href="#">COVID-19 screening checklist</a> every day at home</li> <li>• sanitize their hands when they come into the school</li> <li>• sanitize their hands when they come into each classroom and leave each classroom</li> <li>• Not share food</li> <li>• Wear masks if they are in Grades 4-12 in entrances, common areas and when physical distancing of 2 m is not possible</li> <li>• Cough or sneeze into their elbow</li> <li>• Tell their parent/guardian before school if they are unwell</li> <li>• Tell their teacher at school if they become ill</li> <li>• Need to know alternatives for hugging, shaking hands, etc</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>There are resources at Alberta Educations website: <a href="#">Alberta Education’s School Re-entry Toolkit and Resources</a></p>
2.	How are we addressing student learning?	<p>With classroom instruction resuming, teachers will be developing instructional learning to meet student needs. Teachers have further developed their digital learning skills and with tools including Hapara and Google Classroom. Teachers are familiar with multiple methods of learning to engage students.</p>

*Buffalo Trail Public Schools is committed to maximizing student learning, in a safe and caring environment, supported by a highly effective team.*

		As well, some students may choose to receive alternative learning options from our Students Online School and families are able to discuss this with their principal to ensure it meets their student's needs.
3.	What if my child becomes ill before school, should I send them to school?	<p>If students or staff are ill with any common cold, influenza or COVID-19-like symptoms they must contact 8-1-1 for guidance or complete the <a href="#">COVID-19 Self Assessment Tool</a> to determine if testing is required.</p> <p>Students and employees must stay home until they have been assessed by a health care provider to exclude COVID-19 or other infectious diseases AND their symptoms have resolved.</p>
4.	What happens when a student becomes ill at school?	<p>BTPS Re-Entry Plan includes a detailed procedure which is in place to ensure the safety of all students and staff if this should happen.</p> <p>Students exhibiting signs of illness will be moved to a supervised, designated infirmary in the school. Parents/guardians or the emergency contact will be called for student pick up within the hour. It is extremely important that the emergency contact is updated with the school in case this should occur.</p>
5.	Is there a BTPS Visitor Screening Checklist?	<p>Yes. It is on the sign that is in the entrance door to every BTPS building.</p> <p>All visitors to that school must fill in the APP prior to entering.</p>
6.	What do parents do if their children have seasonal allergies?	<p>Parents are asked to have their child tested for COVID 19 as soon as their allergy symptoms start. They are not to attend school until they have their results. A copy of the results will be given to the school and used as a baseline for that student. If they are allergy free for a time but recur again at a later time, they will need to be retested.</p>
7.	What are the exemptions to the mask mandate?	<p>We are required as per the Alberta Education mandate to have Grades 4-12 students and all staff wear masks (as per Re-Entry Plan). If staff or students wish to have an exemption, we would require medical documentation to support that request. If we have an exemption request based on a religious conviction, we would need to assess that information. When exemption requests come in, we need to determine how to accommodate the needs of the student.</p>
8.	If a teacher is self-isolating because they are sick or because they are showing symptoms of COVID-19 such as a runny nose or cough, can they teach from home with technology rather than bringing in a sub? Even though this isn't mandatory, can a teacher choose to do so if they want?	<p>All staff will need to communicate with their supervisors if they are required to self isolate as they await the results of COVID testing and for the symptoms to subside. These days will be recorded as sick days unless a replacement is not needed and a staff member is not ill and is able to perform their duties from home with the approval of their supervisor.</p>

		It would be expected that a substitute would be called when a teacher is absent, unless alternate arrangements had been made with the school administration to ensure student learning and safety were adhered to.
9.	In regards to the following statement, “At this time, K-9 must have their parents/guardians request permission to leave the school during lunch...”, what is the meaning of the word school? Does it mean the building, or does it mean the property?	Schools need to work through a process for student exits at lunch. If students are leaving the school property, we are asking that parents give permission to ensure that during re-entry, they are comfortable and are aware of this.
10.	“If students wish to wear other masks they need to be approved by the school administration.” - Is there a link similar to the hand sanitizer link?	There is information on how to buy or make a mask here. We wanted to give schools the autonomy of approving their own as it may be similar to a dress code.