

Covid Updates

SKILLS Administration assures you that our top priority is to provide students with the best learning experience in a safe and secure environment. In this regard, we are working closely with health partners to help preserve the health and well-being of students.

1. Appropriate hand hygiene is one of the most important protective strategies. The school will train students on appropriate hand hygiene, including the use of alcohol-based hand rub, and will reinforce its use.
2. This will involve scheduling breaks to allow students to wash their hands at appropriate times during the school day.
3. All classrooms will have sanitizing wipes, hand sanitizer and covered bins to maintain proper hygiene.
4. High-contact surfaces such as light switches, handrails, doorknobs, toilet seats etc. will be cleaned and disinfected every hour.
5. Toilets will be cleaned and disinfected every hour.
6. A doctor will be present in all divisions on the premises.
7. Quarantine room will be available for students or staff members who experience a sudden onset of COVID-19 symptoms.

Breaks:

- SKILLS boasts of having a large campus, and by staggering break times, interaction between students would be greatly minimized.
- Students are encouraged to bring their own packaged food from home because confine facilities will be extremely limited

Face Masks/Face Shields:

Students

- Students are encouraged to practice wearing masks and learn what type of mask is most comfortable for them. Reasonable exceptions on the requirement to wear masks will apply (students with sensory or breathing difficulties may be exempted by the School Principal guided by School Board policies).
- All students from KG 1 till G 1 are to wear a face shield on the bus and on campus.
- All students from G2 till G 12 are to wear a face mask on the bus and on campus.

- Students will be expected to bring their own personal items to school including hand sanitizer, writing equipment and face masks/ face shields to wear in school according to the latest and safest health advice. Children will not be allowed to share equipment with each other.

Teachers and staff

- All school based staff will be required to wear masks, with reasonable exceptions for medical conditions.
- School-based staff who are regularly in close contact with students will be provided with all appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE).
- Any student or member of staff who fails to comply with safety regulations will be subject to sanctions. Further details will be provided as additions to our current staff and student codes of conduct.

Transportation:

Buses:

- I. All bus students and adults will be temperature checked and have their hand spray-sanitized by the bus matron BEFORE they get on the bus.
2. Medical masks and eye protection (i.e. face shields) will be provided for school bus drivers and school bus monitors. Eye protection for drivers will not interfere with the safe operation of vehicles and is intended to protect drivers during close contact with students, such as during boarding and exiting.
3. The school will increase disinfecting protocols for frequently touched surfaces (for example, handrails and setbacks) to at least twice daily. Alcohol-based hand sanitizer will be available on vehicles.
4. EVERYONE on the bus MUST wear masks or face shields.
5. If you don't have a mask or face shield, you can't get on the bus.

Isolation of students suspected of having COVID-19:

If a student is suspected of having Covid 19, the School will:

1. Establish a protocol for identification and communication of suspected/confirmed cases to administration and relevant staff to determine contaminated areas and carry out cleaning and disinfection.

2. Identify areas that may require cleaning plus disinfection (items used by the individual and all surfaces within 2 meters of the ill person) versus cleaning alone (such as a hallway or room where the individual has passed through).
3. Use disposable cleaning equipment, such as disposable wipes, when possible.
4. Remove all items that cannot be cleaned (paper, books, etc.) and store them in a sealed container for a minimum of 7 days.
5. He/She will immediately be moved to the Quarantine Room, where He/She will be monitored by a Doctor.
6. You will be contacted immediately to retrieve your child from the school.
7. The school shall not administer any medicines to your child.
8. If your child tests positive for COVID-19, you are mandated to inform the school so that it can take measures to secure the health of other students and staff who may have been exposed to the virus.

How to support your children with their return to school:

- Let them know that it's natural to feel anxious or nervous about returning back to school.
- Be honest about the changes they will see at school, such as the need to wear masks, and the inability to be close to their friends and teachers.
- Highlight the positive aspects of returning to school such as being able to meet their friends and learn new things.

What is expected of parents:

- Buy a reliable digital thermometer to read your child's temperature. We encourage all parents to take their child's temperature before leaving home daily and any temperature above 37.5 will require your child to stay home.
- It is your responsibility to inform us if your child is infected/suspected infection.
- If your child is symptomatic for COVID-19, we require you to keep him/her at home test immediately and present us with negative test results.
- Your child will remain at home and work online whilst the test result is pending and for 14 days if the test is positive. If negative, your child may resume classes immediately upon providing documentation.

- DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL if you suspect he/she or any household member, is infected with Covid-19.
- Inform the school if your child has undergone bereavement or loss due to the pandemic.
- Inform the school your child's updated medical records.
- Inform the school whether you wish to use the bus service or not.
- Inform the school of any behavioral/mood changes that your child experienced during the closure of the school