



Dear Families:

We hope you had a safe and restful summer. We are happy to be the new Principal and Vice Principal of École Shannon Park School. Our staff is excited to welcome returning families and new families. We look forward to our first day on Tuesday, Sept 7, 2021.

We recognize that you may have questions. Rest assured that supporting your child's return to school is our highest priority. COVID-19 continues to be part of our lives and we continue to follow public health recommendations. Staff has worked hard to prepare a safe return to school and ensure that your children will feel a warm welcome. Before school starts, you will receive an email/phone call from your child's teacher indicating who they are and classroom specific information. Please review the Back to School Plan at <https://backtoschool.ednet.ns.ca/home>. Please talk with your child about distancing, masks and hand washing/sanitizing. These protocols protect our shared health and it is a responsibility for all of us (staff, families and students) to work together for our shared health. Covid-19 has changed what our school day will look like, but it has not changed the quality or care of education and support.

Arrival - It is very important that students dropped off by parents do NOT arrive any earlier than 20 minutes before the bell. Staff are on duty by 8:20 and meet students outside to help direct them to the correct entrance & classroom. Masks should be worn by all students, on the bus and upon entry to the school. We have several different entrances:

ALL PRIMARY STUDENTS (FAMILIES) WILL MEET STAFF OUTSIDE THE GYM DOORS ON THE FIRST DAY ONLY.

Middle Front Door	Primary Door	Circle Front Door	Main Door
Preprimary Craig	Primary MacDonald	Primary Sibley	6Lucas
3/4Varn	Primary Gillis	2Kelly	5/6White
3Meisner	Primary Wall	2Johnson	6Figg
5Lohnes	1Crofton	2/3Stevens	6McKenzie
5/6Dull	1Pressé	4Moreau	4Parker
	1Wiseman	3Boyle	
	2MacNeil	4Sauntry	
		1/2Parsons	
		5Nemfield	
		3McKay	

Recess P-6

Recess will be similar to last year. We will have our recesses staggered with groups on our different play zones. Because Public Health has recommended that students be outside as much as possible we hope to have our P-6 classes out a few times a day, in addition to their recess and lunch times. All times will be supervised by staff members.

Lunch

Two Lunch times will be staggered throughout the school. Lunch 1 will be at 11:10am-12:00pm and Lunch 2 will be at 12:10pm-1:00pm. We will continue to reduce the number of classes out at the same time. During each designated lunch, half of the students will eat their lunch during the first part of lunch, while the other half will have their outside time first. Then they will switch (the group that just ate will proceed outside, while the outside group will come inside to eat).

For the month of September, students will need to bring their own packed lunches. We will look into the possibility of providing hot lunch later, but cannot guarantee it. Please send in student lunches that do not need to be heated up, that students can open independently and please include the necessary plastic utensils. Shannon Park is a nut aware school; please no lunch or snacks with food labels indicating nuts or may contain nuts. We will be looking into the possibility of families purchasing milk in October, but cannot guarantee it will be provided. Please send in filled water bottles.

Dismissal

The dismissal bell rings at 2:30pm. The end of day dismissal will be staggered in order that not all students are exiting the building at the same time. Students will exit using multiple designated doors in order that the classes can exit the school to walk home or board the bus.

We will have grades five and six exit at the 2:30 dismissal bell. Grades three and four will follow at about 2:33 and then primary to two will exit at approximately 2:35. The pre- primary ECE leaders will set their schedule for exiting.

Please make sure you have had communication with your child's teacher to ensure correct dismissal information is understood before the first day.

Specialist Classes

Music, Core French, Phys. Ed. and library programs will be delivered in their respective classrooms.

Visitors in the building:

Out of an abundance of caution, we will be limiting visitors in the building unless deemed essential. This includes parents. If you need to speak with someone, please call or email the school. If you are dropping off/picking up a student, or dropping off items for your child, please buzz at the main entrance and a staff member will assist you. We look forward to welcoming parents and families into the school at a later date. We want to thank you again for your patience and understanding during these unprecedented

times. We are looking forward to welcoming students back and are working hard to ensure this is done as safely as possible. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Summary of Our School Plan

Things that will remain the same as last year	New this year
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Staff and students wearing masks in school and on the bus to begin the year (may be optional when we move to phase 5)• Students and staff staying home if they feel sick• Frequent hand washing and sanitizing• Classes spending time outside	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Music, Core French Phys. Ed, Library and Jr. High classes will go back to using their regular spaces with regular programming• Students can share learning materials (not food or drink)• Flexible seating can occur with more student movement in classroom• Students can play and interact with students outside of their class cohort at recess and lunch• Students can leave their indoor shoes at school

Sincerely,

Ms. Carol-Anne Larade and Mr. Jamie Kavanaugh