



ABERDEEN HALL

Preparatory School

Teaching Excellence INSPIRING FUTURES Shaping Character

Frequently Asked Questions

The AH Safe Return to Campus Plan Preschool Information

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- 1) What will my child's daily schedule be during a time of limited contact?

Attending On-campus Schooling

1) We know schools are opening, what's happening with child care?

[Interior Health](#) has announced that beginning September, 2020, child care centres will go back to their pre-pandemic enrolment.

2) What do I need to do before I bring my child to school to ensure we safeguard the school community?

Health Screening Requirements:

You are REQUIRED to assess your child's health *daily* for symptoms of common cold, influenza, COVID-19, or other infectious respiratory disease.

Additionally, PRIOR to the first day of school, you will be asked to complete a permission form indicating that you understand the daily requirements to assess your child's health according to the "Daily Health Check Example" that will be attached to the permission form.

All students and employees who:

- have symptoms of common cold, influenza, COVID-19 or other infectious respiratory diseases, OR
- have travelled outside Canada in the last 14 days, OR
- were identified as a close contact of a confirmed case or outbreak

must stay home, seek assessment from a healthcare provider and self-isolate as they await results. Once results and guidance from a health care provider are received (indicating it is safe to return to school), and symptoms have resolved for 24 hours, the student or employee may return to school.

This includes children of essential service workers.

Furthermore, students and employees who experience seasonal allergies or COVID-19 -like symptoms, which are related to an existing condition can continue to attend school when they are experiencing these symptoms as normal. If they experience any change in symptoms, they should seek assessment by a health care provider.

Students and employees may attend school if a member of their household has cold, influenza or COVID-19 like symptoms, provided they are asymptomatic. It is expected the symptomatic household member is seeking assessment by a health care provider

Educating Your Children:

Please explain to your child/ren before they arrive at school that to ensure their safety and well being there have been a number of new policies put in place. Educating about safe space and limited contact can be done with interactive and age-appropriate videos. The Early Learning Team created a video (that will be available September 2nd) to teach preschoolers how to greet someone without touching, how to move around the school and how to safely interact with peers. Please also review the importance of handwashing and social distancing.

When necessary, please be sure to send your child to school with sunscreen applied to all visible skin as we plan to enjoy the outdoors as much as possible.

Health and Safety

Please be aware that childcare programs, such as ours, are governed by the Interior Health Authority. See Interior Health's [Child Care Health and Safety](#) for up to date information.

1) How will physical distancing and limited contact be managed?

In each preschool classroom, tables and playspaces will be configured to promote personal space. Each student will have their own "pod" including their own table, Montessori materials, art supplies, manipulatives and daycare supplies. Learning groups consist of a maximum cohort of **30 students**. Students will remain in the same learning groups for Preschool, Daycare and After School Care.

Behaviour Education

Teachers act as guides and role models during these unusual times. Students will be educated on and reminded of physical distancing practices and limited contact practices, including but not limited to:

- refraining from greetings such as handshakes and hugs
- younger students should be supported to have minimized physical contact with one another, while older students and adults should seek to maintain a safe physical distance whenever possible.
- songs, and consistent language around positive hygiene and limited contact habits will be used by all educators.

People Movement

Movement of groups of students around and between buildings and other campus locations will be minimized and managed by a teacher.

Directional indicators managing the flow of people will be placed on entrances and exits, and floors and walls around each building.

Access to Campus

Only Aberdeen Hall employees, students, and approved visitors will be allowed in the school. Visitors will be prioritized to those supporting activities that benefit student learning and well-being. Visitors will be made aware of health and safety protocols and requirements prior to entering the school and their contact information will be taken, including the requirement that visitors wear masks when entering any building.

This means that in Stage 2 schooling, parents may not enter schools unless they have made an appointment. Supplies drop offs (lunches, instruments, etc.) during the day should be arranged by calling Reception.

2) What is the safest way to drop off and pick up my child?

One member of each family must accompany their child(ren) to the ELC and wait on the red exterior social distancing lines provided, a teacher will welcome each student into the building during their specific time slot (see chart below). Students are asked to use the ELC's exterior handwashing station prior to entering the ELC. Please be aware the ELC has one-way traffic, therefore, pick-up and drop-off doors will be located on either side of the ELC.

Students must be able to enter the building on their own. There will be a staff member present at the entrance/exit to greet and guide them through the entry protocol.

NOTE that these drop-off and pick-up times will start on September 8 and remain throughout the entire school year. If you have a student with siblings in the Junior or Senior School, you should still drop all of them off at 8:15-8:30am regardless of your last name.

Drop-off & Pick-up Times	Cohort	Location
Drop-off: 8:00am - 8:15am	Aberdeen Hall's Staff Students	ELC Upper Entrance Nearest to Dome
Drop-off: 8:15am - 8:30am	Students with Siblings in Junior or Senior School (regardless of last name)	ELC Upper Entrance Nearest to Dome
Drop-off: 8:30am - 8:45am	Remaining Students	ELC Upper Entrance Nearest to Dome
Pick-up: 11:30 - 11:45pm	Half-day Students	ELC Upper Exit Nearest to Sports Field
Pick-up: 3:30-3:45pm	Full-day Students	ELC Entrance Nearest to Sports Field
Pick-up: 3:30 - 5:00pm	ASC	ELC Lower Entrance
<p>We will not be able to accommodate late arrivals or early dismissals, nor can we accommodate changes in a student's drop-off or pick-up schedule. We are counting on the support of parents to ensure their children are dropped off and picked up daily on time. The school buildings will be closed daily after pick-up.</p> <p>If a child has an appointment that is scheduled during school hours please contact the Preschool Director, tiffani.weaver@aberdeenhall.com to arrange pick-up time.</p>		

3) What personal hygiene measures will be in place for students and employees?

Hand washing will take place for both students and employees:

- after entering and before departing the school buildings
- before and after snacks and meals
- before and after outdoor play
- after using the washroom
- after using a tissue
- after coughing or sneezing
- when hands are visibly dirty
- at least once per two hours, managed by teachers

Additionally, teachers will wash their hands:

- before and after applying any First Aid to students or self
- after contact with bodily fluids (runny noses, spit, vomit, blood)
- after cleaning tasks
- after handling garbage

- after removing gloves

4) How will the school clean the rooms to ensure the environment is safe?

Cleaning Standards & Routines

Thorough cleaning and disinfecting has been undertaken of every classroom, hallway, and all common spaces in all buildings.

Signage has been placed around the school reminding students and employees of enhanced cleaning and hygiene standards and how to follow them.

During the school day, teachers will assist with the cleaning routines inside their classroom, in addition to the enhanced cleanings provided by custodians. These may include:

- Cleaning tabletops and chairs before and after snacks and lunch
- Refraining from the use of shared equipment and toys such as art supplies, Montessori equipment and toys unless it is designated for one
- All material and equipment is sanitized before being transferred to a different child's work station/ "pod"

Furthermore, the facilities department sanitizes high-touch areas of the ELC such as bathrooms, doorknobs and hallways each day on a regular basis.

Enhanced cleaning standards will meet or exceed the requirements of Worksafe BC and the guidelines for school settings put forth by the Ministry of Health, which is twice per day and when visibly dirty for cleaning and disinfecting highly touched surfaces and once per day for general cleaning and disinfecting.

5) What can my child bring to school?

For Preschool

Personal belongings other than a backpack, jacket, runners, water bottle, lunch kit and small blanket may NOT be brought to school. Cutlery will not be provided, please send all-inclusive snacks. Please do not send anything else to school with your child unless it is specifically requested by their homeroom teacher.

In the Preschool classrooms, cubbies will be used for everyday items and to store extra clothing and a small blanket. A cubby will be reassigned for students to extra clothing.

Show and Tell will be cancelled until further notice.

No personal toys of any kind will be allowed in school (stuffedies, storybooks etc).

Students are asked to wear the school uniform as per the [Preschool Parent Handbook](#).

6) How will snacks, lunch and daily breaks be handled?

There will be no food service provided at the school. At drop-off, parents must provide students with all food required for the day. All snacks and lunches will be eaten in the classrooms. No sharing of food is permitted.

Students will be brought outdoors during designated breaks and will be supervised by their homeroom teacher or specialist teacher. During the designated breaks, students will convene for gross motor time either with their homeroom class or learning group cohort only. The use of the play structures is permitted.

Teachers and students are required to wash their hands upon re-entry to the ELC.

7) What about Personal Protective Equipment?

Employees will be provided masks to wear, should they choose to do so, per WorkSafeBC guidelines. Students will not be required to wear masks and gloves, but may do so if their parents wish and send them to school.

8) How will the campus, including the classrooms, look different?

The campus and building hallways have been signed with directional indicators managing the flow of people to help ensure physical distancing when walking through the ELC. Entrance and exit signs have been put on all external doors.

Furniture and material in classrooms have been greatly reduced. The number of handwashing sinks have been increased and porta-potties for parent use have been installed on campus.

Students will be provided with a desk, chair and basket of materials including books, art supplies and manipulatives. Additionally, within each student's "pod" or workspace they will have individual access to developmentally appropriate Montessori materials.

9) How will you deal with onset of illness during the school day?

If anyone on campus develops any infectious symptoms, respiratory or otherwise, Aberdeen Hall will complete the following steps, as directed by the BC Ministry of Health and BC Centre for Disease Control. Updates to this process will match Ministry updates:

- 1) Person will immediately be isolated in the designated room for their building until they leave the school
- 2) Parent or emergency contact will be contacted immediately and pick-up arranged
- 3) Custodians will be contacted to immediately clean and disinfect any areas used by the ill person (e.g., classroom, bathroom, common areas)
- 4) Where possible, 2 metres of distance will be maintained from the ill person

- 5) People will be given a mask and tissues to cover their coughs or sneezes. Used tissues will be thrown away as soon as possible and hand hygiene will be performed as much as possible by both ill person and designated staff member
- 6) If it is a child, they will be supervised by a designated staff member who will be wearing appropriate protective equipment (mask, eye protection and gloves) or will use a tissue to cover their nose and mouth. The designated staff member will avoid touching the ill person's body fluids (e.g., mucous, saliva) and diligent hand hygiene will be practiced regardless of whether contact is made with fluids or not
- 7) The door to the designated isolation room will remain closed as much as possible to prevent excess air contamination
- 8) Once the ill person has left the designated isolation room, the room will be closed off for 2 hours to allow coughed droplets to settle, at which time it will be cleaned and disinfected by a custodian
- 9) Employee will complete a medical incident report on MySchool and inform the Division Leader
- 10) Division Leaders will be responsible for ensuring that Interior Health (or 811) is notified and for tracking those who go home with symptoms to ensure they are assessed by their family physician or nurse practitioner

Parents or caregivers must keep their child at home until they have been assessed by a health care provider to exclude COVID-19 or other infectious diseases, AND for 24 hours after their symptoms have resolved.

Any student or employee who has, or a member of their household has, a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19 must notify the school immediately so that we can follow Interior Health's protocols for notifying our community.

Learning Formats and Scheduling

1) What will my child's daily schedule be during a time of limited contact?

During the Preschool program we will continue to provide a modified Montessori environment that is age-appropriate to all students. Each day will be carefully planned to ensure students have what they need for their lessons in their section of the classroom to encourage limited contact and independence.

Specialist classes will continue to take place within each homeroom class and outdoors. Students will be grouped with either their homeroom class or learning group, and at this stage, we will no longer gather large groups for specialist classes or special events.

Masks will be worn and/or physical distance will be maintained by the specialist teacher(s).

Daycare will continue to be an opportunity for artistic expression and social interaction through nature exploration, imagination station, crafts and more, carefully planned around limited contact.

Recharge time will remain the same, with additional space between cots, and individual nap baskets.

End-of Day Care will take place in the Kindergarten rooms where children will take part in activities and games that observe limited contact such as charades, colouring, individual toy baskets, dancing, song and circle tims.