

# GEORGE FITTON SCHOOL

## 2019-2020 HANDBOOK



1129-3<sup>rd</sup> Street  
Brandon, Manitoba  
R7A 3E7

Phone: (204) 729-3220

School Website: [www.georgefitton@bsd.ca](http://www.georgefitton@bsd.ca)

Home School Liaison: (204) 729-3226

***“LEARNING TOGETHER,  
GROWING TOGETHER”***

## George Fitton School

### Our Mission

- At George Fitton School we strive to enable each student to achieve maximum intellectual, emotional social and physical growth.

### Learning Beliefs

- Learning is individual, developmental, progressive, lifelong, and is enhanced by a positive self-image.
- Learning is best achieved when the basic needs and abilities of students are considered and addressed in a positive, safe environment.
- Learning involves taking risks and experiencing success through a wide variety of active and challenging opportunities.
- Learning encompasses the student, their family, friends, school and community to provide meaningful experiences, that facilitate the development of academic, physical, social and emotional well-being.

### Vision

- To provide a child centered learning environment that strives to meet the diverse needs of each individual.

*Revised: Sept. 2019*

## COMMUNICATION OF STUDENT PROGRESS

Student-Parent-Teacher Conferences will take place in November 2019 and in March 2020.

Conference times will be sent home in advance.

**Please contact your child's teacher if you need to request a particular date and/or time to meet.**

Report cards (progress reports) will be sent home in November 2019, March 2020, and June 2020.

As always, we encourage parents and teachers to communicate on an ongoing basis in an effort to ensure student success.

Please feel free to contact your child's teacher at any time throughout the school year.

Parents are our students' first and best teachers.  
We appreciate your input and support!



## **GRADE 8 INDUSTRIAL ARTS PROGRAM**

***For the 2019-2020 school year, Grade 8 students will attend Industrial Arts classes on Day 6 Mornings***

*Industrial Arts programs are delivered at École Harrison School.*

***Please note:***

***On Day 6 mornings, Grade 8 students in Industrial Arts will NOT come to George Fitton School.***

***Students will go directly to École Harrison School for their Industrial Arts class***

- ***Morning attendance will be taken at Harrison.***

Grade 8 students have the option to take Industrial Arts as part of their regular school programming. The Grade 8 Industrial Arts program runs for the duration of the school year.

## **GEORGE FITTON SCHOOL HANDBOOK 2019-2020**

Welcome to the new school year! This booklet has been compiled to share important information about George Fitton School with all parents and students.

Please review the contents of the handbook with your child and call the school (204-729-3220) should you have questions.

### **DAILY SCHOOL OPERATION TIMES**

8:50 a.m.	First bell rings; students enter school and go to their classrooms
8:55	Second bell; Opening Exercises & Morning Announcements; Call Back (see <i>Attendance Process on next page</i> )
9:00	Classes begin
10:30-10:45	Morning recess
11:45	Noon dismissal
12:15 pm	Lunch Students Dismissal
12:45	Afternoon bell; Students enter school, Go to Home Room, Call Back & Announcements (if needed)
12:50	Classes begin
2:20-2:35	Afternoon recess
3:35	Dismissal

- All students will enjoy outdoor recess breaks, weather permitting.
- If winter temperatures fall to -27C (with wind chill) or colder, recess will take place indoors.

## **ATTENDANCE PROCESS**

*The purpose of the Attendance Process is to ensure your child's safety.*

**Please contact the Home School Liaison at 204-729-3226 (leave a message) if your child is or will be absent or late from school.**

- Homeroom teachers electronically input attendance at 8:55 a.m. and 12:50 p.m. each day.
- You will receive an automated phone call if your child is not in attendance and if you have not reported the absence to the Home School Liaison.
- Please contact the Home School Liaison immediately if you receive an automated call.
- **Children who arrive late are required to sign in** outside the **Main Office** and the **Home/School Liaison Office**. (Please note that an automated message may have already gone out prior to your child signing in late).



## **TRANSPORTATION FOR GRADE 7 HOME ECONOMICS PROGRAM**

***For the 2019-2020 school year, Grade 7 students will attend Home Economics on Day 6 Mornings***

*Home Economics programs are delivered at Earl Oxford School*

***Please note:***

***On Day 6 mornings, Grade 7 students in Home Ec will NOT come to George Fitton School.***

- ***Students will go directly to the school for their Home Economics class***
- ***Morning attendance will be taken at Earl Oxford School.***

Grade 7 students have the option to take Home Ec as part of their regular school programming. The Grade 7 Home Economics program runs for the duration of the school year. The curriculum is equally divided into two sections entitled *Foods and Nutrition*, and *Clothing and Textiles*.

**NOTE:** The Brandon School Division and the City of Brandon provide City Bus Transit passes to students attending Home Economics classes.

## **PARENT-RUN LUNCH PROGRAM**

Parents of George Fitton School have organized a Parent-Run Lunch Program. This program makes it possible for George Fitton students in Grades K - 8 who are NOT bus students to remain at school over the lunch hour.

All students who wish to remain at school over the lunch hour must be registered in the Parent-Run Lunch Program (**bus students do NOT need to register in the program**).

The cost to enrol your child in the Parent-Run Lunch Program is as follows:

- \$20/month for one child
- \$15/month for each additional child in your family
- Payment is due, in full, on the last school day of the preceding month.

### ***Monthly fees pay for Lunch Room Supervisors.***

For the 2019-2020 school year we will be looking for additional lunch supervisors.

If you are interested in working as a Lunch Room Supervisor, please contact the Main office at 204-729-3220 and leave your name and contact information. These are paid positions.

## **KEEPING STUDENT INFORMATION UP-TO-DATE**

It is common for family circumstances to change during the course of a year (i.e. new phone number/address, different workplace, new daycare provider, change of name, marriage, separation, divorce, or the death of a loved one).

Please contact your child's teacher or our Administrative Assistant to provide new or updated information regarding your child and/or your family circumstances.

***While a phone call is sufficient, a personal visit is always welcome at George Fitton School!***



## **MONTHLY NEWSLETTER**

Our school newsletter is posted on the George Fitton School website at the beginning of each month.

An electronic copy is emailed to parents as well, so please ensure we have your current email address.

If you require a printed copy of the monthly school newsletter, please call or stop by the office.

The school newsletter includes the following:

- upcoming events, services, and activities that may be of interest to parents/families
- reports about school events (i.e. fundraising efforts, school sports teams, field trips, etc)
- a calendar for the upcoming month, which includes important dates and reminders

The school newsletter also features and celebrates student achievement.

Make sure to get your copy of the George Fitton School newsletter!



## **FOOD FOR THOUGHT BREAKFAST PROGRAM**

Beginning on September 11, 2019, breakfast will be available to all George Fitton students - free of charge! This initiative has been made possible through our partnership with the *Food for Thought* program.

A permission form, along with menu information, will be sent home to parents/guardians. Please sign and return the permission form if you would like your child to take part in the breakfast program.

Breakfast is served daily between 8:15 and 8:45 each morning.

Students coming for breakfast may enter the school through the gym doors. Breakfast will be served out of the canteen beside the gym.

We always appreciate the support of parents, guardians, and families at George Fitton School. If you are interested in volunteering to help with the Breakfast Program, please call the school at 204-729-3220.



## **GEORGE FITTON SCHOOL'S CELL PHONE POLICY**

Cell phones, iPods, and all other communication and/or technological devices are not to be used at school; this includes during recesses and noon hour.

***We kindly ask that students leave cell phones, iPods, and all other communication/technology devices at home. If your child must carry a cell phone or other communication/technological device, it is to be turned off and stored in his/her locker.***

If a student uses his/her cell phone, iPod, or any other communication/technological device while at school, the following steps will be taken:

- 1st offence:** Cell phone/device will be given to homeroom teacher; student gets it back at end of the day.
- 2nd offence:** Cell phone/device will be given to Principal/Vice Principal; student may pick up device at the end of the day.
- 3rd offence:** Cell phone/device will be given to Principal/Vice Principal; student must arrange for parent/guardian to pick up device from the office.

Thank you for your support!

## **VOLUNTEERS**

George Fitton School welcomes and appreciates the support of parent, family, and/or community volunteers!

If you are interested in sharing your time and/or talents at the school or in the classroom, please contact our Administrative Assistant, Ms. Christine Damphousse at (204) 729-3220.

All individuals interested in volunteering within the Brandon School Division are required to complete a Child Abuse Registry Check and a Criminal Record Check.

- **Child Abuse Registry Check (CARC) forms must** be filled out at the George Fitton School office; the cost is covered by the Brandon School Division. Please bring photo ID and one other piece of ID.
- **Criminal Record Check (CRC) forms must** be completed at the Brandon Police Service Office located at 1020 Victoria Ave., Brandon, Manitoba. Fees charged for a successful CRC will be reimbursed by the Brandon School Division. Please see: <http://police.brandon.ca/criminal-record-checks> for further information.
- Forms usually take between 6 to 8 weeks to process, so we encourage you to complete them as soon as possible.



## CODE OF CONDUCT

George Fitton staff and students follow Brandon School Division's Administrative Procedure 2005 Code of Conduct.

George Fitton School has developed the  
Thunderbird Pledge

### The George Fitton Thunderbird Pledge

Thunderbirds are respectful:

- To all staff, students, and guests
- For our school and property
- By being honest and kind

Thunderbirds are responsible:

- For our own actions and choices
- For creating a safe environment
- For coming to school ready to learn

Thunderbirds are safe:

- On the playground
- In the school
- To and from school



## STUDENT DRESS CODE

George Fitton staff and students follow Brandon School Division Administrative Procedures 2005 Code of Conduct

Appropriate Clothing

a) Definition of Appropriate Clothing

Appropriate clothing is that which is acceptable to the established norms of the school community, staff and school administration.

Appropriate clothing is free from:

- inappropriate words, phrases and images;
- being sexually explicit or revealing in nature;
- inappropriate accessories that may cause potential harm to self and others.

b) Headgear

Headgear includes hats, toques, bandanas and hoods. Headgear is to be removed when entering the school during the school day. Headgear, to comply with medical or program requirements, may be permitted in designated areas by permission of school administration. Headgear worn in recognized religious observations may be approved through consultation with parents and administration.

c) Concealing Clothing and Accessories

Concealing clothing and accessories includes school bags. Containers such as backpacks, large bags, and gym bags that are not required immediately for physical education must remain in lockers or other designated areas. Outerwear such as large, bulky jackets and trench coats are not to be worn in the school building during the school day. Outerwear is to be removed and left in student lockers or other designated areas.

Thank you for your cooperation!