



École Woodward Hill Elementary

6082 – 142nd St., Surrey, B.C. V3X 1C1

PH: 604-594-2408 ♦ Fax: 604-594-2336 ♦ www.surreyschools.ca/schools/woodwardhill

Special Newsletter March 28, 2021

Re: Health and Safety Protocols Surrey School

Dear Woodward Hill families,

We hope that you have enjoyed a restful and relaxing Spring Break! The purpose of this message is to inform you of some important information regarding new health and safety measures that were announced this weekend. Please see the email from Surrey Schools that you should have received yesterday in regards to this new health order. If you do not see the email, please check your junk or spam mail.

Wearing Masks

Effective immediately all schools in our district will begin implementation of an Order of the Medical Health Officer, specific to Face Coverings in Surrey Schools. This Order is specific to our school district and requires all K-12 staff and all students in **grades 4 to 12** to wear non-medical masks in all indoor areas, *including when they are with their learning groups*.

Exceptions include:

- If an individual is unable to wear a face covering because of a psychological, behavioral or health condition; or a physical, cognitive or intellectual impairment.
- If an individual is unable to put on or remove a face covering without the assistance of another person.
- While communicating with a person who has a hearing impairment.
- When an individual is actively eating or drinking.
- For staff – if the face covering is removed while providing direct instruction at *a distance of more than two metres from others*.
- **For K-3 students**, the Medical Health Officer **strongly recommends and encourages** the wearing of a non-medical mask, consistent with the above exceptions.

This Order was developed by Fraser Health's Chief Medical Health Officer, in consultation with the Provincial Health Officer, Ministry of Education and our Board of Education. We recognize this may be a significant change for some of our students in grades 4 – 7. We will ensure that all of our students continue to have access to a non-medical face masks. If your child does not have a mask for Monday, the office will supply one for them.

Leaving School Property at the End of the School Day

All students and parents are expected to **leave the school grounds immediately after school**. As we continue to see high rates of infection of Covid-19 in Surrey, our playgrounds are not an area to gather after school. **When you arrive on school grounds, please ensure that you are wearing a mask.**

Additional Health and Safety Measures

We are anticipating additional safety measures to be put in place in the near future. We will keep you informed of changes prior to implementation.

Thank you and we look forward to welcoming your children back to school tomorrow.

Sincerely,
Mr. Brad Issel and Mrs. Bronwen Howden