

September 3, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As students are enjoying their last days of summer vacation, we are working hard to ensure a smooth and safe return to school on Tuesday, Sept. 7. Since our letter that we sent to you last week, we've received some updated information from our public health units that we want to share with you.

1. Active Screening for All Students from Sept. 7-17

Prior to school each morning, all students must be screened for COVID-19 symptoms using the [provincial COVID-19 screening tool](#). Students can only attend school if they are symptom free. What's new is that **students must provide documented confirmation that this screening has been done each morning for the first two weeks of school**. To simplify the process, we have created a form that parents/guardians will sign each day and send to the school with their child or youth. Students will show this form to their classroom teacher or first period teacher when they get to school. This confirmation process will be in place from Sept. 7-17, and again following a holiday break or long weekend.

You can download the [Confirmation of Screening form](#) here. Please send it in with your child on the first day. If you are not able to print one out, your child will be provided with one on their first day of school and will then be screened by their teacher using the provincial screening tool form or asked to self-screen onsite.

2. Use of Lockers and Cubbies

The use of lockers and cubbies outside the classroom will be at the discretion of the school principal. Your school will let you know if they will be in use at your school.

3. Cohorts at Recess

Students in Kindergarten to Grade 6 will remain in designated zones on the yard with their cohort and therefore will not need to wear a mask at recess. Students will need to bring a mask outside with them as they will need to wear it in the hallways. Students in Grades 7 to 12 are allowed to mix with other cohorts outside but are required to wear masks outdoors if distancing cannot be maintained and mixing of cohorts occurs.

We've also updated our [Return to School Guide for Families](#) and our [Return to School FAQ](#), which can be found in our [COVID-19 Info Centre](#).

If you have more specific questions about the return to school, please contact your school principal.

Thank you and stay safe,
Ron Ferguson
Director of Education
Upper Canada District School Board

