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Frequently Asked Questions

What are the two options for school in September?

FULL DAY RETURN

Students will attend school 5 days per week, with one cohort for the full day, including recess and lunch. Enhanced health and safety protocols will be in place. We will group siblings together for the same cohort.

VOLUNTARY LEARN AT HOME

Parents who make the decision not to have their child returning to in-class learning may opt for Voluntary Learn at Home.

What is the VOLUNTARY LEARN AT HOME OPTION?

All voluntary learning at home students will be enrolled in school. They will share the same Principal and Staff as their peers at Lakeview School. Their teacher will be responsible for all curriculum delivery, assessment, and evaluation. The content and commitment will be just like a physical school but will be completely online.

This will include specific timelines, a synchronous component, and interesting curriculum to keep your child engaged and learning until they are ready to go back to in-class learning.

It is important to know that should you choose this option, you will need to be a partner in the student's education. This includes ensuring the student is online when they are required to be, that they are monitored for their online participation and that there is communication between yourself and the teacher.

We occasionally pull our children out of class to attend traditional ceremonies. How do we explain that to new teachers so that our children are still supported in their learning and what does that look like with this new schedule?

All teaching staff at Lakeview are required to understand the primacy of Anishinaabek language and culture. It can help to alert your teacher in advance of coming absences for ceremony so that the teachers can prepare to support your child.

Is sending my child back to school part time an option?

Families will need to choose one of the two options made available, either the cohort model or strictly online.

Will Immersion and Kindergarten be included in the Learn at Home option?

Yes.

If I choose the Voluntary Learn at Home option for my child and change my mind, when can they re-enter school?

There will be specific return to in-class learning which will align with natural assessment, evaluation and reporting timelines i.e. following the first progress reports in late October or early November.

REGISTRATION/INTENT to RETURN

How do I register my child to return to school? (Mandatory Pre-registration)

IMPORTANT

This year, we will require all students to indicate if they are planning to return to Lakeview School or Learn at Home. If you qualify for transportation, the Intent to Return Survey will prompt you to give your intention related to school buses.

A Parent Return to School Intent Questionnaire will be sent to all parents through email on August 31 and mailed. If you don't receive the mail/email, a link will also be available on our website.

Parents are asked to fill out the short and easy form. The Principal will be made aware of your choice. The questionnaire closes on September 5th at midnight. If you miss the deadline, please contact Lakeview School.

I am new to Lakeview School. How do I register?

Please call the school for information and forms to register your child and call the school the week of August 31st to make an appointment to register.

I am moving schools. How do I register?

Please call Lakeview School during the week of August 31st to make an appointment to register.

ENHANCED HEALTH AND SAFETY

Providing a clean and safe learning environment for students has always been important to Lakeview School. As part of COVID-19 prevention, Lakeview has an enhanced cleaning program. This program will include identifying areas that need to be cleaned and disinfected more regularly such as high touch surfaces like faucets, doorknobs, desks, handrails, and more.

Our Return to School Health and Safety plan focuses on enhanced cleaning, training, masks and PPE, physical distancing, signage, minimizing contact, daily self-assessments, student communities and more.

MASKS

Does my child have to wear a mask?

The decision wearing masks was made by the Ministry of Education.

All Students at Lakeview school will be required to wear a mask. Please ensure your student has one on and 2 in a Ziplock bag as a back up. Lakeview School will provide a NMM for those students who need one.

Will Lakeview School provide masks?

Lakeview school will provide a cloth mask to students who are unable to provide their own. This will be a one-time cloth mask provided to the child, that they will keep as their own. Cleaning the mask will be the responsibility of each respective family.

Do staff have to wear masks?

Staff will all be wearing medical masks provided by Lakeview School. They will have the option to choose a face shield if they want.

Is wearing a face shield an acceptable alternative to wearing a mask for students?

Wearing a face shield can supplement wearing a mask but is not a substitute. Only Teachers and students with proper documentation, may wear a face shield. One of the two must be worn.

What if my child has special education or health needs that prevents them from wearing a mask?

The decision to wear masks was made by the Ministry of Education. At Lakeview School and all M'Chigeeng First Nation buildings, masks are mandatory for EVERYONE regardless of age or grade.

Wearing a mask can be uncomfortable; however, it is an important barrier to keep students and staff safe. To ease student discomfort with wearing masks, we will be scheduling breaks with students where they can go outside and will not have to wear masks provided, they are maintaining a safe distance from one another. Students who do not follow safety protocols will lose this opportunity.

The Ministry of Education will allow exemptions for students who have health conditions that preclude them from wearing a mask. To request an exemption for your child, please contact the Lakeview Principal regarding the process and documentation required.

What will staff be doing to enhance health and safety?

All staff will be hand washing regularly, self-screening daily, and following all mandated handwashing, cough and sneeze etiquette, as well as physical distancing protocols from Sick Kids Hospital Re-Opening recommendations and Public Health Sudbury District.

How will physical distancing be supported?

As much distancing as possible between students and staff, and between staff will be supported. School staff will be supporting physical distancing through signs, making changes to classroom set-ups, education, encouragement, and coaching.

Classroom sizes vary at Lakeview but we have capped classes at 10 students. We have already removed unnecessary furniture and will be setting up desks with as much distancing as possible, and to allow teachers as much teaching space as possible. Desks may be faced forward rather than in circles or groupings if there isn't enough space.

Do I have to do a daily health assessment with my child?

Yes. Just as we trust retail stores to sanitize and other people to stay home when they are sick, we trust that every parent and staff member will engage in screening on the day's students go to school. We are all working together to keep our students, staff, and community safe.

Information regarding the Lakeview Parental Agreement to Daily Screening of Children will be included in the Parent Intent to Return Questionnaire as well as the Return to School Guide.

What if my child is ill but it is not COVID-19?

All children who show symptoms of an illness must be kept home. The only way to ensure that the illness is NOT COVID-19 is to have a test done at the Health Centre. Children who have a cold or another strain of the flu need to stay home until they are symptom-free for 24 hours.

If someone in my child's class or school contracts COVID-19 will my whole family have to self isolate?

Lakeview will follow The Monitoring and Responding to Reports of COVID 19 Protocol. M'Chigeeng Health Center and the Public Health Sudbury District will work closely with Lakeview school and families should this be the case.

What is the protocol if there is a positive case of COVID-19 at Lakeview school?

The M'Chigeeng Health Center and the Public Health Sudbury will work closely with Lakeview school to monitor and respond to reports of COVID-19 symptoms. Chief and Council will be an active participant in all decisions made for the school and community. Only Chief and Council will make announcements of active cases in our community.

All school boards in Ontario will be required to file a daily report with the Ministry of Education to report new cases, suspected cases and confirmed cases.

Any student or staff member who develops COVID-19 symptoms while at school will be immediately separated from others in the designated Isolation Room until they are able to go home.

Staff with symptoms and parents/caregivers of children with symptoms will be directed to use the [online self-assessment tool](#) and follow instructions. Persons who test positive may not return to school until they are cleared according to public health guidance. Persons who retest negative (after an initial positive test) can return to school once they are symptom-free for 24 hours.

If there is a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19 within the school, we will notify M'Chigeeng Health Center, Chief and Council and Public Health Sudbury District immediately. We will support all public health efforts with their contact tracing efforts.

M'Chigeeng Health Center, Chief and Council and Public Health Sudbury District will determine any additional steps required. The Director of Education will inform families and staff within 30 minutes of any announcements or changes from any of the above.

Information provided to the school community will be provided by the Director of Education as directed by Chief and Council or public health.

At Lakeview, if an individual is suspected of having COVID-19 cleaning and disinfecting will also take place including:

- Identifying areas that could have been exposed to the person with the suspected case and clean and disinfect those areas following proper safety protocols
- Using disposable cleaning equipment where possible
- Removal of any items that cannot be cleaned (paper, books, etc.) and store them in a sealed container for a minimum of 7 days.

Will there be enhanced cleaning at Lakeview?

Providing a clean and safe learning environment for students has always been important to Lakeview. As part of COVID-19 prevention, Lakeview school will have a program that will both clean and disinfect schools. This program will include identifying areas that need to be cleaned and disinfected more regularly such as high touch surfaces like faucets, doorknobs, desks, handrails, and more.

Part of the preparation for the September 2020 cleaning program was to remove items from schools that cannot be easily cleaned such as soft toys, upholstered furniture, and rugs. We have hired 3 additional custodians for cleaning and sanitation this year.

PREPARING FOR A RETURN TO SCHOOL

The following information will be explained in more detail in our Return to School Guide that families will receive the first week of September.

Will I know my child's teacher and class assignment before the first day of school?

Yes. You will hear from Lakeview School during the week of September 7th regarding class placement.

Will our bell times be the same?

Currently, we do not anticipate any changes to our bell schedule however as we continue to modify the day to align with health and safety protocols, changes may be necessary. All changes will be communicated to parents/caregivers promptly.

I still have technology from Lakeview. How do I return it?

If you have technology that was not part of a graduation gift from Lakeview school, please return it the week of August 31st. For all other tech returns, you will be notified regarding the process in the Return to School Guide.

My Before and After childcare service provider is asking for confirmation now. Should we confirm our space?

Childcare is a very personal decision, and we recognize families will consider a variety of factors when determining suitable before and after school care.

Lakeview School is working on developing a list of resources for families who have typically accessed this program. Before and After school child-care spaces may be very limited, so it is important that you register for care as soon as possible.

Will all children get the opportunity to participate in cultural events or only the language students?

Lakeview has been a Band Operated school since 1980 and has always included language and culture regardless of learning stream. ALL children will have the chance to celebrate being Anishinaabe in many ways during our school year.

I am afraid my child will not learn to do well in English, Math and Science if I enroll them in the immersion program?

All the studies PROVE that learning a second language improves a student's ability to do well in other subjects. This is why Lakeview has always provided language and culture-based classes regardless of learning stream. It is also well documented that students with high self esteem do better in school so learning our language and culture will create proud Anishinabek students.

TRANSPORTATION

Will busing be provided for eligible students? Do I have to register for transportation?

Lakeview school is providing transportation for students. We have capped busses at 22 students + one Screener + One Driver. When you send in your intent for the upcoming school year, PLEASE indicate if you will be needing transportation.

For safety reasons, if parents have a vehicle, we would like to encourage them to drive their students to school.

CURRICULUM

Will my child be taught all subjects, this school year?

Yes. All curriculum expectations in all subjects will be covered this year. The majority of your child's subjects will be taught by their homeroom teacher.

What will Kindergarten look like?

Parents of new Kindergarten students will receive Welcome to Kindergarten information during the first week of September.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Should I be buying school supplies?

We understand that many families like to purchase school supplies. As always, you are welcome to do this. As well, the school will provide all necessary learning materials. As part of our Enhanced Health and Safety program, students will not be permitted to share school supplies.

Parents will need to provide a student lunch bag, water bottle and backpack. If you need these items, please let your school know.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

What support is in place for my child with special education needs?

Our educational staff, including Teaching Assistants will be supporting your child during the 2020/2021 school year. This includes meeting their needs as outlined in the accommodations and modifications in their IEP- either at home or at school. The start of the school year will include lots of assessment to see where our students are considering the sudden school closure and move to online learning. As our assessments are compiled, we will release timelines for Identification, Placement and Review Committees (IPRC) to meet.

OTHER INFORMATION

Is Lakeview able to make decisions about reopening/protocols independently (without other city or government influence)?

Every school board in Ontario, including Lakeview, must follow the COVID-19 Return to School protocols as mandated by the Ministry of Education in consultation with Ontario Public Health. Lakeview School has made changes to class sizes and transportation policies that are safer for families during the pandemic based on recommendations from Sick Kids Return to School Recommendations. We have capped class sizes at 10 instead of Sick Kids recommendations of 15. Please see the link below for more information.

What will recess and lunch look like for my child?

Recess and lunch breaks will be staggered and supervised by staff members. Students will eat snacks/lunch seated at their desks in their classroom community (cohort).

Be sure to check back the week of August 31st for our Return to School Guide.

A Safe and Successful Return to School at Lakeview School

July 30, 2020 – Today, the Ministry of Education announced their return to school plans for students. We are working with the Ministry, M'Chigeeng Health Center and Chief and Council, Public Health Sudbury District to ensure a smooth, safe, and successful transition for back for the first day of school on Monday, September 14.

Keeping our students, families, and staff safe and healthy is at the core of the plans we have developed. Our goal is to head back to school in a way that maximizes safety and best supports successful student learning.

Lakeview Students – School Day with Enhanced Health Protocols.

This model has elementary students back in their homeroom classes and engaging in rich online curriculum content; however, this year includes the implementation of enhanced health and safety protocols and reduced class sizes. This includes the mandatory wearing of masks for all school staff.

Lakeview School is well-positioned to welcome students back in September while keeping students and staff safe. Our COVID-19 health and safety protocols include physical distancing signage such as directional arrows and spacing in areas such as foyers and entrances. Students will be taught to clean their hands properly and to try and avoid touching their face, eyes, nose and mouth as much as possible. All students and staff will be wearing masks. There will be age-appropriate signage placed throughout Lakeview to remind students about handwashing and hand hygiene. Cleaning protocols, and new systems such as restricting the use of lockers and limiting the sharing of school supplies are also in progress for September.

We know that school will look very different this year. To best support parents in transitioning their student(s) back to school, families can expect:

Updates on our [**Return to School Updates web page**](#) and soon we will add social media channels for even easier access to updated posts!

Online FAQs which will be updated as we receive information from the Ministry of Education and the Lakeview staff finalize guidelines based on the July 30 announcement.

A 'Parent Guide' will be available to Lakeview school parents (K-8) to help support families through the back to school process. This plan could change if Chief and Council, the Ministry of Education, M'Chigeeng Health Center and Public Health Sudbury and Districts make any changes they see as necessary based on how the COVID-19 pandemic continues to trend.

The first day of school at Lakeview School is scheduled for Monday, September 14, 2020.

We recognize that changes to the coming school year can be stressful and appreciate your continued, positive support.

To support students and parents with a successful return to school, we are creating a Return To School Guide that will be filled with information to assist you with your planning and decision-making.

If you have specific questions or concerns about your child's safe return to school, please contact the Lakeview Principal who will be available the week of August 31st to help.

WHAT CAN I DO TO PREPARE MY CHILD?

When talking about school plans with your child, you can help determine your child's mindset. Consider not discussing your frustrations or worries with your children. Consider practicing physical distancing and handwashing routines before school starts. Set them up for success by teaching them to make the best of it; assure them that every effort is being made to keep them safe. Be a sounding board for their worries. Stay positive and model perseverance. School is a supportive and fun place to be!