



# CLEAR WATER ACADEMY

## A Catholic School - Forming Christian Leaders

October 6, 2020 - Clear Water Academy Re-entry Plan Update #2

Dear Parents,

It's almost been a month since the start of school and on behalf of all of the faculty and the Board of Clear Water Academy, thank you for your support, commitment, feedback, and prayers as we began this new school year. In this package you will find updates to our Re-entry Plan and answers to frequently asked questions.

A very common question is "How is it going?" Darren Forrester and Lori Blais shared their perspectives on how the first few weeks of school went at our Board meeting this past week and I would like to share their comments with you:

Darren Forrester - Head of School

*"The return to students in class at school is an absolute blessing for our community. We are so happy to welcome the students back to Clear Water Academy and we believe our parent community is pleased with the re-entry of students to the routines of a new school year. Our joy is heightened by our celebration of 25 years of providing excellent education and formation, combined with the opening of St. Thomas More Hall. In spite of all the uncertainty that surrounded the return to school this year, we are more than pleased with the opening of our new school year. Credit is due to the professionalism and care of all of our faculty and to a well-articulated re-entry plan."*

Lori Blais - Director of Education & Formation for Elementary

*"Our faculty and students have expressed so much gratitude to be back at school. Walking into our beautiful, new building on the first days of school certainly helped build and keep the excitement of school starting to a higher level. We are slowly moving to a place where the routines are coming, and we have moved into working on regular back to school items. The first weeks were very successful. We had anticipated most of the problems we would encounter and had a good plan in place to respond. As new items presented themselves, we nimbly looked at an alternate way of doing things. We expect that further changes will come with guidance from Alberta Health Services, and as we live in our new building and find better ways of doing things."*

With the combined input of Alberta Health Services (Sept. 4), parents at CWA Connects (Sept. 15), and our new COVID-19 Advisory Committee (Sept. 23), the Leadership Team has completed a thorough review of our School Re-entry Plan and have made some additions/revisions to the plan that are included in this update. We will be reviewing the plan every 30 days and we will keep you updated on any changes. We have also updated our FAQ document to include the questions that we have been receiving from parents and faculty.

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The following are a few important reminders from our Plan:

1. Do not send your child/children to school if they are ill or have any symptoms.
2. Parents and students must wear their mask when exiting their vehicles, walking their children to the buildings, and entering the buildings.
3. Masks need to fully cover the nose and mouth.
4. At pick up, please leave the school as soon as you have your child/children to minimize the intermingling of class cohorts.

The Clear Water Academy COVID-19 Advisory Committee has been established and had their first meeting on September 23, 2020. The mandate of the committee is to support the Leadership Team and Board of the school with the planning, implementation, and improvements to the Clear Water Academy School Re-entry Plan for 2020/2021. The committee will also provide feedback and advice on COVID-19 related matters as requested.

Our committee members are:

**DR. MELISSA JACK**

Dr. Melissa Jack is a staff anesthesiologist at the South Health Campus. Melissa is a mentor in the residency training program and President of the Medical Staff Association for the South Health Campus. Currently Melissa works front line intubating COVID patients and is updated and abreast of all AHS policy.

**DR. BEATA KOMIEROWSKI**

Dr. Beata Komierowski is an adult psychiatrist at the Psychiatric Adult Service at Foothills Hospital, providing outpatient mental health support to clients aged 18 through 69. She also consults through the Shared Mental Health Care program in Calgary and will soon be starting consulting work at the Student Advising and Wellness (SAW) office, providing psychiatric care to medical students and residents.

**DR. SIDD THAKORE**

Dr. Sidd Thakore is a hospital Pediatrician and Asthma Clinic Pediatrician at the Alberta Children's Hospital. He is also a Clinical Assistant Professor at the University of Calgary and President of the Canadian Pediatrics Society Section of Hospital Pediatrics.

**MS. KATE KOLSKOG**

Kate Kolskog is a registered psychologist and marriage and family therapist. She has 29 years of experience in the treatment of mental health and trauma therapy. Kate Kolskog has provided services to the school over the past five years.

**MR. DAN BRITTON (CHAIR)**

Dan Britton is the founder of Chariot Carriers, a market leading designer, manufacturer, and distributor of child carrier products for active families. In 2011 Chariot was acquired by Thule Inc., a leading outdoor and automotive accessory company. Dan continued to work at Thule as Director of Innovation for its 'Active with Kids' division until May 2020. Dan is currently mentoring a few local start-ups and exploring new business opportunities. Dan has been a Clear Water Academy Foundation board member since 2010 and is a past Chairman of the Board.

**MR. BILL TOMIAK**

Executive Director of Clear Water Academy.

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Finally, Alberta Health Services (AHS) has recently provided information and documentation to help all of us with understanding the procedure for Student Illness. As per our Plan, students cannot come to school if they have answered yes to any of the symptoms in the daily self-screening questionnaire. Subject to the protocols from Alberta Health Services, students must be symptom free for 24 hours before returning to school.

**WHAT TO DO IF A CHILD SHOWS SYMPTOMS:**

Source: Alberta.ca - Adapted to reflect the protocols of Clear Water Academy.

If someone has these symptoms	They are required to do this	We also recommend this
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fever</li> <li>• Cough</li> <li>• Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing</li> <li>• Runny nose</li> <li>• Sore throat</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Isolate for a minimum of 10 days from when their symptoms started or until their symptoms resolve, whichever is longer.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Get tested for COVID-19.</li> <li>• If test results are negative and there is no known exposure to COVID-19, stay home until after symptoms are gone for 24 hours.</li> <li>• If test results are positive, follow the instructions from Alberta Health Services (AHS) Public Health.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chills</li> <li>• Painful swallowing</li> <li>• Stuffy nose</li> <li>• Headache</li> <li>• Muscle or joint aches</li> <li>• Feeling unwell, fatigue or severe exhaustion</li> <li>• Gastrointestinal symptoms (nausea, vomiting, diarrhea or unexplained loss of appetite)</li> <li>• Loss of sense of smell or taste</li> <li>• Pink eye (conjunctivitis)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stay at home until symptoms are gone for 24 hours.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Get tested for COVID-19.</li> <li>• If test results are negative and there is no known exposure to COVID-19, stay home until symptoms are gone for 24 hours.</li> <li>• If test results are positive, follow the instructions from AHS Public Health.</li> </ul>

Other AHS Resources:

- [AHS K to 12 School Re-Entry](#)
- [AHS Student Illness Document](#)
- [AHS School FAQ](#)

Please let us know if you have any questions. You and your family continue to be in our prayers.

Sincerely in Christ,

Bill Tomiak  
Executive Director

# **RE-ENTRY PLAN UPDATES: OUR PLAN HAS BEEN REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY ALBERTA HEALTH SERVICES AND THE CWA COVID-19 ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**

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**UPDATED: OCTOBER 5, 2020**

## **ADDITIONS TO RESPONDING TO AN ILLNESS (PAGE 2)**

- You can report an absent student by emailing [absences@clearwateracademy.com](mailto:absences@clearwateracademy.com) or by calling 403-217-8448.
- Subject to the protocols from Alberta Health Services, students must be symptom free for 24 hours before returning to school.
- If your child has been away from the school due to symptoms or illness (for any reason), they need to check in with the main reception of St. Thomas More Hall for Junior Kindergarten to Grade 6 students or with reception at Athlone Hall for Grades 7 to 12 students before they can return to their homeroom classroom.

## **ADDITION TO DAILY CLEANING PROTOCOLS (PAGE 4)**

Bathrooms and high touch surfaces are now being “fogged” with Vital Oxide, a non-corrosive, 100% biodegradable product. Vital Oxide is a registered Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) hospital disinfectant, cleaner, mold and mildew killer, and odor eliminator. With its ready-to-use formula designed to be gentle to users but tough on germs, Vital Oxide is non-irritating to skin, non-corrosive to most treated articles, NSF-certified (no rinse required) for food-contact surfaces, and listed as a category IV (lowest toxicity category) pesticide with the EPA.

## **ADDITIONS TO CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENT (PAGE 5)**

As the Secondary teachers are moving to classrooms instead of the students, teachers do not share whiteboard markers, computers, or other teaching materials.

## **ADDITION TO MASKS (PAGE 7)**

As per AHS, masks need to fully cover the nose and mouth. Please see the following information:

- <https://www.alberta.ca/assets/documents/covid19-types-of-masks-eye-protection.pdf>
- <https://open.alberta.ca/dataset/989e490e-5959-4a20-bfc7-b126b08ea996/resource/523f7856-31f5-4af1-be62-3a48a0acad4c/download/covid-19-guidance-for-wearing-non-medical-masks.pdf>

## **ADDITIONS TO EXTRA CURRICULAR, CO-CURRICULAR, AND FIELD TRIPS (PAGE 9)**

Intramural sports are now taking place for students in Grades 7-9 by class cohorts.

## **SECTION ADDITION TO ACCESSING THE SCHOOL (PAGE 11)**

Substitute Teachers and Support Services:

- Whenever possible, we will have substitute teachers that work exclusively for our school.
- Our Occupational Therapists, Speech Therapists, Psychologists, and Counsellors are essential to the growth, education, and formation of some of our students. They have access into the school and are held to the same standard of self-screening as our faculty.

# FAQ: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FROM CWA CONNECTS ON SEPT. 15, 2020

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## 1. **When will the Healthy Hunger program resume?**

The Healthy Hunger program remains postponed until further notice.

## 2. **Will the Ten Talks start again and will they take place via Zoom or in the chapel?**

Ten Talks will begin virtually and they will start in the second week of October.

## 3. **Is there a "Plan B" in case we need to do virtual learning again?**

Yes, we have a plan in place for Scenario 3 - At Home Learning.

## 4. **Where are gym classes taking place? Are they indoors or outdoors and how can you keep it safe?**

Physical education classes are done in cohorts and are being held outside for now - weather permitting. Activities that allow for greater physical distancing are being considered and individual skill development is a greater focus now above team sports. Intramural sports for grades 7 - 9 have begun with class cohorts maintained.

## 5. **What are you doing to ensure that Faculty are healthy?**

Just like your children, all of our faculty are doing the daily COVID-19 self-screening questionnaire in the morning and if they are experiencing any symptom(s) they cannot come to school and we are asking them to get a COVID test. Our faculty are adhering to all the recommendations of AHS.

## 6. **Do classes always stay in their own cohort? Does this mean boys and girls will not be combined for gym?**

In Elementary, the classes are always in their homeroom cohort. We extend the cohort to grade level only at recess. In gym class, boys and girls share the gym or green spaces but are on opposite sides. In Secondary, the teachers move to the students' homeroom classroom except for Physical Education, Media Studies, Art, and Drama (the students move to the specific classroom for these classes). The classes are always in their homeroom cohort except when grades 10 and 11 are together for Art and Drama.

## 7. **Is any extra attention being given to mental health surrounding COVID-19? Are teachers talking to kids about it?**

The personal attention we provide to students includes support for the various aspects they may be dealing with in their personal lives. COVID-19 is certainly a topic we are addressing and the COVID-19 Advisory Committee is providing guidance on mental health for students, faculty, and parents.

## 8. **Is there a plan to celebrate First Eucharist for Grade 2 students (former and current) and also Confirmation students?**

Yes, we are working on a plan to celebrate First Eucharist. Details will be communicated at a later date. For Confirmation, we will add these students to our public prayer intentions throughout the year.

## 9. **I have a neighbor that saw a Clear Water sign on my lawn and wants to know if CWA has provisions for ADHD students in elementary?**

Our encouragement is that this family would contact our admissions department to set up a meeting to determine if Clear Water Academy is the right place for their children to thrive.

## 10. **Can I bring in food or celebratory items for birthdays or other special feast days?**

Unfortunately, due to regulations surrounding COVID-19, we are unable to receive or share any items at this time.