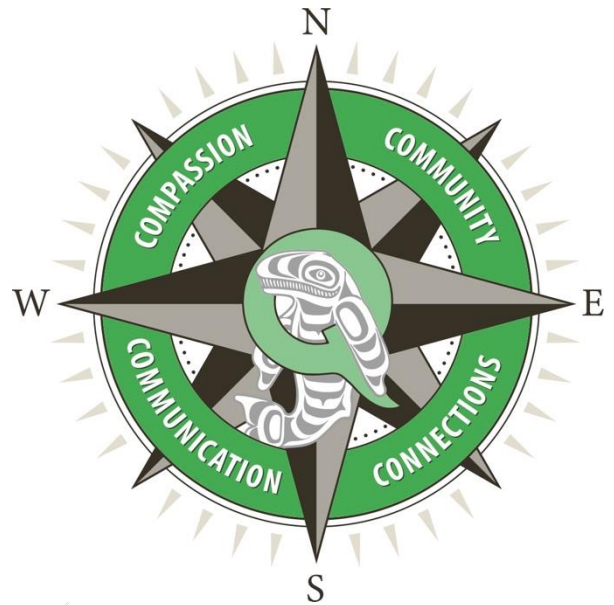


Back to School at Queneesh

At Queneesh Elementary School we strive to provide a safe, caring and educationally nurturing environment for all. We value all students' unique qualities and believe that everyone has the ability to learn, build relationships and contribute to our school community.

This school year we will continue to follow the [BC Ministry of Education Provincial Covid-19 Communicable Disease Guidelines for K-12 Settings](#) and the SD71 protocols to help keep all of us safe and healthy through the Coronavirus pandemic. We are prepared as a school to continue to provide a great learning environment and welcoming community for our families. Our Q COMPASS will provide us with guidance, and this document will continue to adapt to changes as necessary. Please check our school website for updates.



The first few days

- Tuesday September 7th Students return to last year's teacher for the morning
- **School starts on Tuesday at 8:40 a.m. and early dismissal is at 11:45 a.m.**
- **KINDERGARTEN** students have an extended gradual entry. We will email parents with their schedules.
- **Grades 1-7 students – meeting out on the back field. We will email parents which teacher each child has in the week of September 1st**

Safety procedures

All our plans and procedures are based in the safety protocols and procedures outlines by both the [school district](#) and the [province](#). Some of the highlights in these documents are:

- **Masks:** Elementary students grades 4-7 are required to wear masks while inside and on the bus. K-3 students are encouraged to wear masks.
- **Handwashing:** Students will wash hands or use hand sanitizer many times in a day, whenever they move to a common space, before and after eating, and when entering the class.
- **Staying home when sick:** By bringing students to school parents are confirming that they and their family are healthy and free of any signs of illness. Students and staff need to stay home and notify the office if sick. There is a helpful "health check app" provided [here](#).
- **Kids who get sick at school:** Our first aid attendants will support students who are sick. They will be isolated from other staff and students until parents are able to come pick them up.



- **Cleaning:** There are increased cleaning procedures in place, and daytime custodians at school to help keep common spaces clean. Frequently touched surfaces will be disinfected once daily.
- **Ventilation:** The district has updated our ventilation systems to meet health and safety requirements in all schools.
- **Cohorts:** Students will not be in cohorts this year or required to play in specific areas outside.

Daily Schedule

- Before 8:35 – morning gym and breakfast club will be open starting September 8.
- 8:35 – warning bell
- 8:40 – School starts, teachers will meet students at their assigned doors to come in
- 10:00 – recess break
- 10:30 – students return to class
- 12:00 – second recess
- 12:30 – class time begins again
- 2:30 - dismissal



Moving around the building

- Students will be able to use common spaces such as the gym, library, and music room. They will wash hands before going into these rooms.
- Students will be asked to respect respiratory etiquette when in bathrooms or other close spaces (2m separation is not required).
- Water fountains are still turned off, but bottle refilling stations are available. Please bring a water bottle to school every day.

Students with diverse abilities

- We will continue the processes that have been established district-wide and are already in place in our schools: Case Management; SBT—Referral/Review process; development of IEP/Learning Plans; assessment processes/assessment
- Each student with diverse abilities/disabilities or designation will be assigned a Case Manager or PVP/Counsellor contact.
- Case Managers and/or PVP/Counsellor contacts will connect with families to ensure that they are aware that their child/youth is welcome to attend school and to provide an update on their child/family
- We will continue to monitor school re-engagement levels of vulnerable students and families and will follow processes to connect with these families.
- Case Managers/PVP/Counsellor contacts will bring students forward at SBT Review Meetings (to be held in the first 2 weeks of return to school) to review vulnerability, learning needs; EA supports, district specialist support, health and safety support; mental health support of all students in the cohort.



Parents and other non-staff adults

Parents will continue to meet teachers outside and not be able to come into the school without a **purpose** such as volunteering or attending a scheduled meeting. All visitors must check in with the office first and follow the Health & Safety guidelines. Teachers will meet their students outside in the morning and bring them outside at the end of the day for dismissal. It will always be in the same place.

If students are struggling with transitions to school in the morning, staff will be outside to support them. On the first day we will tell everyone which doors are to be used by which classes, and parents will be asked to drop their children off at the door in the morning and pick them up at the same door after school.

Other issues

There will be a gradual start to bringing back some of the activities we have done at Queneesh prior to the pandemic. Volunteers, sports, assemblies (smaller groups), and other traditional school events

Communication

- We want to keep you informed. We recognize that too much information is overwhelming, we will try to keep messages brief so they can be easily read.
- Weekly emails will come home to keep you informed as things change and we adjust to it.
- [Our new webpage](#) Queneesh.ca is a good place to find current info. Classroom teachers will come up with their own technique for keeping parents informed (planners, webpages, email etc....)
- If any issues or questions come up, please contact us at 250-334-4089 or through email kyle.timms@sd71.bc.ca or queneesh@sd71.bc.ca