



**DALKEITH ELEMENTARY**

7951 Dalkeith Avenue  
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Dear Parents and Guardians,

On behalf of our entire staff at Dalkeith Elementary, we are happy to welcome you to the 2020-2021 academic school year. The health and safety of our whole school extended family is always a priority. This is a shared responsibility between the school and the home. We thank you for your continued support and diligence. We have full confidence in the dedication of our teachers and staff and look forward to a successful opening.

All EMSB schools are reopening for Grades 1-6 on August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020.

In order to allow for social distancing, we are changing a few procedures. Some of these changes are specifically for the first day of school only. Others will be implemented on an ongoing basis (ex. Directional staircases, Recess Zones and internal time changes etc).

As such, please read the following carefully and I apologize for its length.

In keeping with the guidelines from Santé Publique and the MEES, masks are **REQUIRED** upon entry to the school for all adults as well as all students in Grades 5 and 6. Should you choose to have your child(ren) in the lower grades (1 through 4) wear a mask, the school would support you in this (even recommend).

N.B. This year exceptionally, parents are permitted in the building by appointment only.

**DAY 1 GRADES 1 – 6 staggered entry procedure**

	Entry Time	Entry
Daycare	7:00 am - 9:00 am	Daycare Door (Far Goncourt Door)
Bussed Students	9:00 am	Dalkeith Door (Horseshoe Drive)
Walkers (not bussed or daycare)	9:30 am - 9:45 am	From Back School Yard
Pre-K, Kdg and Closed Classes	By Appointment	

**For Daycare Students:** For day one and until further notice, the ONLY ENTRANCE FOR DAYCARE WILL BE THE FAR DOOR ON GONCOURT. Remember, goodbyes should be said outside before the students enter the building.

**If you are sending your child in on the bus on Day One:** All students in grades 5 and 6 are expected to wear a mask before they get on the bus. Again, should you choose to have your younger child(ren) wear a mask, we would support, even encourage that practice. Students get on the bus at their assigned stop and we will help them disembark (staggered by level) once the busses arrive to school at their regular time of 9:00

**Walkers (If you are bringing your child(ren) in on Day One):** Entry will be FROM THE BACK SCHOOLYARD between 9:30 and 9:45 (30-45 min AFTER the busses). You can wait with your child in the schoolyard for our first day back. N.B. this is for "Day 1" ONLY. Afterwards, walker entry will be from the main Goncourt Door at 9:00am and you must wait with your child OUTSIDE until that time.

**For Pre-K, Kindergarten and our Closed Classrooms:** You will be getting a phone call directly from your child's teacher on either Tuesday, August 25<sup>th</sup> or Wednesday, August 26<sup>th</sup> to explain their first day procedures. If you have not been contacted by August 26<sup>th</sup>, we ask you contact the school to ensure that we have your correct contact information. Your child's progressive entry will be scheduled by appointment over three days (either the 31<sup>st</sup>, 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup>) and classes for them will begin on September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020.

The health and safety of our students, staff, and parents is our priority. We ask that you monitor your children for symptoms and contact us if your child is feeling sick.

In accordance with the Ministry of Education, all students in cycle 3 (grade 5-6) and in high school are required to wear a face mask in corridors and common areas. Hand washing measures for all students and staff will be implemented throughout the day, and our caretakers will be cleaning and disinfecting the school. Emergency kits are available to be used in response to a suspected case of COVID-19.

There are several ways you can help us have a successful return to school, please speak to your children about the following golden rules:

- Wash your hands
- Respect social distancing
- Follow directional arrows and signs
- For students in grades 5&6 wear a mask at the appropriate times

Even with all the changes and uncertainty, there will be no shortage of opportunities for students to be challenged with high quality instruction, to be socially connected to their peers and feel a sense of belonging to their school. Rest assured that we are committed to the safety of our students. We believe in the resilience of our students and families, and in a strong partnership with our parents.

Many more questions will be answered and procedures explained as the days and weeks progress.

We know this year will be like no other, but I am confident that working together with open communication we will all get through this stronger.

Respectfully,

J. Wright  
Principal

