



School Specific Re-entry Plan

Fort McMurray Islamic School
October 20th, 2020 (Updated)

Principal's Message to Staff and Parents, Guardians, and Caregivers

Assalaamu Alaykum FMIS Parents/Guardians,

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we establish the 2020-2021 school year to safely return to in class learning in a near-normal scenario. There have been many adjustments to how school works this year, and we have really appreciated your cooperation and support in bringing your children to FMIS. Our students have shown great responsibility and leadership in learning the new protocols and processes of what this school year looks like. Not only students, we are tremendously grateful to our parents, who have been very cautious and proactive in doing the daily morning screening and sending only healthy children to school.

Safety remains our priority all the time and we continue to ask for your understanding and cooperation as we all navigate through what will be our "new normal". We are making small tweaks to our processes as we seek out what needs to be improved, as new provincial guidelines and direction comes from AHS. Our procedures will be following provincial health requirements and recommendations to reduce the spread of COVID-19, while providing great learning experiences for our students. We value our partnership with parents and their feedback that goes in the best interest of our students. We will continue to maintain strong relationships while adopting this new normal.

On Thursday, October 15th, we had our first virtual School Council meeting for the 2020-2021 school year. Thanks to all parents who attended this meeting. Any parent that has a child at Islamic School can become a part of our School Council. We encourage parents to be a part of this body.

We strongly encourage our parents to have an active PowerSchool account for their child (ren) as this is where parents can view marks, attendance and report cards. If you need assistance with set up please call the main office. We will have virtual parent teacher interviews in the first week of November. More information about PTI will be shared with parents later this week.

Please be aware that this is an evolving re- entry plan, as circumstances change and develop in the community. The FMPSD is going to be updating the division plan twice per month to keep our families updated. In addition, please find a link to [Frequently Asked Questions](#), which is also available on [FMPSD website](#). You can also visit the [Fort McMurray Islamic School Website](#) for additional information. Please feel free to contact the school if you have any questions or concerns.

Looking forward to seeing you all sometime soon Insha Allah!

Sincerely,
Mehtar Rashid
Principal, Fort McMurray Islamic School

Parent Visits to School (Updated)

- We invited families who are interested to see the school prior to the first day to call the office on Monday morning (August 24th) and make an appointment for a quick tour of the school. The tours were planned on **Monday, August 24th and 25th from 3:00-6:00 pm**. We booked a maximum of two families at a time—10 minute increments—and they received a quick tour of the common areas such as the hallways, washrooms, and outside the class
- We sincerely value our community and parent volunteers; unfortunately, we are not able to have volunteers enter the building at this time. We look forward to when we will be able to work physically together again
- At this time, we will ask that parents please **arrange for an appointment** to enter the school to meet with a Counselor, teacher or Administration
- All visitors will need to enter and exit through the main doors of the school and check in with the office, where you will need to sign in and out. People authorized to enter the building at this time are Canada Post, delivery and maintenance personnel as well as FMPSD staff
- If a parent needs to enter the building to pick up a sick child, that will be arranged through the office as needed. Please call the school when you arrive, before entering the building @ (780) 750-3888. The parent (or designated emergency contact) may only enter the building after completing the COVID-19 [Screening Questionnaire](#), sanitizing hands and if they are wearing a mask
- If a parent needs to drop off a lunch for their child, they can call the office ahead of time and procedures will be shared with the parent for entering the building. All health protocols must be followed (ie: screening questionnaire, wearing of a mask, and proper hand hygiene). There will be a table in the office to place the student's lunch. The student will then be called to the office to pick it up. The student name must be clearly displayed on the bag/container
- Parents will be advised to stay outside (and respect physical distancing) or in their vehicles for pick up and drop off.

Daily Screening for Illness, Protocols if a Student Becomes Ill

- Any and all individuals who enter the school building (staff, student, visitor) will self screen using the AHS Daily Screening Tool.
 - Parents and Staff can access a copy of the AHS Daily Screening Tool and guidance for school Reentry using the below links:
 - [Screening Questionnaire](#)
 - [COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool](#)
 - [Resource Guide for COVID 19 in School](#)

Stay home when sick

All students, staff and visitors who meet the following criteria must stay home and self-isolate as per Alberta Health Services (AHS) guidelines:

- symptoms of COVID-19, common cold, influenza or other respiratory diseases
- travelled outside of Canada in the last 14 days
- been identified as a close contact of a confirmed case or outbreak of COVID-19

You are legally required to isolate for a minimum of 10 days if you have a:

- fever
- new onset of cough
- shortness of breath
- runny nose or
- sore throat that is not related to a pre-existing illness or health condition. The mandatory isolation period is 10 days from the start of symptoms, or until symptoms resolve, whichever takes longer.

If you have symptoms but tested negative for COVID-19 and have no known exposure to COVID-19:

- you are not legally required to isolate. However, it's important to stay home until symptoms resolve so as to not infect others

If you tested positive for COVID-19:

- you are legally required to isolate for a minimum of 10 days, or until symptoms resolve, whichever takes longer

People unsure if they should self-isolate should self-assess using the COVID-19 Self Assessment Tool and contact Alberta Health Link at 8-1-1, or the public health unit to speak to a health professional.

For guided support in helping determine if children need to stay home, visit Alberta Health Services' [Guidance for Parents of Children Attending School and/or Childcare](#).

- Parents are asked to screen children daily as per AHS Daily Screening Tool (included in the Principal's message to families, posted at the front entrance and shared online).

- School staff will monitor students for COVID symptoms.
- **If a teacher identifies a student has symptoms in the classroom, then:**
 - School staff/Teacher will ask the student to put on a mask if they are not already wearing one. If the student does not have a mask, a disposable mask will be provided. School staff should place the student in an area that is 2m from any other individual but still supervised.
 - School staff will contact the main office.
 - One office staff calls the parent or emergency contact.
 - Office staff does the PPE and one staff member or administrator will go to escort the student from the classroom to the infirmary.
 - Students will need to isolate in the infirmary until the parent or emergency contact arrives for pick up. One staff member or administrator will stay with the sick child by keeping a distance of 6 feet.
 - Custodian will be alerted to clean high touch surfaces in the classroom, including the space where the child was sitting.
 - After the child leaves the building, the infirmary will be disinfected.
 - If there is more than one student that needs to isolate, they will be socially distanced in the infirmary.

Drop off and Pick up

All students will use their assigned doors around the school in which they will enter. Teachers and Junior High recess leaders will ensure students are going to the proper door upon arrival. Due to our school's location, and the vast majority of our students living on the other side of town, we have a natural trickling in of students each morning. In other words, we are fortunate that we do not have a "morning rush." Between the buses and carpooling, students are dropped off between 8:15 and 8:30am. Again, supervisors will be outside to ensure students are physically distancing as they walk to their doors. As students round the corner, there will be more supervisors (along with JH leaders) to ensure all students make it to their correct door in a safe fashion.

Division 1 teachers will begin to get ready for dismissal at 3:05pm, so when the bell rings at 3:10pm teachers will be ready to walk their classes to the front. Division 2 will follow a similar protocol, but will begin getting ready later. At dismissal, Division 1 and 2 teachers will walk their classes to the front of the school (physically distancing along the way) and will go to their assigned space. Teachers will wait up to 15 minutes with their class as parents make themselves visible to their kids—this means all vehicles must be parked and parents must exit the vehicle. Other supervisors will then escort those students across the bus lane to their parents.

Transportation & Bussing

We are fortunate to have our parking lot being expanded as we write this school plan. Parents will use the main parking lot for dropping off and picking up their kids. No vehicles will be allowed in the bus lane. Bussing will be organized by the Markaz, but will provide students door-to-door service. Students will be required to wear masks on the bus and will be required to sit by their family members and/or cohort members first. If this does not apply to a student then those students will sit by the same student each day with assigned seating.

Traffic Flow within the School

- Directional decals have been placed in high traffic areas such as:
 - in front of water fountains
 - In the hallways
 - in front of washrooms
 - front office entryway
 - exterior doors that have an entry and exit
 - photocopy rooms
- Lines have been placed in the middle of the hallways to as a visual reminder to maintain physical distancing

Handwashing and Hand Sanitizing Stations

We have hand sanitizing stations outside all of our classrooms and auxiliary spaces such as the gym, library, and foyers. Students will be required to hand sanitize upon entering the school/classroom in the morning and every time they re-enter the classroom. Students will wash, or use hand sanitizer, prior to using shared materials and immediately afterwards.

Student Belongings (Updated)

At this time, students will still not be assigned lockers.

Students are allowed to use boot rooms. The latest update states the following:

In some classrooms, particularly in lower grades where cohorting is more successfully employed, students should bring what they need for the day and store belongings in the classroom:

- In their backpack under the desk or in a designated space
- In an assigned bin
- Jackets/boots can be stored in boot rooms with entry procedures in place to minimize crowding

At this time, lockers are not permitted to be used as per FMPSD guidelines. All student belongings should be kept with them throughout the day. We will discuss as a staff the best way to manage this as we know it will be challenging. Please consider some possibilities that may work in your classroom before we discuss as a staff later next week.

Lockers are not permitted at this time, the student belongings are in the classroom, they can get ready inside of their rooms without major crowding in the halls, especially for Grades 1-3. Division 2 is a little different as they all have their own entrances and exits.

Recess, Lunch, Transitions

We have created three separate schedules for our school: Division 1, Division 2, and Division 3. Each schedule allows each division to have separate recess and lunch breaks. Division 2 is physically segregated in different hallways and uses separate entrances and exits—this makes physical distancing very easy. Division 3 will remain indoors for their breaks and have a cohort schedule for “open gym” to receive some physical activity. Division 1, specifically grade 2 and 3s, share an entrance/exit, but teachers have created a staggered entry/exit schedule for students during transitions such as recess. Furthermore, Division 1 and 2 classes will get ready for recess and dismissal inside of their own class. When the teacher is ready, they will walk their class out. Lastly, in regards to lunch, teachers will have their class keep their backpacks on the back of each student’s chair, which allow students to access snacks and lunch by simply turning around. Students will be reminded to be mindful of when they turn around in case another student is sitting behind them.

Student Spaces for In Class and Learning Activities

- Teachers are to avoid shared materials if possible. If not possible, students are to follow proper hand hygiene by washing or sanitizing before and after each use of shared materials. handwashing or hand sanitizing protocols. Where possible, specific groupings of materials will be assigned to students or cohorts
- In order to maintain safe physical distancing, it might be necessary to remove larger items from classrooms. Teachers will be provided with support from school staff to remove these items.
- Carpets have been removed from the classrooms that provides more space to keep a decent distance between desks
- Students will keep their backpacks inside the classroom at the back of their chairs to avoid unnecessary trips to hallways