



BIRCHVIEW DUNES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Sept 2, 2021

Information for Elementary School Students – September 2021

As you prepare for the first day of school, here are some important things you'll need to know.

Elementary school start date (Kindergarten to Grade 8):

The first day of school for students in Year 2 (Senior) Kindergarten to Grade 8 (in-person and remote learning) is Tuesday, September 7, 2021.

Year 1 (Junior) Kindergarten students will begin school on Thursday, September 9, 2021 @ 9 AM.

Health and safety

Students from Kindergarten (JK and SK) to Grade 8 will be required to wear a face mask while inside the school building. Families are encouraged to provide cloth masks for their children that securely cover the nose and mouth. We will provide cloth masks to students who do not have them.

Each morning, students are required to complete a self-screen prior to attending school. The self-screening tool can be found here: <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>. There is a PDF version also attached in this email.

Students who are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 **must stay home**. We ask that parents/guardians report their child's absence as part of our Safe Arrival program.

Well-being

We believe that looking after our physical and mental health is essential to our well-being. We are committed to creating an inclusive school environment where students feel safe, welcome, and included.

For helpful information and resources to support student mental health and well-being, visit the [SCDSB website](#) or [School Mental Health Ontario](#).

Lunch

Elementary students will eat lunch in their classroom. If weather permits, consideration will be given to eating lunch outdoors. Students should bring a **refillable water bottle** that is labeled with their name and kept with them during the day. Water fountains will be unavailable for use; however, water fill stations will be available.

Learn@Home

Parents/guardians who indicated in June that their child(ren) will be participating in the Learn@Home program, will be contacted by their child(ren)'s teacher with instructions for logging on to the remote learning platform. If you did not indicate that your child would be a remote learner, then your child is registered to attend in-person. New requests or changes to learning modes for September 2021 are not being accepted. Students may move between remote learning and in-person learning at the natural term transition time at the end of Term 1 in February 2022, **where space exists**. **Learn@Home classes begin on September 7, 2021.**