

# THINGS WILL BE DIFFERENT...

## To keep us all healthy



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## Return to School FAQ

### Everything you need to know about the JHSS return to school plan

We know that school at JHSS will look a lot different this year, but our commitment to our students remains unwavering and we are incredibly excited to welcome our staff and students back to the classrooms this year. At JHSS, we have undergone significant change to help support our commitment to health, safety, and wellbeing. Every facet of our system has been examined and re-imagined to prioritize the safety of all those who enter our building and to ensure that Human Rights and Equity is at the forefront of everything we do.

We want all of our families to know that they are a valued partner in their child's education and we will be making every effort to stay connected as the year unfolds.

We have tried to compile all the JHSS specific return to school information we can share at this time in this FAQ doc, which is subject to change based on evolving COVID-19 information.

### Important Links for Students & Families

[Returning to School: A Guide for Families](#)

[WRDSB FAQ document.](#)

[Self Screening Tool](#)

## Timetables & Cohorts

Due to the reopening of the student confirmation of attendance form, we have to wait until the results of that survey are shared with us to develop timetables and cohorts. **We will share this information as soon as possible.** Bussing information is available by logging into the Student Transportation Services of Waterloo Region [STSWR](#).

## JHSS Adaptive/Hybrid Model

In this model for secondary students who choose to attend in person, there would be two cohorts (groups): Cohort A & Cohort B.

Each class will be divided into two cohorts, either A or B, with approximately 15 students per cohort. A combination of face-to-face instruction and distance learning will make up the learning experience for our students.

In September, secondary schools will experience a **quadmestering** format, which involves a four-semester school year, with each semester offering two credits each. Each quadmester is approximately 9.5 weeks and ensures students are still engaging in the required 110 hours of learning.

## Student Arrival & Entrance:

All WRDSB staff and students are required to complete a daily COVID-19 Self Assessment Screening ([Self Screening Tool](#)) before coming into the school building. **If one or more signs or symptoms exist, students should not attend school.** Families should contact the Region of Waterloo Public Health Assessment Centre or a Health Care Provider for guidance about return to school.

JHSS students will not be permitted to enter the school building until **7:50 am** when doors will be unlocked for student entry. Students should dress appropriately for the weather each day, as there may be varying wait times outside as we work to move students safely into the building to begin the school day.

- Upon arrival at the school by bus, foot or vehicle, students will make their way to their designated door and line up in a socially distanced manner as per the markings on the ground outside of each door. Students are encouraged to wear their mask in line while waiting to enter the building.

- **Students must be wearing a mask** in order to gain entry into the building. If a student forgets their mask, staff will supply one for them at their designated entrance to the school.
- Upon entering the building students are to proceed directly to their classroom, where they will **sanitize their hands** following proper sanitation procedure.
- Students should practice social distancing as they move through the halls, and congregating and socializing in the hallways is not permitted at this time.

### Student Entry Points:

1. Students with classes on the **FIRST FLOOR** and **THIRD FLOOR** of the **WEST WING** will enter through the **FRONT LANGUAGE DOOR**. Students will make their way to their classes on zero level or take the stairs to the right of the entrance up to the third floor.
2. Students with classes on the **SECOND FLOOR** of the **WEST WING** will enter through the **SIDE DOOR up the (ramp) roadway**. Students will enter at the side of the main foyer and head directly to their classrooms.
3. Students with classes on the **FIRST AND THIRD FLOOR** of the **EAST WING** will enter through the **FRONT SCIENCE DOOR**. Students will take the stairs up to the first floor (science classes) or third floor (art hall) and make their way to their classes.
4. Students with classes on the **SECOND FLOOR** of the **EAST WING** (tech and math hall) will enter through the **FRONT PHOENIX DOOR to the right of the Main Entrance** and make their way up the stairs to the second floor and make their way to their classrooms.
5. Students with classes in the **MUSIC and BUSINESS WING** will enter through the **REAR MUSIC DOORS** and proceed straight to their music classroom or take the **STAIRS at the entrance UP** to the Business hallway.
6. Students with classes in **Phys Ed or Hospitality** will enter through the **SIDE GYM DOORS** and proceed to their class.

\* Your designated entry point may alternate as you follow the schedule of your quadmester courses. Please be aware of where your classroom is each day, as you will not be able to access other floors from the designated entry points.

### Student Dismissal and Exit:

Upon dismissal, classes will be supervised by their teacher on a staggered schedule and students will exit in the exact way they enter the building, moving down the stairwells and out the doors that they came in, which will avoid students from different floors crossing paths.

- Students will follow hallway signage, continuing to social distance as they make their way through the halls, down the stairs and out the door.

## **Washroom Access and Flow:**

### **Washroom Distancing:**

- Your classroom will have a designated washroom
- Washrooms will have posted occupancy limits
- Urinals will be socially distanced
- Markers will be placed around sink areas to encourage social distancing
- There will be socially distanced markers on the floors outside of the washrooms for students to wait for capacity to be available.
- If a student sees that the washroom is at capacity upon entering, they should exit the washroom and wait on the social distance marker until the washroom is free.

### **Use of Washrooms:**

- Students must use the washrooms that are located closest to their classrooms. Access to other floors in the school are prohibited unless escorted by a staff member.
- One student per class is permitted to use the washroom at a time.
- Students must follow the washroom capacity guidelines in order to maintain physical distancing.
- Students must wash their hands after using the washroom and return to class immediately as congregating in washrooms/hallways is strictly prohibited.
- In order to assist with contact tracing, washroom activity must be tracked by the school through a classroom form

## **Nutrition Breaks**

Students will eat lunch in their classroom with their cohort to ensure chances of contact and transmission are minimized. Students should bring food in their own containers and take those containers home with them at the end of the day. Food, drinks, dishes and cutlery are not to be shared by students. Students will not have access to microwaves.

Students will perform hand hygiene prior to and after eating. Students should take home all food waste and containers at the end of each school day.

Vending machines will not be available. The cafeteria is closed.

Nutrition for Learning will be available as prepackaged snacks for students each day upon entry into the school.

## Water Fountains and Bottle Fillers

Students are required to bring their own water bottles. Water fountains will not be available for use; however, no-touch, bottle-filling stations can be used to fill individual water bottles.

## Attendance Procedures

### Late Entry:

- If a student arrives late, between 8:05 and 9:05, they must enter the **MAIN FRONT DOORS** and report to the contactless sign in before they proceed directly to their classroom.
- All entrances will be locked.
- After 9:05 am there will be no late desk at the front entrance so all students showing up after this time should proceed to the front entrance and call the JHSS school phone number posted on the door and wait to be admitted.

### Signing Out:

Students are encouraged to schedule appointments outside of their in-school day. Students who must leave the school during the day, should have their parents call or email the main office ahead of time, and then sign-out with their classroom teacher.

### Expectations:

Students are expected to be in class with their cohort while they are in school. Students are not to wander or congregate. Once a student leaves property without permission, they cannot rejoin their cohort for exposure reasons. Consequences may include suspension.

### Illness:

Students who exhibit symptoms of illness while at school will not be permitted to enter or stay in their classroom, and will be moved to a designated waiting zone. Parents, guardians, and/or emergency contacts designated by the family, will be called immediately, and asked to pick up their child as soon as possible.

## Visitors to the School

Parents and guardians will not be allowed to enter the building, including to sign-out students for appointments, to talk to a staff member, or to drop off forgotten items. In extenuating circumstances, if approval to enter the school is granted by an administrator, a face covering must be worn before entering the school.

## Student Drop-Off, Pick-Up and Parking

Parents and guardians must remain outside the school (preferably in their vehicles) when they drop-off or pick-up their children, and should not be congregating anywhere on school property.

## Health and Safety Protocols

We know that parents have a lot of questions about the upcoming school year and we also know that schools and classrooms will look different when we return. The health and safety of students and staff is our top priority as we prepare for the upcoming school year. We will have increased health and safety measures that operate in conjunction with the [Ministry of Education](#) and Public Health requirements.

## Mask Use

Mask use or face coverings will be mandatory for all JHSS students. Students may wear their own, or school-provided, non-medical masks. It is important that the mask fits properly and covers both the nose and mouth and that all best practices are followed when wearing and removing the mask. Masks may be removed during nutrition breaks to eat lunch.

For additional information refer to the [Public Health Ontario Resource Non-Medical Face Coverings](#).

## Signage and Wayfinding

Appropriate signage will be posted throughout our school and hand sanitizer will be available in classrooms and offices. Our school buses and classrooms will be thoroughly and frequently cleaned. In addition, JHSS will have designated entrances and exits. Hallways and stairwells will be designated for one-way flow and physical distance reminders will be placed throughout the building. Health and safety is at the heart of every element of our return to school planning.

## Hand Hygiene

Staff and educators will regularly remind students of the importance of proper hand hygiene and assist students as needed. Staff will also incorporate frequent hand hygiene into their daily classroom routines. Signs will be posted at all sinks to remind students of proper handwashing techniques.. Students MUST use hand sanitizer / wash their hands:

- when they arrive at school and before they go home;
- before eating and drinking;
- after using the washroom;
- after sneezing or coughing into hands or tissue.
- after using any common supplies, equipment or devices

- whenever hands are visibly dirty;
- when moving between different learning environments or centres(e.g., outdoor-indoor transitions)

In addition to hand washing, hand sanitizer will be placed throughout the school.

## Physical Distancing

It is important to try and maintain at least 2 metres of distance between yourself and other people. Many classroom and school procedures have been put in place to support physical distancing of staff and students.

Students are required to comply with all physical distancing measures that include, but are not limited to:

- Use of specific entrances and exits (both into and out of the school and classroom).
- Specified direction of travel through hallways.
- No use of lockers - students to carry their belongings with them to class.
- Smaller class sizes (cohorting) and seating plans.
- Minimizing the number of students in hallways and washrooms.
- Virtual meetings whenever possible (e.g. guidance counsellor).

Students are not permitted to congregate in hallways, common spaces, or washrooms. Students should follow physical distancing cues - floor markings and signs - when lining up to use facilities.

## JHSS HVAC System

The JHSS HVAC system will be on a schedule with fans running 7am to 6pm, There will be 100% fresh air being brought into the building and no air will be recirculated through the building. This means temperatures will more closely reflect outside conditions so students are encouraged to dress appropriately for the weather.

## Personal Belongings and Lockers

Lockers will not be available for student use at the start of the school year. Students will be required to limit the number of items they bring to school. Students should leave valuable items at home. The school is not responsible for any lost or stolen items.

## Smoking and Vaping

No smoking or vaping (use of e-cigarettes) in the school building or on school property; it's the law. Failure to adhere to this rule will result in a school suspension and may result in a fine issued by the Waterloo Region By-Law Office.

## Student Activities

### Student Cards

- The purchase and issuing of student cards for the 2020-2021 school year will be postponed due to Covid-19 restrictions until public health and the WRDSB have provided clearance for student activities, clubs and athletics to resume in person.

### Student Photos

- Student Photos & Grad Photos for the 2020-2021 school year will be postponed due to Covid-19 restrictions until public health and the WRDSB provide clearance for these services to resume.

### Clubs & Extra Curricular Activities

- At this time in person clubs, committees and extracurricular activities are not permitted to proceed due to Covid-19 restrictions.

### Yearbook

- The 2019-2020 school year book will be delivered to students who purchased one later this fall.

**For important updates and information please follow;**

**Website-** <https://jhs.wrdsb.ca/>

**Instagram-** [@jacobhespeler](https://www.instagram.com/jacobhespeler)

**School Day-** <https://www.wrdsb.ca/our-schools/using-school-day/#signup>