



# GOLDSTONE PARK ELEMENTARY

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## Principal's Message

On behalf of our staff we send extend a warm welcome to all our new and returning families. It has been a busy week getting to know new friends and touching base with old ones.

Thank you to everyone for your patience and understanding as we worked our way through a very different school start up. The fall is always exciting and full of promise and we look forward to a great year. However, please remember that it is NOT a regular school year. 2020 continues to be a year of unprecedented events worldwide, which makes the new school year all the more eventful. There are protocols in place that the staff, students and parents need to follow in order to keep everyone healthy and we respectfully request your support in following them and allowing for changes when information is updated from the Ministry or Provincial Health.

Our student population stands at 752 making 33 divisions, 6 of which are part of the Blended Program. If you missed the Sept. 8 deadline and are on a waitlist for the blended programs, the programs are currently ALL FULL. All surrounding area schools are also Full in their Blended programs so please do not phone to request them. You need to either send your child to school or let the office know by Sept. 30 if you are opting for home schooling. If you choose to *home school*, your spot for this year will not be held and you would need to Re-register in the Spring for September of 2021.

As of Monday we moved into our permanent classrooms and no movement will occur now that the cohorts have been established. We have worked very hard to create a school organization that best meets the needs of **all** our students. Our class placement process ensures that thoughtful consideration of each student's social, emotional and academic needs are aligned with the necessity to create balanced and effective learning environments.

Our staff invested considerable thought and time in assigning students to classes and we know that the children will settle in quickly to their new places and fast become a community of learners.

We all look forward to an exciting year of learning and growth.

Warmly,

*Mrs. Grilly*

# NEW COVID GUIDELINES FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS

## **Parents**

1. Drop off and pick up of your child  
Please practice social distancing. Students are to line up behind the purple circle against their outside classroom door. Parents are to wait behind the marked lines. If you are walking, please keep social distancing from others and avoid physical contact.  
If you are driving, follow the signs. There is no parking in front of the school. It is for pick up and drop off in a continual flow. Parking is available in the City lot beside the school.
2. Lunches, packs, books etc. cannot be dropped off. Please make sure your child has everything prior to leaving the house.
3. Parents will not be allowed at any time in classrooms or the school building unless they have made an appointment with Mrs. Grills (Principal) or Mr. Howett (Vice Principal).
4. You need to do a daily health check with your child. If your child is sick, they CANNOT come to school. One is attached to this newsletter.
5. If anyone in your house is suspected of being exposed to or having COVID, you CANNOT come to school unless there is a negative COVID test result and /or you have been to a family doctor and been cleared to be at school.
6. Please keep informed by checking the District and School Websites regularly and signing up for our newsletter

## **Students**

Students in the building are operating within Cohorts.

### **What is a Cohort ?**

A class is their own “bubble” but will be interacting with another group (only with each other and one other class) Together, they make a cohort of less than 60 people which equals a learning cohort.

They can do activities together, like gym and stations and reading buddies.

All other adults (i.e. music teacher, EA's, librarian, LST, P and VP, TOC's etc.) will have to wear a mask when coming into a classroom or working with a class THAT IS NOT in the COHORT.

As per the Ministry guidelines here are some of the protocols in place:

- \*sensible distancing will be practiced in the classroom
- \* FREQUENT handwashing/sanitizing, entering class, between activities, before and after outdoor play, after the washroom
- \*limited to same chair/desk/table
- \*use of only your own school supplies and no sharing of food and personal items.
- \*have more frequent outside time.
- \*limited one directional hallway traffic flow
- \*limited traffic in hallways
- \*assigned entrance and exits
- \*daytime custodians to clean high touch surfaces, washrooms etc.
- \*night time custodians will do more extensive deep cleaning

## OUTSIDE RECESS AND LUNCH

(As taken from the Protocol Documents from the BC Center for Disease Control)

*During break times (e.g. recess, lunch), students may want to socialize with peers in different cohorts.*

• In **elementary schools**, students can socialize with peers in different cohorts if they are outdoors and can minimize physical contact or if they are indoors and can maintain physical distance. Elementary-aged students are less able to consistently maintain physical distance. Outdoors is a lower-risk environment than indoors. Playgrounds are a safe environment. Ensure appropriate hand hygiene practices before and after outdoor play.

Grade groups have designated areas to play during recess and lunch outside time to minimize contact with others.

- Hands to self rules apply (eg. Tag games must be done with “noodles” and not actually touching)
- Handwashing before and after outside play
- Assigned entrance and exit points

Please remember to go through these protocols with your child.

More details specific to your child’s classroom will be coming from the teacher.

## Newsletters

Announcements and newsletters are sent via email on Thursdays. Make sure to sign up on the school website. Scroll down to the bottom of the page. There is a box that says “Sign up for Newsletter”.

Occasionally paper copies will be sent home. Newsletters include important information, so please READ them carefully. The District website is also a great source of information. Visit it at [www.surreyschools.ca](http://www.surreyschools.ca)

## Parent Handbook

A handbook for parents is on the website and contains important topics such as the school Code of Conduct, communication, school policies etc. Please take the time to read through the information and discuss the pertinent topics with your child.

## BELL SCHEDULE

8:25	Welcome Bell Rings
8:30	Second Morning Bell – Classes Begin
10:10 - 10:25	Primary Recess
10:30 - 10:45	Intermediate Recess
11:40 – 12:00	Primary Play Outside
12:00-12:25	Primary Eat Inside
11:45 – 12:05	Intermediate Eat Inside
12:05 – 12:25	Intermediate Play Outside
12:30	Classes are in session after lunch
2:30	Dismissal Bell
2:45	Supervision Ends

## IMPORTANT FORMS

Your child(ren) will be bringing home some important forms next week.

A note will accompany the forms explaining and outlining each form.

Please make sure that you read them all and send them back ASAP to your child’s teacher.

## Medical Alerts

Parents should ensure that the school is informed of any medical conditions that require emergency response. **There are forms at the office for students with life threatening allergies, asthma, seizures etc. Please make sure that all information is up to date and any medication that is needed is labeled and all information is current.** If your child has a life threatening illness, they should also have a medical alert bracelet.

Children with anaphylactic responses are to wear/carry their Epi/Pen on them.

When a child needs medications at school, particular District policies must be followed. Please make sure to see the office if this pertains to your child.



### Traffic Safety

#### Please walk to school if possible

Encouraging students to walk or cycle to school is part of an overall plan to enhance safety and fitness; please think about the benefits of leaving the car at home. Traffic is very busy before and after school so we ask you to be exceptionally aware and cautious as you approach and leave the school grounds. Please do not park /leave your vehicle in the drop off zones. It is a **drop off area** only. Please practice the “Kiss and Ride” or better yet, walk with your child to school. Be mindful of the staff and students. Safety needs to be a priority for everyone.