

August 12, 2020

Dear parents

RE: Starting the 2020-21 school year

I hope your family had a restful summer break after an unusual end to last school year. As we prepare for a safe return to Elijah Smith Elementary School for the 2020-21 school year, here is some important information about school routines for this year.

Key steps for health and safety at school

All schools must follow the [health and safety guidelines for K-12 school settings](#) set by Yukon's Chief Medical Office of Health. School staff will go over health and safety routines at our school with students on a regular basis. The key steps our school will be following include:

- Physical distancing of 2 meters in classrooms and common areas where possible;
- Limiting mixing of groups of students and staff where possible;
- Washing and sanitizing hands regularly all day;
- Regular cleaning and disinfecting of the school and keeping our school clean;
- Following the plan if a student or staff gets sick while they're at school;
- Students and staff need to stay home if they have symptoms or are sick.

Staying home when sick or showing symptoms

If a student or staff has symptoms or is sick, they must stay home and not come to school. You should monitor your child every day for symptoms before sending them to school. To help assess symptoms, use the COVID-19 self-assessment tool at: service.yukon.ca/en/covid-19-self-assessment.

Check for new or worsening symptoms when monitoring. For example, a child with asthma may have a cough that is not new. Symptoms you should monitor for include: Fever/chills, cough, shortness of breath, running nose, sore throat, headache, loss of sense of taste or smell, fatigue, loss of appetite, nausea and vomiting, diarrhea and muscle aches.

Elijah Smith Elementary School operational plan

Attached to this letter is more information about our school routines, schedules and programs for the 2020-21 school year, including the specific health and safety measures at our school. This is a summary of the key information in our school operational plan. The full operational plan, along with this summary, will be posted on our school website.

Updates during the school year

We will be sharing regular updates with students and families during the school year through, school email, website and newsletters.

Visit the following websites for more information:

- Information about our school plans and programming can be found on the School website
- Health and safety guidelines and student learning in Yukon schools during COVID-19: yukon.ca/en/education-and-school-supports-covid-19
- General information about COVID-19: yukon.ca/en/covid-19-information

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact 867-667-5992 or jeff.cressman@yesnet.yk.ca

Sincerely

Jeff Cressman
Principal
Elijah Smith Elementary School