

Peace River School Division

Alternate COVID-19 Safety Plan

2021-2022 School Year Plan Summary (Updated September 16, 2021)

Each school principal requesting approval for an alternate COVID-19 Safety Plan, is asked to provide specifics under each heading below that apply to their context. **In completing this application, please “color code” the specifics for your school. Completed applications are to be submitted to the Superintendent's office.**

The Peace River School Division (PRSD) is committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of our students, and we thank our students, parents, staff and school communities for their patience and support as we start the new school year. Continuing learning will require everyone in the PRSD to continue to be nimble in contributing to the safety and success of our school communities.

All parents are required to screen their child for symptoms each day prior to their child attending school by using the [COVID-19 Alberta Health Daily Checklist](#). Staff, parents and visitors are also required to screen for symptoms before attending any PRSD school or facility by using the [COVID-19 Alberta Health Daily Checklist](#). If you or your child(ren) are not feeling well, please do not attend the school or PRSD facility.

Should the nature of the pandemic change, the PRSD will follow guidance from Alberta Health Services and Alberta Education. Alberta Education has developed contingency plans for schools to follow should circumstances change, and these plans are outlined in the Alberta Education [2021–2022 School Year Plan](#). Please note that any changes will be communicated to parents in a timely manner.

Worsley Central School
School Configuration: Small Rural School (student population 66)

Cleaning and disinfecting procedures

- PRSD schools will continue to maintain enhanced cleaning measures.
- Additional disinfecting and cleaning measures will be implemented if there are elevated student and staff absences.
- The PRSD will continue to work with students and staff to promote ongoing hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette.
- Electrostatic disinfectant fogging machine used in every school two times per week.
- School buses are cleaned twice per day (after the morning and afternoon bus run).

Environmental Measures

- All facilities have a mechanical system that allows for air to be circulated and brings in fresh air from the outside. Fresh air is exchanged at the start of the school day and throughout the day to ensure a safe environment is maintained for students and staff.
- Mechanical systems are maintained on a regular basis, as per the manufacturer's operating guidelines, to ensure they are functioning per specifications.
- To supplement our mechanical systems, it is beneficial to open classroom windows to assist in ventilation and fresh air exchange, weather permitting.

Masks

- Masks are mandatory for all staff in the school.
- Masks are mandatory for all visitors to the school.
- Masks are mandatory for all students and all staff while riding the school bus.
- Masks will be worn by students, staff and anyone assisting those who have developed respiratory illness symptoms while at school.
- Masks are not mandatory for students while participating in physical activity or during outside recess time.
- Masks are required for all students and staff while singing.

Other Considerations

- Masks will be worn by students, staff and anyone assisting those who have developed respiratory illness symptoms while at school.
- Parents and visitors must make prior arrangements before attending the school.
- All parents and visitors to the school must screen for symptoms as per the [COVID-19 Alberta Health Daily Checklist](#) prior to attending the school, and must follow the school's sign-in procedures.

Cohorting

- Due to the small number of students in relation to building size, all students will be cohorted at all times.

- Worsley Central School has a student population of 66 and a staff count of 14. Our building was designed for approximately 280 students with over 9 regular classrooms and an additional 6 larger meeting or gathering spaces available to assist us in distancing our students and cohorts.
- Our students will be cohorted into two groups with kindergarten – grade 5 (30 students) in one cohort and grade 6 – 12 (36 students) in a second cohort.
- Recess times are not staggered however students are kept in separate areas of the school grounds (k-5 on the playground; 6-12 in the gym & library or outdoors on the opposite side of the school building)
- Students in these two cohorts spend their class time in different wings of our building.
- Transition times are staggered to ensure that cohorts are not intermingling.
- Separate entrances are used by each cohort as well as separate bathrooms.
- Student lockers are grouped by cohort.
- Student use of “shared rooms” such as the gym or library has been scheduled to ensure that cohorts remain separate
- Eating takes place in smaller cohorts of k-2 (12 students), 3-5 (18 students), 6-9 (23 students) and 10-12 (13 students)

Physical Distancing

- Due to the small number of students in relation to building size, all students will be physically distanced at all times. All student desks are placed in rows that are 2m apart. Students are able to be physically distanced within the large building at all times. Our hallways are over six feet wide allowing for distancing of any persons walking in the hallways.

School Activities

- Students are not required to mask or maintain two-metre physical distancing during a physical activity such as physical education.
- Indoor sports/performance/recreation/special interests for students are permitted with requirements for two-metre physical distancing.
- Indoor sports/performance/recreation/special interests will be limited to students within their cohort
- Large indoor gatherings are no longer permitted.
- There are no restrictions on outdoor activities.

Recess

- Masks are not required during outdoor recess time.
- Masks are not required during indoor recess activities (gym & library) providing physical distancing is maintained or if students are engaged in physical activity or sports.