



August 26, 2020

Dear Families,

RE: Important School Start Information

We are excited to welcome our students back to school on Tuesday, September 1! We hope that you have taken some time to review the Red Deer Public Schools [2020-2021 Handbook for Students and Families](#), which is a guide for common re-entry practices across the Division.

As directed by the Alberta Chief Medical Officer of Health and Alberta Education, we are going back to school to near normal operations with some health restrictions. We will do what we can to provide healthy and safe learning environments for our students, while following all provincial guidelines.

In addition to welcoming you back, we want to give you details of what school will look like at Ecole Lindsay Thurber Comprehensive High School.

Staggered Starts

On the first day of school please arrive shortly before the first class, enter your grade level door (as outlined on the map below) wear a mask and **proceed directly to your 1st-period class.**

We'll start the first week of school with staggered start days. This will allow our staff and students to become familiar with the guidelines and expectations. From September 1 - 4, we will have students attend based on last name. The schedule will look like this:

- Tuesday, September 1
 - Morning only - Grade 9 last name A to L
 - Afternoon only - Grade 10 - 12 last name A to L
- Wednesday September 2
 - Morning only - Grade 9 last name M to Z
 - Afternoon only - Grade 10 - 12 last name M to Z
- Thursday, September 3
 - Full day - All grades last name A to L
- Friday, September 4
 - Full day - All grades last name M to Z

ÉCOLE SECONDAIRE LINDSAY THURBER COMPREHENSIVE HIGH SCHOOL

4204 - 58 Street, Red Deer, AB, Canada T4N 2L6 P: 403-347-1171 | F: 403-340-1676 | ltchs@rdpsd.ab.ca

Principal: C. Good **Vice Principals:** J Rawlusk | S. Sillery | K. Brand | A. Wilson **Business Manager:** R. Jenkins



Bell Schedule for September 1 & 2

GRADE 9	
Period 1	8:33 – 9:15
Period 3	9:20 - 10:02
Period 5	10:07 – 10:47
Period 7	10:52 - 11:34

GRADE 10-12	
Period 1	12:11 - 12:53
Period 3	12:58 – 1:40
Period 5	1:45 - 2:27
Period 7	2:32 - 3:14

Bell Schedule for September 3 onward

As part of a strategy to create a smaller cohort of students we will not be running our flex time schedule for at least the month of September. We will notify students and families when we are able to bring back our LT Flex block.

Period 0	7:10 – 8:28
Period 1	8:33 – 10:02
Period 3	10:08 – 11:33
Period 4 Lunch	11:33 – 12:13 (40min)
Period 5	12:18 – 1:43
Period 7	1:49 – 3:14
Period 8	3:20 – 5:05



Masks

Current Alberta Education & Alberta Health guidance states that masks must be worn on buses, in common areas, and in classrooms when physical distancing can not be achieved. With this in mind masks will be mandatory in Grade 4-12 classrooms, hallways, common areas, and busses as school begins. If and when physical distancing can happen in a classroom, masks will not need to be worn when students are seated facing forward. Teachers will work with students that are struggling with wearing their masks for prolonged periods.

When teachers are teaching and can maintain a 2m distance from the nearest student they will not be required to wear a mask. In all other circumstances they will be expected to.

Exemptions to mask requirement for students & staff in Grades 4-12 include:

- Persons who are unable to place, use or remove a non-medical face mask without assistance;
- Persons unable to wear a non-medical face mask due to a mental or physical concern or limitation;
- Persons consuming food or drink in designated areas;
- Persons engaged in physical exercise;
- Persons providing care or assistance to a person with a disability where a non-medical face mask would hinder that caregiving or assistance;
- Persons engaging in services that require the temporary removal of the non-medical face mask
- Spaces where physical barriers have been installed between persons.

Parents are not required to provide schools with written documentation of mental and physical concerns around mask wearing. Instead a conversation with the teacher or administration about the concerns should be had. Parents should continue to work with their kids as much as possible in getting them to wear masks.

Two reusable non-medical masks will be provided to each student on their first day of school. Parents should familiarize themselves with the [guidance on mask use](#), paying attention to the need to launder masks on a daily basis.

Please note, students are permitted to use masks from home as well, however, buffs and scarves are not an approved mask by Alberta Health Services.

Daily Health Assessment



Each day, before students come to school, we ask parents to complete the daily [Screening Checklist](#). If you answer yes to any of the questions, please follow the instructions provided at the bottom of the checklist.

If your child is sick, you are required to keep them home until they have been assessed by a health care provider to exclude COVID-19. For more detailed information, visit the [2020-2021 Handbook for Students and Families](#).

Transportation

Parents and students are encouraged, whenever possible, to try and arrange their own transportation to school to help limit the number of riders on buses during this pandemic. Regular transportation service levels will be maintained throughout Scenario 1.

Red Deer Transit

We encourage you to check for updates on the [Red Deer Transit's](#) website for regulations regarding public transportation.

Drop off/pick up

To keep your children safe, parents/guardians are to remain clear of school entrances, or within their vehicle while waiting for their children. Because of congestion, parents are encouraged to park in a location that is in close proximity, but not directly at the school.

Entry Points

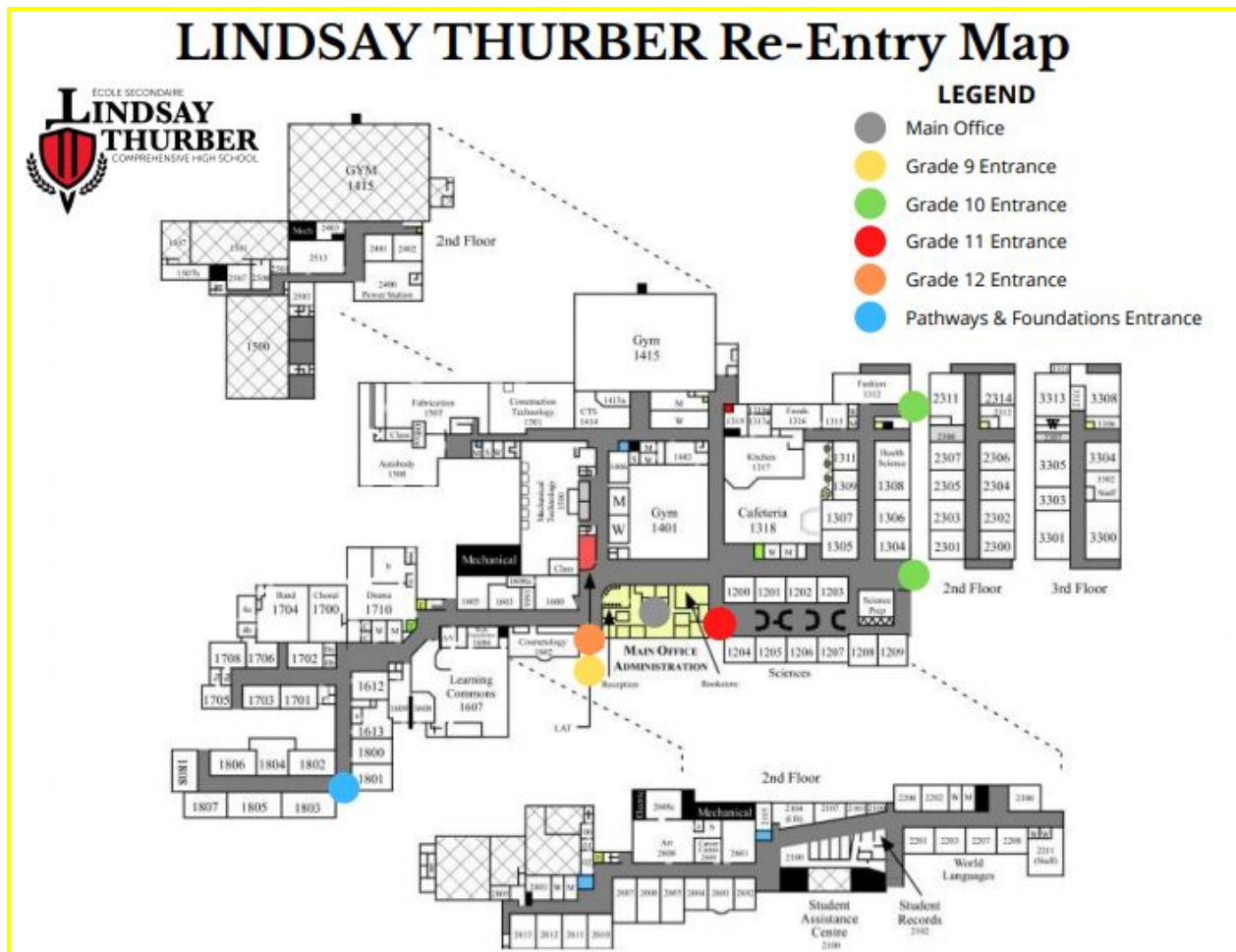
To minimize physical interactions, our school will be utilizing as many doors as possible and all students will be assigned an entry point. When students enter the school they will be expected to go directly to their period 1 class and wait in the classroom until the teacher is ready to begin class.

Grade 9 & Grade 12 Students enter in the Main Front Doors.

Grade 10 Students enter in the Tower Doors and they can enter on either side of the tower.

Grade 11 Students enter in the Science Doors located south of the main entrance.

Students in our Pathways and Foundations Programs will enter through the doors in the 100 wing.



When students enter the school they will be asked to use hand sanitizer and then go directly to their class. There will be no use of lockers at least for the month of September. This will be reviewed as needed.

Similar to the start of the school day, we will be exiting the school in an orderly manner with appropriate supervision. Students will exit the building from the same door they entered in the morning.

Late Arrival or Early Departure

We ask if your child is going to be late arriving at school in the morning, or need to be excused throughout the day, please contact the school 403-314-2017. When your child arrives late they will need to check into the office, use hand sanitizer and head to their class. If your child is scheduled to be picked up early, please call the office when you arrive.



School Visitors

In order to minimize risks, parents, volunteers and other visitors will not be permitted until further notice. All communications will be done through email or over the phone. If there is a need for an in person meeting, this requires a scheduled appointment prior to the school visit, subject to principal approval.

Cleaning and daytime caretaking

Our school has enhanced cleaning including daytime caretaking to ensure consistent cleaning throughout the day with continued deep cleaning in the evening. All daytime caretakers will follow a prescribed [cleaning schedule](#). For more detailed information, visit the [2020-2021 Handbook for Students and Families](#).

Class Transitions/Breaks

Transitions are challenging due to the volume of students moving throughout the building at the same time. Students will be encouraged to practice physical distancing and to follow posted traffic flow protocols (floor stickers and single lane flow) during class transitions. Students will be asked not to stop and congregate during transitions between classes. Once students arrive in their class, teachers will give them a few minutes to have a snack or visit with their friends before the class begins.

Lunchtime

- We encourage students to leave the school for the lunch break if possible. Students who stay for lunch will be required to stay in their period 3 classroom for the duration of the lunch break. Students will not be permitted to be in the hallways or in the field during this time. Students in CTS courses will eat in the cafeteria and PE classes will go to an empty classroom.
- Food sharing between students is not allowed.
- Students must not share utensils, dishes or drink containers.
- Students will be asked to wash their hands or use hand sanitizer before and after eating.
- Students will be asked to help wipe down their own desks or tables after they are used for eating.
- Microwaves will NOT be available for student use. Please make every effort to send



lunches and snacks that do not require the use of microwaves.

- Our cafeteria will be opening on Tuesday September 8th but students will only be able to order meals online. Students will be able to pre-order their lunch online up to one month in advance. Order will close at 8 am each morning and meals will be delivered to the classroom where students eat lunch.

Water Bottles

Water fountains can remain open as per health guidelines, but we recommend that each student bring their own labeled water bottle filled from home. We have bottle filling stations in every school to allow for refills. Students are not allowed to share their water bottles.

Washrooms

Washroom capacity will be posted. Measures will be in place to attempt to reduce the number of students using a washroom at any one time.

Shared School Spaces

Library or learning commons, gymnasiums and foyers remain available for instructional use to maximize physical distancing where possible. Fitness centres and gymnasiums will only be used for curricular and extracurricular purposes.

Options/PE

Option classes and physical education will continue along with core classes.

Physical education will be held outside when the weather allows. Equipment can be shared but students will wash their hands before and after use. Equipment will be sanitized after use. Change rooms will also be closed, students will not need to nor be permitted to change.

Band/Music Classes

Our music and band specialists are designing their instruction to meet health and safety guidelines. This may mean band and music classes look different than in the past. Our teachers will go over details of how classes will look with students during start up.

Athletics

We are working with the Alberta School Athletics Association (ASAA), to explore possibilities for



athletic activities, clubs, and events following current health measures and cohort guidelines. At this time we will be doing in school practices only as per Alberta Education guidelines. Athletic teams will start in school practices on Tuesday September 8. Students will need to listen to announcements for information about when these activities will take place.

At-home learning

We recognize some families have chosen at-home learning. We want these families to know that they will still be a part of our Lindsay Thurber community with regular communications and connections from the school.

Welcome back!

School will look different, but it's going to be a great year full of teaching and learning. We can't wait to have our students back in our classrooms - we have missed them! Please note, as the COVID-19 pandemic evolves, so will our plans for school re-entry. If changes in provincial guidelines arise, please be assured that we will communicate those to you. We look forward to seeing you next week! If you have any further questions, please contact either myself or your grade administrator by phone or email.

Grade 9 & 13 Administrator Jamie Rawlusk jamie.rawlusk@rdpsd.ab.ca

Grade 10 Administrator Sheila Sillery sheila.sillery@rdpsd.ab.ca

Grade 11 Administrator Kelly Brand kelly.freriks@rdpsd.ab.ca

Grade 12 Administrator Amanda Wilson amanda.wilson@rdpsd.ab.ca

Sincerely,

Chris Good, Principal

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