

NEWSLETTER

Northumberland Hills Public School *Return to School: January 14, 2022*



To our Northumberland Hills Community,

Students and staff will be welcomed back for face-to-face learning on Monday, January 17th. In preparation for the return to school, there are important health and safety protocols and updates in place to minimize risk to students, and staff.

If you have questions after reviewing the information in this letter, please contact us here at the school.

We look forward to seeing students back in the building and supporting their learning and social development.

- Stephen Koshurba, Principal - stephen_koshurba@kprdsb.ca; Wanda Lansley, Secretary - wanda_lansley@kprdsb.ca; Cyndi Dickson, Trustee - cyndi_dickson@kprdsb.ca

DAILY SCREENING PROTOCOLS Provincial Tool - updated



Our most important tool to keep schools safe is daily, active screening of all students and staff. Anyone who has symptoms suggestive of COVID-19 or is a confirmed positive case must self-isolate, regardless of vaccination status.

The COVID-19 provincial school screening tool:

<https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening>

KPRDSB screening form - [KPR Daily Screening Form](#)

A form will be sent to families each week and is also available on the front page of the board's website at www.kprschools.ca

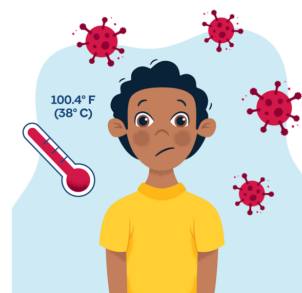
The form MUST be completed for each student in the household, every day. Multiple students can be added to the same form, if they attend the same school.

Symptoms and Next Steps:

- Students who are experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19 must not attend school and should follow the guidance provided in the screening tool.
- Household members must also isolate along with the symptomatic person.

Symptoms include:

- Fever and/or chills; OR
- Cough; OR
- Shortness of breath; OR
- Decrease or loss of taste or smell; OR



Two or more of:

- Runny nose/nasal congestion
- Headache
- Extreme fatigue
- Sore throat
- Muscle aches/joint pain
- Gastrointestinal symptoms (i.e. vomiting or diarrhea)

ISOLATION REQUIREMENTS - When to Isolate

- If your child tests positive on a PCR or Rapid Antigen Test
- If your child is experiencing at least one symptom most commonly associated with COVID-19 or two or more symptoms less commonly associated with COVID-19 (*See above*)
- If your child is identified as a high-risk contact or household member of someone with symptoms or a positive test

MASKING PROTOCOL Update

- Kindergarten students **MUST** wear masks both at school and on the bus
- Students **MUST** wear masks outdoors when 2 metres distance cannot be maintained
- All families and community members MUST wear a mask when on school property. This includes when picking up at the front of the school and/or when getting out of your car at the kiss and ride
- Parents are asked to wait near the flag pole only.
- The school has a limited supply of 3-ply cloth masks for students that need them

Scarves and buffs are no longer acceptable masks as they do not provide the level of protection required in the school. Students can pick-up an extra mask in the office if required.

RAPID ANTIGEN TESTS (RATs)

As announced by the Minister of Education, all schools in Ontario have been provided a limited number of RAT tests.

Rapid Antigen Tests are provided to symptomatic individuals, who will be required to take TWO rapid tests 24 hours apart. Two negative results are required to return to class. The office will provide the RAT test kits when needed.

All testing is done at home. The school is not responsible for administering or collecting test samples.



TECHNOLOGY RETRIEVAL

With the return to face-to-face learning, families are asked to begin returning technology on Monday January 17th for use in the classrooms. All returned technology can be brought to the office

If you are not returning to school and working virtually, please hold on to your device to access the asynchronous activities posted on the classes online learning platform.

GENERAL HYGIENE TIP SHEET

HOW TO WEAR A FACE MASK

Face masks help protect against the spread of illness

- Inspect your face mask for defects prior to putting it on
- Your hands must be cleaned with soap and water (or sanitizer) before touching and putting on your face mask
- Ensure you identify the top of your mask to put it on correctly
- For face masks with nose clips, pinch the stiff edge to the shape of your nose
- Ensure the face mask always fits under your chin properly and covers your nose and mouth
- Secure the face mask with the ear loops, elastics or ties
- **Clean your hands before removing the face mask**

Avoid touching or readjusting your face mask while wearing it

Never slip your face mask down below your nose or mouth

Help Stop the Spread
www.kprschools.ca

PROTOCOLS TO KEEP KIDS SAFE

- **Enhanced Cohorting:** Students will be cohorted (i.e., will be with their own class) during recess and outdoor breaks to limit contacts as much as possible during this time.
- **Staggered Entry:** Students will enter the school immediately upon arrival each morning. They will not line up like they have in the past. This will allow us to better maintain a 2 metre distance between student cohorts.
- **Vaccine Clinics for 5-11 Year Olds:** This is a voluntary process and I will continue to share details of pop-up clinics in our area.

The following local clinics are accepting appointments until January 22nd. You can book your appointment for a child or adult.. Please call 1-888-705-3705 to book appointments at either location.

- *Warkworth Pharmacy* in Warkworth, ON
- *Johnston's Pharmacy* in Hastings, ON

CONSIDERING YOUR OPTIONS??

- **Delaying Re-entry:** Some families are waiting on vaccinations OR looking to see what will happen over the next few weeks. Teachers will continue to post work on their online learning platforms (i.e., EDSBY or Google Classroom). This work can be completed independently. Teachers will do their best to provide meaningful feedback in a timely manner. **Please call the school for more information or to inform them of your intentions.**



Virtual Elementary School: Parents can opt for virtual learning until the end of the school year and should indicate their interest by Friday, January 21st.

Please go to <https://optin.kprdsb.ca/> to opt-in to virtual learning.