



Ernestown S. S.

Return to School
Information for our
E.S.S. Families

Welcome back from the
Ernestown Staff!





Preparing for your return

- Review the [LDSB's FAQ for Families](#) with your child or children who are returning to school.
- Review Triboard Transportation information to verify your bussing information.
 - ◆ Visit triboard.ca and click on the 2020-2021 Student Bus Details at the bottom

Staggered Start Information

September 3, 2020

- The first day of school will be remote for all students. Students are encouraged to review the LDSB Health & Safety Protocols through the Minds Online Learning Portal found on the LDSB website (www.limestone.on.ca).

The screenshot shows the Limestone District School Board website. At the top, there are three slogans: "We're Putting Wellness First", "We're Turning Innovation into Action", and "We're Committed to Collaboration". Below these is a navigation menu with links for Home, Students, Families, Community, Programming, Board, Trustees, News, Contact Us, and Staff Portal. The main content area features the school board logo and the text "SCHOOL REOPENING". To the right, there is an "Upcoming Events" calendar with the following entries:

Date	Event
03 SEP	First Day of School
07 SEP	Labour Day
13 SEP	Firefighters' National Memorial Day
14 SEP	Audit Committee

Below the calendar is a "Full Calendar" link. At the bottom of the page, there is a row of icons for various services, with "Minds Online" highlighted by a red circle.

- Grade 9 students will be contacted by their first period teacher, who will communicate where their class will be held, and the entrance/exit the student should use the first day.
- School to Community students will also be contacted by their teacher.



Staggered Start Information

September 4, 2020

- Grade 9 students **will attend** school for orientation and instruction for the full day.
- Grade 10-12 students **will not attend**, but will be contacted by their first period teacher, who will communicate where their class will be held, and the entrance/exit the student should use on their first day.

September 8, 2020

- All students attend school.

Student Services Information



- The Student Services department has been working hard to ensure that all students have timetable issues dealt with in a timely manner.
- Schedules have required adjustment based on our return to school model and the latest staffing
- With the current model, all timetable changes should be completed as soon as possible to make sure that students do not fall behind.
- Please email Ms. English at englishke@limestone.on.ca by Thursday, September 3 if you need to request a change.

Materials for School

- Things to make sure that you bring
 - ◆ Backpack or bag
 - ◆ Refillable water bottle (Water fountains will be shut off, water fill stations will remain operable)
 - ◆ Writing utensils
 - ◆ Binder and paper
 - ◆ Calculator (if you have one and are in math)
 - ◆ A book to read for Ernestown Reads, as library books will not be available for sign out.
 - ◆ Lunch & snacks for the day
 - **There will be no food served in the cafeteria**
- Students in Phys Ed are encouraged to come ready to participate, as the access to the changerooms will be limited





Prior to School Each Day

- It is essential that prior to leaving for school each day, students are screened at home for any indicators of COVID-19.
- If any indicators are present, students are not to come to school, and families are encouraged to contact their healthcare provider or Public Health.

Arriving at School - Students on buses

- Check the Triboard website (www.triboard.ca) to confirm pick up time and location.
- Read the COVID-19 update on the Triboard website
- When you arrive at school, enter through the door that has been assigned to you, and proceed directly to your classroom



Arriving at School - Students who walk, drive or bike

- School begins at 8:14
- Students who walk, drive or bike are asked to arrive no earlier than 8:00
- When you arrive at school, enter through the door that has been assigned to you, and proceed directly to your classroom



Arriving at School - All students

- Before entering the building, students are asked to make sure that they have their mask on, completely covering their nose, mouth and chin.
- Please use the hand sanitizer provided at your entrance upon entering



Lockers and Hallways

- Lockers will not be issued to students at this time, so students should bring only what they need for their class.
- All of your belongings should travel with you to class, and remain with you throughout the day.
- Hallways are for moving from outside to your class, there should be no stopping and visiting with friends.



Washrooms

- Students will need to adhere to signage outside washrooms indicating the maximum number of individuals who should be in the washrooms at any one time.
- Upon entering, if the occupancy has been reached, students may have to wait outside the doors for someone to exit.
- Thorough hygiene practices post-use are essential for maintaining good health.





Signs

- The following slide will show some of the signs that you will see posted in the hallways and around the school.
- They are intended to keep traffic moving and avoid crowding of areas.
- Please be aware of, and follow, all signs.

Signs





Your Classroom

- We have tried to move larger classes to larger rooms to facilitate distancing.
- Desks/work areas will be spread out as much as the room will allow.
- You will have one work location that will remain yours throughout the 22-day period.
- All surfaces should be kept clear so they can be sanitized as required.



Your Classroom

- Hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes will be available in every room; students should use sanitizer upon entry to the room.
- You will be in your class/learning area throughout the day, classrooms will not change.
- Teachers may take their classes outside, which will allow students to remove their masks, if they maintain their distance of 2 metres.



How will our day look?

- The model that the Ministry has approved for us to use will see students participate in a single class for all four periods of the day.
- School will still run from 8:14-2:30, and students will take a single course for all four periods.
- This means that **each school day is equivalent to about a week of school during a regular semester.**
- Breaks between periods will be staggered to minimize the number of students out of class at any one time.
- **Senior students who have a spare are not to attend school for the block in which their spare lands.**

What happens at lunch?

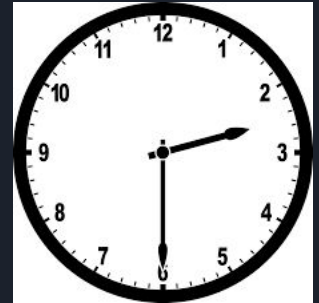
- In order to reduce the number of contacts that students have, they will eat their lunch in their classroom, or they may go outside.
- Going outside will allow students to remove their masks, but they should still maintain a physical distance of 2 metres.
- Students choosing to go outside are encouraged to stay with members of their class cohort.
- Loyalist Township has kindly loaned us a number of picnic tables that we will have spread out around the grounds.



End of the school day



- School ends at 2:30, all students should be out of the building by 2:45.
- Students will be asked to leave directly through their assigned exit door and proceed to their bus or pick up location, to help facilitate the smooth flow of traffic.
- Exit times may be staggered to ease congestion in the hallways.



If you need to pick up your student during the day

- As we need to limit the number of visitors, we are asking parents to remain outside of the building if they need to pick up their student.
- We have installed a doorbell outside the front doors, on the right.
- Please ring the bell, and someone will come and speak to you about your needs.
- Kindly ensure you are wearing your mask.





Return of Borrowed Technology

- Any student that borrowed a Chromebook or other technology during the period of emergency remote learning in the spring is asked to bring it back with them upon their return to school.
- School staff will circulate to classes to pick up returned items so they can be sanitized prior to student use.
- We will be able to provide technology for students to use in class, and everyone will be asked to use provided sanitization materials before and after use of this equipment.



Staying Informed

Please use the following resources to keep informed

L.D.S.B. website www.limestone.on.ca

L.D.S.B. Twitter <https://twitter.com/limestonedsb>

E.S.S. website <https://ernestownss.limestone.on.ca/>

E.S.S. Twitter https://twitter.com/ernestown_ldsb



Final Thoughts



Beginning a new school year can be stressful at any time. This year many students, parents and staff are feeling a heightened sense of concern around the return to school.

The best way for everyone to become comfortable is for all of us to work together, following the guidelines of Public Health, the Ministry, L.D.S.B. and our school to ensure a safe return for all. There will be challenges, but we know that with the observance of these new requirements by all of us, combined with the support of our parent community, we will make the best of our current situation.

The Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario has an excellent back-to-school resource for parents, which you can find [here](#).

Thank you all for your support. We look forward to seeing all of our students upon their return!