



Opening Plan 2020-2021

Betty Gibson School



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Welcome Back

On behalf of the staff at Betty Gibson School, I would like to welcome all students and families back for the 2020-2021 school year. Although we understand that Covid-19 brings some uncertainties, we remain committed to providing a safe and healthy learning environment for all students and staff. Our planning to date and any future planning will follow direction of the Chief Provincial Health Officer and Manitoba Education.

This year will surely be unique as we adapt to new processes and procedures. We will continue to work together to make our school a safe and productive learning environment for all.

Staggered Opening - Grade 1 to Grade 8

To get our school community familiar with our school environment, we will have a staggered start to the school year. This will provide the students an opportunity to bring supplies and to learn about some of the new procedures and routines that will be in place this school year.

- All students with **last names starting from A-K** will start on **Tuesday, September 8th**. They will stay at home on Wednesday, September 9th.
- All students with **last names starting from L-Z** will start on **Wednesday, September 10th**.
- **All students** will start full time on **Thursday, September 10th**.

Staggered Opening – Kindergarten

Kindergarten interviews will take place from Wednesday, September 9th to Thursday, September 10th. All Kindergarten students will start full time on Friday, September 11th.

Bell Times

Warning Bell - 8:50

Classes Start - 8:55

Lunch - 11:40

Lunch Warning Bell - 12:40

Classes Resume After Lunch - 12:45

End of day Dismissal - 3:30

Staff will coordinate student's dismissal at lunch and at the end of the day to avoid congestion.

Designated Doors

All classes will have a designated door and line up zone clearly indicated outside of the school. Where two classes are using the same door the proper social distancing guidelines will be followed. Students will be required to enter using their designated door only and go directly to their classroom where they will change their shoes and take off their outside wear at their desk space.

Door 1 (Front Doors) Grade 6 Olinyk, Grade 7/8 Warkentin	Door 6 (South) Grade 4 Watt-Gauthier
Door 2 (North) Grade 1 McDermid, Grade 1 Tucker	Door 7 (South) Grade 3/4 Chase
Door 3 (North) Kindergarten Battersby	Door 8 (South) Grade 5 Crepeele, Grade 5/6 Sveistrup/Waldon
Door 4 (East) Kindergarten ___, Grade 2 Sambrook / Ramsey	Portable 1 – Grade 7 Farnsworth
Door 5 (East) Grade 2/3 Serruys, Grade 3 Verhaeghe	Portable 2 – Grade 8 Carr



Self-Monitoring

Parents will also be required to complete the screening tool with their children before arriving at school. For those without access to internet, the questions below will be provided and used. Staff will be required to complete the self-screening tool each day.

<https://sharedhealthmb.ca/covid19/screening-tool/>

- Do you have any of the following symptoms?
 - Chest Pain
 - Severe Difficulty Breathing
 - Confusion
 - Extreme Drowsiness
 - Loss of Consciousness
- Do you have shortness of breath at rest or difficulty breathing when lying down?
- Do you have a new onset of any of the following symptoms?
 - Cough
 - Fever
 - Chills
 - Sore Throat / Hoarse Voice
 - Shortness of Breath
 - Loss of Taste or Smell
 - Vomiting or Diarrhea for More than 24 Hours
- Do you have a new onset of two or more of the following symptoms?
 - Runny Nose
 - Muscle Aches
 - Fatigue
 - Conjunctivitis / Pink Eye
 - Headache
 - Skin Rash of Unknown Cause
 - Nausea / Loss of appetite
- Have you been in contact with someone over the last 14 days with someone that is confirmed to have Covid 19?
- Have you had laboratory exposure while working directly with specimens known to contain Covid 19?
- Have you been in a setting in the last 14 days that has been identified by Public Health as a risk for acquiring Covid 19 such as on a flight, at a workplace with a cluster of cases or at an event?
- Have you travelled outside of MB in the last 14 days excluding travel to Western Canada, Territories or Ontario west of Terrace Bay?
- **If the answer is 'yes' to any of the above questions, the person will not be permitted to enter the building.**

Any student exhibiting Covid 19 symptoms must not attend school. Parents need to make childcare plans in advance in the case that these situations arise.

Please note that a chronic stable cough, sneeze, runny nose, or nasal congestion that is unchanged and clearly linked to a known medical condition such as asthma or allergies, is not an absolute requirement for exclusion. As well, children who are crying can exhibit a runny nose. Changing or worsening of chronic symptoms require isolation and contacting Health Links – (204-788-8200 or 1-888-315- 9257). Staff will exercise judgement based on the symptoms, but when in doubt, error on the side of caution by excluding the child and advising the parent or caregiver to contact Health Links or their health-care provider.



Additional Covid-19 Links

<https://manitoba.ca/covid19/updates/about.html>

Visitors and Volunteers

All volunteers and visitors must wear masks when in the building. We ask that visits to the school are kept to a minimum. We will do our best to help visitors over the phone if possible. If visitors come to the school, please go directly to the office and we will be more than happy to help you.

Volunteers will be used on a limited basis this school year.

All visitors and volunteers must adhere to self-screening, physical distancing, and recommended hygiene practices. Visitors with any symptoms consistent with COVID-19 should not enter the school. We will be keeping a list of all visitors.

Community use of schools will be suspended, with the exception of the YMCA Before and After School Program.

Physical Distancing

Physical distancing of two metres or six feet between all individuals should occur whenever reasonably possible.

The maximum number of individuals congregating (i.e., close interactions among people longer than 15 minutes) in a common space for indoor and outdoor settings must comply with the most up-to-date public health orders at <https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/soe.html#current>

The following measures will be taken to ensure physical distancing:

- o Staggered start / end times to the school day has been developed
- o Classroom spaces will be arranged to encourage the recommended separation
- o Separate entrances will be used
- o Close greetings will be avoided (e.g., hugs, handshakes)
- o Assemblies and gatherings will not take place at this time
- o Fire drills and lock-down requirements will be done at the classroom level only
- o School activities will take place outdoors as much as possible

School Cohorts

It is recognized that strict physical distancing at all times—particularly with young children—is not practical in the school setting. When physical distancing is not possible, cohorts can be used to limit exposure and facilitate contact tracing if a case is identified. The purpose of cohorts is to limit the mixing of students and staff so that if a child or employee develops an infection, there are fewer possible exposures and contact tracing can be more easily completed.

All students will be in cohorts (groups) in the school to limit their contact with students from other grades. Our goal is to have students work primarily within their class, as much as possible. Staff will be placed in cohorts to the greatest extent possible as well.

Ventilation

Windows in the school will be opened every morning and will remain opened throughout the day to improve the ventilation in the school environment, weather permitting.



Transportation to Schools

Betty Gibson students living in the areas between 13th Street and 18th Street and Pacific Avenue and Princess Avenue will continue to be bussed to school, if required. Additionally, students that require bussing due to special needs will continue to be bussed.

Transportation safety measures in place include:

- Students with symptoms of COVID-19 should not attend school or be passengers on buses.
- All school bus passengers in Grade 4 and over, as well as the driver, are required to wear a non-medical mask. These should be put on before getting on the bus and taken off after exiting the bus, if removal is appropriate for the setting. Students in lower grades may also wear non-medical masks. All passengers and drivers should perform hand hygiene before and after being on the bus.
- When possible and as weather permits, windows and/or roof vents will be opened to allow for increased ventilation.
- Assigned seating will be in place so that the same students are seated in the same seats every day for regular bus routes.
- Where possible, there will be one student per seat on the school bus. Students from the same household can also sit together on one seat.
- Where one student/household per seat is not possible, seat students from the same in-school cohort on the same seat on the bus.
- Students who require a companion to ride the bus may sit next to their companion (treated as if they were from the same household and/or in-school cohort).
- As per routine protocols, students should remain seated in their own seats and should not move around the bus.
- Children should maintain physical distancing (two metres is recommended) when lining up to get on the bus, and when exiting the bus.

Physical distancing and/or cohorts are also required in school transportation. For more information, refer to the Guidelines for Transportation to Schools at <https://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/covid/reopening/transportation.html>.

To support physical distancing on buses, to the greatest extent possible, parents are encouraged to transport their own children if they are able. Active transportation, such as walking and biking, should also be encouraged. For advice on carpooling, please visit <https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/restoring/transportation.html>.

Sanitation / Hygiene Protocols

Handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds is the recommended hand hygiene practice. Students and staff must engage in frequent hand hygiene, including but not limited to the following times:

- At the start of the day and before going home
- Before and after recess
- After going to the washroom and helping children with washroom routines
- After a diaper change (both children and staff)
- Before and after preparing food
- Before eating / drinking
- After getting hands dirty or if they have become contaminated
- After wiping nose or handling dirty tissues



- o After coughing, sneezing, or blowing nose
- o After soothing a crying child
- o Before and after putting on and taking off a mask
- o Before and after being on a bus
- o After cleaning tasks (staff)

School staff will help students to ensure handwashing is done correctly by showing the videos below and by helping young children to ensure handwashing is done correctly. Videos will be reviewed regularly.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/video/covid-19-hand-washing.html> **Hand Washing for older students**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IisgnbMfKvI>

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/video/covid-19-hand-washing-heroes-dv.html> **Proper Hand washing for young students Described video**

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/video/covid-19-hand-washing.html> **Hand Washing for older students**

Respiratory etiquette will also be taught and modelled, as well as reinforced regularly.

This includes:

- Coughing and sneezing into a tissue or sleeve
- Properly and promptly disposing of any used tissues
- Exercising proper hand hygiene
- Avoid touching one's mouth, nose, or eyes
- Personal items cannot be shared (hats, hair accessories, lip balm, food/drinks)

Signage will be posted and highly visible in all washrooms and above each classroom sink. Resources are available below should parents choose to review at home as well.

<https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/resources/index.html>

<https://sharedhealthmb.ca/covid19/providers/posters/>

Personal Protective Equipment

- o All students in grades 4 and up and all staff are required to wear a non-medical facemask at school. Grade 3 students in a $\frac{3}{4}$ class will wear a mask unless exempted under the Public Health Guidelines.
- o Students in grades K-3 are also strongly encouraged to wear non-medical masks.
- o All school bus passengers Grade 4 and older, and the driver, are required to wear a non-medical mask. These should be put on before loading and taken off after offloading if removal is appropriate for the setting. Students under Grade 4 can also use non-medical masks.

If possible, the purchase of washable facemasks for individual student use is strongly encouraged. Masks will also be provided to students and staff who need them. Inventory will be monitored to ensure adequate supply. Teachers will review with their students how to properly put on and remove a facemask by using the following link:

<https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/prepareandprevent/index.html>

Those wearing masks should be reminded, in age-appropriate language, not to touch their mask and to comply with other personal preventive practices, such as frequent hand hygiene and physical distancing as much as possible.



Students who have a developmental delay or have diagnosed breathing issues would be examples of students who would be exempt from the mask health order.

Staff may be required to wear other personal protective equipment such as shields, gloves, and/or gowns in certain situations when supporting students.

Workplace Health and Safety

The safety and health of students and staff is our number one priority as we develop the plans for in-class learning in our schools. Manitoba Public Health advises the best defense against the spread of COVID-19 is:

- o Self-screening
- o Frequent handwashing
- o Physical distancing
- o Wearing a mask when physical distancing is not possible
- o Staying home when sick

Protocols for Sharing Equipment & Materials

- o ICT equipment will be sanitized after each classroom use. A soft cloth and sanitizing spray will be located on each cart. Students will disinfect their own device before returning it to the cart. Cloths will be replaced after each classroom use.
- o Sanitizing spray will be placed at the photocopiers to be used after each use.
- o If gym and music equipment need to be shared between classes, it will be sanitized after each class.
- o All classrooms will have individualized sets of recess equipment.

Cleaning and Disinfecting

Custodial staff will:

- o Disinfect commonly touched surfaces regularly (e.g., doorknobs, light switches, chairs, desks)
- o Increase monitoring of hand-cleaning supplies to ensure an ample supply at all sinks in washroom and kitchen area.
- o Ensure washrooms and lunchrooms are cleaned / disinfected frequently (at least twice daily, and more often as needed). Use of these areas will be staggered.

Staff and students will be required to disinfect:

- Electronic devices including photocopiers, printers, laptops, keyboards, mice, monitors and touchscreens, chairs, desks, art supplies, toys, games, gym equipment, tools, and equipment in between uses after receiving specific instruction.
- Each classroom will be provided with disinfecting spray as well as cloths.

Lunch staff will be responsible for the cleaning of desks at lunch.

Water fountains will be inaccessible for all grades - students are asked to bring a filled water bottle to school each day.



Managing Shared Spaces

Library

- Library classes will take place in each classroom.
- Interest inventories will be taken by the school librarian. Students will have the opportunity to select from the books that are brought to the classroom and distributed by librarian.

Music

- Music classes will take place in the classroom or outside.
- Music equipment will be designated for cohorts and will remain separate from other classes. In the event of rain, music will take place in the classroom.

Physical Education

- Phys-ed classes will take place outside as much as possible. Phys-ed equipment will be designated for cohorts and will remain separate from other classes. In the event of rain, phys-ed will take place in the gymnasium or in the classroom.
- Students will not be changing for Phys-ed.

Reading Recovery

- The Reading Recovery space will be cleaned after each student's lesson.
- All other interventions will take place in the classroom to avoid using common spaces.

Hallways

- Hallways will not be used for student work areas. Hallways will be kept clear of classroom furnishings.

Washrooms

- Staff will ensure that only one student leaves the classroom at a time to use the washroom.
- **East Bathrooms** Kindergarten (), Grade 2 (Miss Sambrook / Mrs. Ramsey), Grade 2/3 (Ms. Serruys), Grade 3 (Mrs. Verhaeghe), Grade 3/4 (Mr. Chase), Grade 4 (Mrs. Watt Gauthier)
- **West Washroom** Grade 1 (Mrs. McDermid, Mrs. Tucker), Grade 5 (Miss. Crepeele), Grade 5/6 (Mrs. Sveistrup / Mrs. Waldon), Grade 6 (Miss. Olinyk), Grade 7/8 (Mr. Warkentin)
- **Front Entrance** Grade 7 (Mr. Farnsworth), Grade 8 (Mr. Carr)

Managing a Suspected Case of COVID-19 at Betty Gibson

Staff Exhibiting Symptoms

If a staff member or volunteer in our school becomes symptomatic, they should immediately isolate themselves from other staff and children, notify their supervisor, and go home to isolate. The staff member will contact the office, for a sub to be secured. The staff member will be asked to leave from the closest exit. Staff should then contact Health Links – (204-788-8200 or 1-888-315- 9257) or their health care provider for direction. Our head custodian will be notified so that additional environmental cleaning will occur in that space. The focus will be on high-touch areas and areas where the staff or volunteer spent time.



Staff members who are away sick or who are self-isolating must follow the Division's Human Resources Policy and Collective Agreement provisions. Medical notes are not required for staff who have COVID-19 or flu-related symptoms, or for those who are caring for individuals in this situation.

A sick staff member can return to work once it has been determined that it is safe to do so by their health care provider or Public Health. If that staff member has a positive test, further direction will be provided by Public Health.

Students Exhibiting Symptoms:

If a student in our school becomes symptomatic, the supervising teacher will contact the office, and the Home School Liaison / Office Staff will go and accompany the child to our isolation room (grooming room). Parents will be contacted immediately so that they can pick up their child in a prompt fashion.

As students must be picked up quickly in the case of illness, it is imperative that appropriate childcare arrangements are made in advance. If there are any changes to your child's emergency contacts, please advise the school office. Emergency contacts should reside in Brandon and the office should have access to up-to-date phone numbers.

Our head custodian will be notified so that additional environmental cleaning will occur in that space. The focus will be on high-touch areas and areas where the student spent time. All students in the classroom will wash their hands and will then go outside or to the library so that additional cleaning can occur.

Parents should then contact Health Links – Info Santé (204-788-8200 or 1-888-315- 9257) or their health care provider for direction.

Outbreak Management

Extra-Curricular and Off-Site Activities

Off-site activities will be considered on an individual basis. It would be imperative that the guidelines outlined by Brandon School Division, and the Chief Medical Officer of Manitoba could be met and would be followed. All extra-curricular activities will be paused.

Expectations for Regular & Special Needs Programming and Attendance

Students are expected to be back to school for all programming for the 2020-21 school year. All students are expected to participate fully, even when remote learning is required. Students will be assessed on their work, reflective of their performance and learning.

Division-level remote learning will be in place for students who are medically advised not to return to in-class learning due to COVID-19 related risk factors. These situations should be rare and limited to children with compromised immune systems or other medical conditions that increase their risk. Parents and caregivers must consult with physicians on the need for an accommodation.

Individualized programming for students with special learning needs will be provided in the regular classroom as much as possible. Individualized learning aids or materials will be student specific to avoid the sharing of resources.

Blended Learning

- Students will be asked to stay home if they display any symptoms and as a result, we are confident there will be higher student absenteeism. Therefore, the need for remote learning remains for students who cannot attend in-class.



- Staff are to design units and lessons to provide the rich learning experience for in-class learning while designing activities for the critical outcomes in such a way that they can be deliver either in-class or remotely.
- Families without internet access, can sign out a handheld portable router with restrictions on non-educational sites and applications.
- Families with limited technology can sign out laptops.

Recovery Learning

- o Teachers and School Leaders have access to the following reports for their 2020-2021 classroom students:
- o School level transition / recovery reports for the areas of literacy, numeracy, and active participation in learning.
- o Classroom level transition / recovery reports for the areas of literacy, numeracy, and active participation in learning.
- o Student-specific reports for the areas of literacy, numeracy, and active participation in learning.
- o Foundational outcome achievement data in the areas of literacy, numeracy, and social/academic behaviours.
- o Students new to the Division will be screened for gaps in literacy and numeracy.

School Intervention Teams will be using the above information to identify Tier 2 and 3 interventions for targeted students.

Collaborative Teacher Teams will be focused on recovery learning, outcome prioritization, and program delivery.

MIST will assist and provide technical support for Assistive Technology / Augmentative Alternative Communication to ensure accessible learning technology is successful in engaging students and promoting achievement success.

Supports for Students with Special Needs

There are unique challenges experienced by students with special learning needs during this time and additional supports may be required. This includes:

- o Learning tools for specific programming will be individualized.
- o Sensory programming will take place in classrooms as needed.
- o Considering changes in the school environment and/or remote learning needs when reviewing and updating Individual Education Plans (IEPs)
- o Creating congregated classrooms as a temporary COVID-19 response measure for students' special learning needs in order to offer regular, everyday timetabling
- o Considering additional planning for students with special learning needs to support a smoother transition to school
- o Safely supporting the return of medically fragile students by consulting with local public health authorities on any new risk factors for the student, implementing staff training, and potentially continuing remote learning where return is not possible
- o Accommodating the needs of students who require significant personal support, including considering options for personal protective equipment for both staff and students (please refer to https://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/covid/reopening/supports_non_distance.html)



Considering Alternate Attendance Options for Students, Depending on Their Needs:

Manitoba Education continues to work with the Department of Families and education stakeholders to further develop guidance and support for students with special needs and students at risk. For more information, please visit: <https://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/covid/support/rssn.html>

Recess

Each student will have a 15-minute recess in the morning and afternoon. Recesses will be staggered to avoid congestion on the playground. Students will have designated areas that they are allowed to play in during recess times. Each class will be provided their own recess equipment and designated area.

Group 1 – AM 10:05 - 10:20 PM 1:55 – 2:10

Grade	Teacher	Door #
Kindergarten	Mrs. Battersby	3
Grade 1	Mrs. Tucker	2
Grade 2	Miss. Sambrook/ Mrs. Ramsey	4
Grade 3	Mrs. Verhaeghe	5
Grade 3/4	Mr. Chase	7 (classroom)
Grade 5/6	Mrs. Sveistrup/Mrs. Waldon	8
Grade 6	Miss Olinyk	1
Grade 7	Mr. Farnsworth	Portable

Group 2 – 10:25 - 10:40 PM 2:15 – 2:30

Grade	Teacher	Door #
Kindergarten		4
Grade 1	Mrs. McDermid	2
Grade 2/3	Ms. Serruys	5
Grade 4	Ms. Watt-Gauthier	6 Classroom Doors
Grade 5	Miss Crepeele	8
Grade 7/8	Mr. Warkentin	1 Front Doors
Grade 7/8	Mr. Carr	Portable

Lunch

Students are encouraged to go home for lunch if possible. Students that go home for lunch should **not** come back early as this will not allow for the cohorting of students. Lunch will occur each day from 11:40 to 12:45. All non-bus students will be part of the YMCA lunch program. The YMCA Lunch Program will be following the procedures as outlined by the school. You will be required to register at the YMCA before being able to stay for lunch. The following lunch schedule has been devised to allow for both adequate supervision and physical distancing.

Bus students can stay for lunch at no cost.

**Group 1 – (Eat First) Inside - 11:40 to 12:10; Outside 12:10 to 12:40**

Grade	Teacher	Door #
Kindergarten	Mrs. Battersby	3
Grade 1	Mrs. Tucker	2
Grade 2	Miss. Sambrook/ Mrs. Ramsey	4
Grade 3	Mrs. Verhaeghe	5
Grade 3/4	Mr. Chase	7 (classroom)
Grade 5/6	Mrs. Sveistrup/Mrs. Waldon	8
Grade 6	Miss. Olynyk	1
Grade 7	Mr. Farnsworth	Portable # 1

Group 2 – Outside 11:40 to 12:10; (Eat Second) Inside 12:10- 12:40

Grade	Teacher	Door #
Kindergarten		4
Grade 1	Mrs. McDermid	2
Grade 2/3	Ms. Serruys	5
Grade 4	Ms. Watt-Gauthier	6 Classroom Doors
Grade 5	Miss Crepeele	8
Grade 7/8	Mr. Warkentin	1 Front Doors
Grade 7/8	Mr. Carr	Portable # 2

Lockers / Belongings

Students will be given a black bag for their outside wear. They will keep the bag at their desk area in the classroom. Teachers may assign students in small groups to place their belongings in the cubby or locker or keep them in the room.

Classroom Configurations

Classrooms will not be as functional or aesthetically pleasing as in the past, but safety is our priority. It is our goal to create a classroom setting that provides for 1 metre of distance between students while at their desks. To accomplish this, all unnecessary furniture will be removed to provide the spacing needed. Students may be at opposite ends of tables or have individual desks. Student will work at their designated area and with their homeroom classmates.

If an orange level response is required, students will be required to remain 2 metres distance from one another. There would be changes in class configurations and teachers, as our classroom would not support the current class sizes.

Student and Staff Wellness

Betty Gibson will continue to promote student and staff well-being and to develop a positive sense of community among staff before students return, using the following resources / strategies:

BSD has participated in training from the North American Center for Threat Assessment and Trauma Response Guidelines for Re-entry into the School Setting. The training provided the in-depth practical understanding to help prepare school personnel for re-entry into the school community, emphasizing the social and emotional well-being for students and staff.

Many students will have experienced mental health challenges that will require various interventions and supports. During the first weeks of school, our school team will connect with



students and families in order to promote and support our students' health, well-being and well - becoming.

- o BSD is taking a multi-disciplinary approach and working with community support agencies (Mental Health, Law Enforcement, Child Protection) to share information and match resources to minimize the overall impact of returning to schools.
- o All staff members will complete Respect in School training.
- o VTRA protocols already exist in BSD schools.
- o Universal social-emotional learning curriculum will continue to be offered via classroom instruction, online classroom presentations, pre-recorded sessions.
- o Student Services teams are available for consultation with staff members about their student concerns and referral to external community supports if required.
- o Transition planning protocols exist at Betty Gibson and the processes have been completed (grade to grade and student specific) to ease school re-entry and help maintain a flow to education that has been disrupted by the pandemic.
- o Teachers will utilize Social Emotional Learning and Behaviour Intervention Plans.
- o Our school will communicate with parents about plans for safety and health measurements that the school will be implementing so that they can talk with their children about what to expect. Staff and parents will educate students about COVID, maintaining social distancing, proper handwashing, etc.
- o Staff recognize that children and youth may have mental health conditions, such as anxiety, depression, or substance abuse, which may have been exacerbated by social distancing, including school closure, and may experience symptom escalation on return to school.
- o The staff will monitor every student to ensure they are feeling comfortable in school and check for behaviours that are outside the normal baseline. We will provide mental health and social emotional support to any student requiring assistance through the following:
 - o Make referrals to social worker, if needed.
 - o Understand that stressed brains cannot learn, therefore, flexibility may be needed for students to utilize the support of the school counsellor or social worker during class time.
 - o Identify the best way to provide services, including in-person or online, to delay services, or to connect with community services.
 - o Access mental health support services adapted for diverse groups and at-risk populations, if needed.
 - o Address known sources of distress and extend flexibility when making decisions regarding special education programming, school registrations, or other specific educational programming in the absence to the usual sources of information, including school visits and meetings.
 - o Provide opportunities for early identification of learning needs and academic support to ensure that children neither become overwhelmed nor bored in the school setting, as these are frequent antecedents to school refusal and mental health problems.
 - o Flexibility in program and/or school enrollment should be provided for children and youth who have transitioned to a new program or school for the 2020-2021 school year.



Additional Contacts + Resources:

- Kids Help Phone 1-800-668-6868 or text Connect To 686868.
- Health Links at 1-888-315-9257
- First Nations and Inuit Hope for Wellness Helpline 1-855-242-3310
- Social Story - <https://www.flipsnack.com/KeshetChicago/coronavirus-social-story/full-view.html>

A comprehensive list of suggested mental health resources for students, educators, and families can be found in the Well-Being and Mental Health Resources document.

https://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/covid/support/rsssn_docs/mental_health_res.pdf

https://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/covid/support/rsssn_docs/quaranteen.pdf