

Parent Guide - January 2022



We are looking forward to welcoming all of our new and returning students back to **John Galt Public School**.

Please review the following information with updated procedures and information for our **January 17th 2022** return to in-person learning.

Please see the John Galt website for information on a Temporary Remote Learning Option.

Before Coming to School

COVID-19 Screening:

- Parents must do a daily COVID screening with their child/children each day; please use the below link for the most up to date version of the screening
<https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>
- The screening is comprehensive and each page walks you through what steps need to be taken based on the symptoms that are presented
- The updated screening includes a more sensitive COVID-19 symptom list to reflect symptoms more commonly associated with Omicron, such as sore throat/difficulty swallowing, runny/stuffy nose, headache, extreme tiredness, muscle aches/joint pain, and nausea/vomiting and/or diarrhea
- Updated testing and isolation guidelines are also reflected in the new screeners, with isolation periods of 5 and 10 days based on the student's age and vaccination status.
- Under the new guidance, anyone with symptoms suggestive of COVID-19 or is a confirmed positive case must self-isolate, regardless of vaccination status as well as family/household members
- teachers will be doing a daily reminder/check-in with students about the COVID screening

What to Bring to School

Please keep your child's personal items to a minimum. To support a safe and comfortable environment, students are asked to bring the following items clearly labelled with the student's name:

- Backpack for personal belongings
- Face masks - they will need more than one
- Lanyard or fanny pack or another means of carrying their facemask when outside at recess
- Personal water bottle (please label)
- Lunch bag
- Seasonal outdoor wear
- Indoor shoes
- School supplies (e.g., pencil case, calculator, pens, pencils)
- Students may bring their own devices, but they must be wiped by the student upon entry and before leaving at the end of the day

Note: Lockers and change rooms will not be used for the start of the 2021 - 2022 school year. Students will be required to keep all personal belongings with them throughout the day. Coat Racks in the halls are being utilized as well.

Masks:

Students will be provided with a 3-ply mask. 3-ply cloth masks are recommended for daily use while at school. The masks that students are wearing need to be clean and/or new each day. Extra masks are also needed, especially in the winter months. Please send replacement masks to school each day with your child/children so they can be replaced when dirty or wet.

Reopening Procedures

Morning Drop Off:

Please drop your child/children off as close to the 8:25 bell as possible.

Students will be asked to put their mask on once in line.

Class lineup spots are painted on the tarmac to indicate where students should line up once the bell rings. They may be snow covered at this point however students should remember where to line up and staff will be on the tarmac Monday morning to remind students.

Students need to walk to the back tarmac on their own (parents are asked to use the catwalks on either side of the school, the kindie gates or the Primary parking lot gates as their drop off and pick up locations).

All parents/guardians are asked to maintain physical distancing when waiting for your child/children.

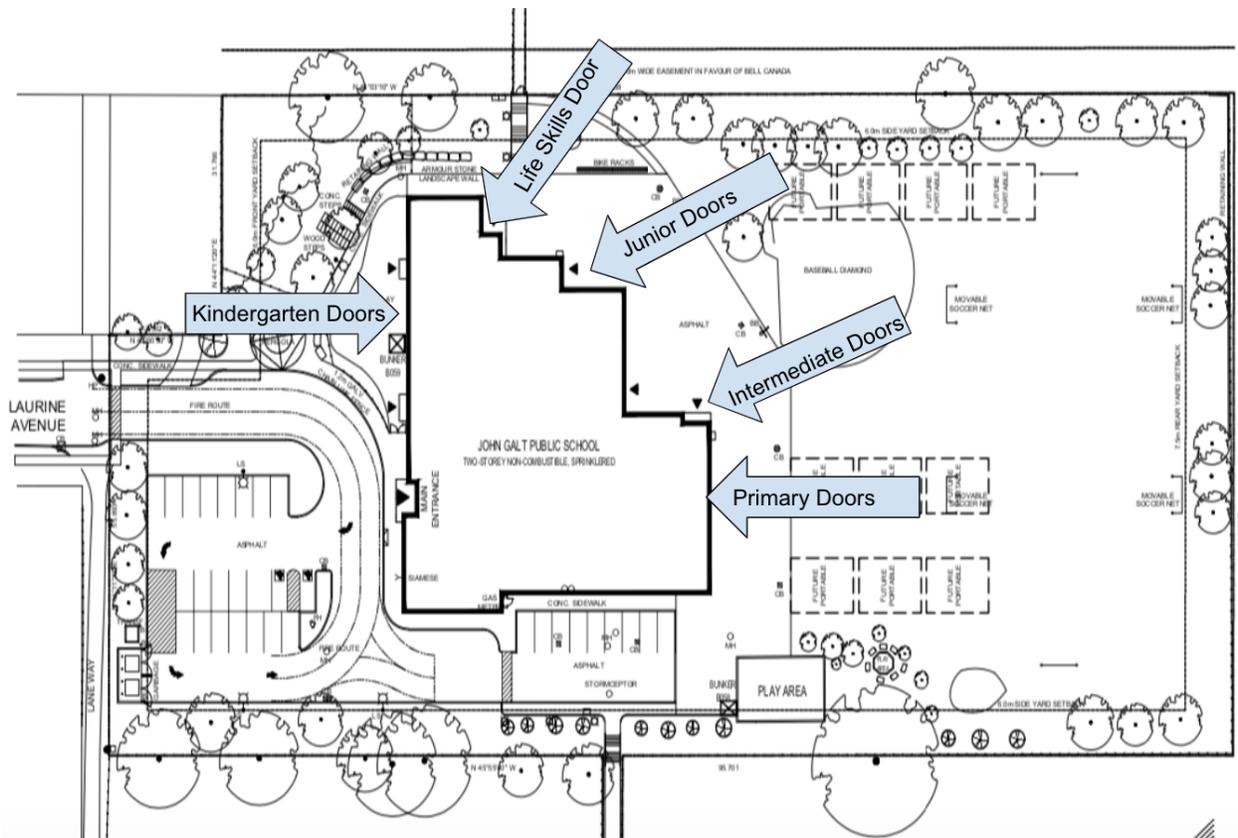
Bus students will be met by a teacher on duty and students will walk to the tarmac.

Students will line up at their class spots when they arrive at school. Masks will be put on and teachers will meet students at their entry doors and provide hand sanitizer as they enter the building when the bell rings.

While waiting for the bell to ring students are to interact with only students from their class cohort.

Designated Entry Doors:

To facilitate speedy entry in the morning and to limit unnecessary travel through the building, each grade/class will be assigned an entry/exit door. This will be the only door that students will use for entering the building, for accessing outdoor activities (and recess) and departing at the end of the school day.



Late Arrival:

Students that arrive after the 8:25 bell will need to enter through the front door of the building. Our Greeter will be there to bring the students in, provide hand sanitizer, remind about physical distancing and direct students to get a late slip from the main office. Late slips will be shown to classroom teachers and then recycled.

Entering the Building:

Classes will enter the building, one class at a time, as directed by staff. Hand sanitizer will be provided as students enter the school. Classes will enter in order of which classes are furthest from the door first and walk on the right hand side of the hall and go straight into their classroom.

Recess Information:

Kindergarten classes will have recess in the kindergarten yard. Primary (grade 1-3) and Junior (grade 4-6) classes will have a separate recess from the Intermediate (grade 7&8) classes.

Classes will be using Recess Zones at recess time where they are to interact with the students from their own class only. Mixing cohorts at recess time is not allowed at this time.

Students do not need to wear a mask while outside but are asked to maintain physical distancing. If physical distancing can not be maintained then a mask needs to be worn.

Lunch Procedures:

Students will sit at their desks facing forward to eat lunch. Masks will be asked to be put back on as soon as they are done eating.

We will not have access to the snack/lunch bins that we usually have to provide extra food for students that forget a lunch or need more food. We will have some grab and go, individual items as a quick snack.

End of Day Procedures:

Kindergarten and Primary classes will be dismissed from their Entry/Exit doors to parents/guardians waiting behind the gates.

Junior and Intermediate classes will be dismissed by their teacher from their Entry/Exit doors.

All students need to leave the school grounds immediately when the bell rings.

Communication with the School

All communication with the school needs to be via a phone call or email. Please call the office to report absences. Please be specific as to the reason for the absence so we can ensure COVID protocol is being followed.

Access to the School

Only essential visitors are permitted inside the school (e.g., maintenance personnel).

If you need to pick up your child early from school please call the school to make arrangements.

All parents and visitors will not be permitted inside schools during the pandemic, except in case of emergency. At entry and dismissal times, parents are to remain outside the school (in the designated areas) and adhere to physical distancing protocols.

Please know that these are the starting points for our reopening guidelines. Protocols may change at any time as we take our direction from the school board and Public Health.

We appreciate your support and patience as we work through the necessary changes with our return and get our Jaguar family, safely, back into the building.



Amanda Myer
Principal
John Galt Public School