

Tumbler Ridge Elementary Procedures

In addition to the School District 59 protocols, please read the procedures below regarding our school.

If students are unable to follow the protocols after reminders, for the safety of themselves and others, they may be asked to go home.

We ask for your patience and understanding as we work through the new school year. If you have questions or concerns, please contact us.

1) Cohorts or Groups

In line with School District No. 59 Protocols for Schools based on guidelines provided by the BC Ministry of Education there will be 5 distinct groups or cohorts. Each cohort will be between 40-60 students. Our cohorts have been designed to help with entry and exits as well as playground areas, hallways, boot rooms and washroom congestion.

In the mornings, Group 1 will enter first at the 8:50 bell and Group 2 will enter at 8:55. This may need to be adjusted once winter hits. Teachers will facilitate this initially and as students catch on to the routine hopefully this will occur simply through the 2 separate bells.

For the first few days, teachers will be waiting at a designated area outside near the entrance students will be using. They will be holding a sign with their name on it to help identify where everyone should go. These sections will be labeled with paint on the grass for the first month to help remind students where they must go upon arrival.

The students will soon learn their area so that they know these spots once the snow flies.

Drop-off will be from 8:40-8:50

Avoid sending students before 8:40 as there will not be any play time before school. When they arrive, students will be expected to go to their designated areas and wait for the bell.

All school doors will be locked throughout the day with no public access, so being on time is imperative.

2) Recess and Lunch times

Times will be staggered to avoid congestion.

Certain parts of the playground areas will be used for each of the groups or cohorts as well. Students will be taught and expected to stay in the designated spaces while outside. We will rotate cohorts through these areas in order for students to play in each of these areas throughout the month.

3) Dismissal 2:30 – 2:35

Teachers will take their students to their designated areas outside. Once this routine is learned, students will eventually do this on their own.

Group 1 will be outside at 2:30 and Group 2 will be out at 2:35.

If you have communicated to the teacher that your child/children will be walking home, they will simply leave. If you are picking them up, they will be waiting at their area or heading to the area you have agreed to meet them.

If your child or one of your children are in Mrs. Powell's, Ms. Sears', Mr. Schwab's or Miss Bauer's class please use the cul-de-sac by the big play structure at the back.

For other classes, choosing to park along the school side of Willow Street also helps to avoid the congestion in the main parking lot and limit the chances of an accident.

Plan the spot so this becomes a routine to avoid phone calls to the office requiring us to give messages regarding where to meet.

Students will not be allowed to linger on the playground or school fields after 2:35.

4) Bikes/Scooters

If your child is riding a bike/scooter to school, please note the closest bike rack to your child's morning area, as this is where they will lock up their bikes. If their bike or scooter cannot be locked, it should not come to school.

Please remind them ahead of time that they need to social distance when parking their bikes at the racks. This means they must wait their turn if someone is parking their bike when they arrive.

5) Lunch Time

Water bottles are a must. Access to the fountains is not available, however, the taps in each classroom may be used for refilling bottles.

Please send food and snacks that are easily managed to help maintain our exiting times.

Lunches arriving with the student is essential, as there is no public access. In the event that you have forgotten, you will have to call for arranging a drop off. This needs to be limited.

6) Hand Sanitizer

Soap and water will be our primary source for cleaning students' hands along with hand sanitizer. However, if you are wanting to send hand sanitizer it must be **SCENT FREE**.

7) Masks

At this time, masks are not required in our school. If you would like your child to wear a mask that is fine, however, currently we have a very limited supply of disposable ones to access upon request.

8) Daily Health Check and if symptoms occur

Attached to this email will be a Daily Health Check that you will be required to go over with your child/children each day before they arrive at school.

In following the School District No. 59 Protocols for Schools based on guidelines provided by the BC Ministry of Education and the BC Centre for Disease Control, if we notice your child/children are showing symptoms we will call and ask you to pick up your child and take them home.

It will then be expected that you contact a health care provider (a family physician or nurse practitioner) or call 8-1-1 for your child to be assessed for COVID-19 and other infectious diseases.

Your child should not return to school until they have been assessed to exclude COVID-19 or other infectious diseases AND their symptoms have resolved.

9) Class Assignments

You will be contacted by email on Wednesday, September 9th, with your child/children's class placement(s) and if they belong in Group 1 or Group 2. Class lists will not be posted as in the past.

School will start for the Grade 1- 6's on Thursday, September 10th at 11:00 and will end at 1:30. Please send a lunch. Staggered entry/exit, as well as, lunch will occur.

On Friday the 11th, the Grade 1-6 students will have a full day, starting at 8:50/8:55.

Kindergarten students will come in smaller groups. This will be either in the morning or afternoon on Friday/Monday or Tuesday with the first full day being Wednesday, September 16th. Look forward to an email from their teacher next week with the time your child/children will come.

