



# GUIDE TO REOPENING

MARCH 2022



**THE STERLING HALL SCHOOL**  
*Where boys belong.*

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# RETURNING TO SCHOOL SAFELY

We are looking forward to welcoming boys back to campus on March 28 to begin a Spring term filled with renewed opportunities for learning and community.

Our planning remains true to our key principles and considers the importance of returning to in-person school, athletic and community events while ensuring we meet or exceed current health and safety guidelines.

## OUR KEY PRINCIPLES FOR THIS WORK ARE:

1. Maintaining the Health & Safety of our SHS community
2. Providing the highest degree of excellence within our academic program
3. Being flexible, agile, transparent and
4. Working together as a community

The Guide to Reopening | March 2022 includes updated operations and safety protocols. The Sterling Hall School is undertaking to ensure a safe return to school.

*Notwithstanding the thoroughness of our planning, we recognize that guidelines evolve and may result in changes to our plan. Please note information included in this guide is subject to change. Updated information on protocols and policies will be available on our Health & Safety [webpage](#) and the latest updates will be emailed to you.*

# COMING TO SCHOOL HEALTHY EVERYDAY



## VACCINATION

- We wish to reiterate our recommendation for full vaccination against COVID-19 as the safest and most effective way of keeping our community safe.
- Our vaccination policies can be referenced [here](#)



## REVISED SCREENING

- Families are asked to do a daily self-assessment to monitor their son(s) for the following symptoms prior to coming to school and to follow the isolation guidelines and other requirements, such as masking, as necessary.
- Families are asked to keep their son(s) at home if sick or if they have the following symptoms:
  - one of the following symptoms - fever, cough, difficulty breathing or decrease or loss of taste/smell
  - or
  - two or more of the following symptoms - sore throat, headache, feeling very tired, runny nose/nasal congestion, muscle aches or joint pain, nausea/vomiting/diarrhea
- Families are no longer required to submit a daily Sterling Safe Screening form for their son(s).
- The current Toronto Public Health (TPH) self-assessment questions are shared for reference: TPH Symptom [Screening](#).



## EXPOSURE TO PEOPLE WITH SYMPTOMS OR POSITIVE COVID-19 RESULTS

### Isolation requirements for non-household contacts of someone who has COVID-19 symptoms/tests positive:

- Non-household contacts are no longer required to self-isolate. They need to self-monitor for symptoms for 10 days from last contact.
- They are to wear a well-fitted mask in public settings (this includes in schools) and avoid activities where mask removal would be necessary (for example, playing a wind instrument in music class or removing mask for sports).
- To not visit higher risk individuals or settings.

### Isolation requirements for household contacts of someone who has COVID-19 symptoms/tests positive:

- Household members do not need to self-isolate if they do not have COVID-19 symptoms and have not had a positive test AND either: had a confirmed COVID-19 infection within 90 days OR are 18+ and boosted OR are 17 years or younger and fully vaccinated. For the next 10 days, they are to:
  - Monitor for symptoms
  - Wear a well-fitted mask in public settings (including schools) and avoid activities where mask removal would be necessary
  - Not visit higher risk individuals or settings for 10 days
- For additional guidance please refer to the Toronto Public Health 'How Long Should You Self-Isolate For' [LINK](#).
- Following Provincial guidance, SHS will no longer be notifying families of positive COVID-19 cases in the community.
- Students and staff should be well enough to attend school without any medication administered prior to arrival.
- Students should be able to fully participate in all daily activities.
- Specifically, children and staff are not to be in school if they show any symptoms of illness and must have much reduced symptomology for at least 24 hours (48 for gastro-intestinal) before returning to school.



## MASKING

- **Mandatory masking will be in place following March Break for two weeks from March 28 – April 8.** This follows the advice of The Children's Health Coalition and recognizes how mobile our community has been over the March Break.
- Following this time frame, we will move to a "mask-friendly" environment, meaning boys and employees who wish to remain masked shall be welcomed to do so.
- We believe that optional masking respects the personal safety choice for individuals.



## INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL

### If you travelled outside of Canada in the last 14 days:

- Follow federal [requirements](#) for quarantine and testing after returning from international travel.
- Fully vaccinated travellers may be [exempt](#) from quarantine but are still required to wear a mask at all times when in public spaces, including schools/childcare, maintain a list of all close contacts for your first 14 days in Canada, and monitor yourself for signs and symptoms of COVID-19.



## REMOTE LEARNING

- We will continue to offer the Remote Learning program option for the two weeks following March Break.
- We will no longer offer a Remote Learning option as of April 11, 2022.

# WELCOMING PARENTS AND VISITORS BACK TO CAMPUS



## VISITOR HEALTH AND SAFETY ON CAMPUS

To ensure student and employee health and safety, we ask parents and visitors to meet the following criteria before entering school buildings (*this is a passive process, meaning there will not be a form or an individual to check in with*):

- Please ensure you do not have:
  - one of the following symptoms - fever, cough, difficulty breathing or decrease or loss of taste/smell
  - or
  - two or more of the following symptoms - sore throat, headache, feeling very tired, runny nose/nasal congestion, muscle aches or joint pain, nausea/vomiting/diarrhea
- Please make sure you are fully vaccinated (at least two full doses of COVID-19 vaccine).
- Please ensure you are masked if living with a household member who has recently tested positive or who needs to self-isolate.
- Please ensure you are masked for the period between March 28 – April 8 when inside school buildings.

Participation in outdoor events is at your discretion without meeting all of these requirements.





## WELCOMING PARENTS

At The Sterling Hall School, we are proud of the community atmosphere we have developed with teachers, administration and parents working together with the students' best interests in mind. We are pleased to once again welcome parents into the school. At the same time, we do ask everyone to please respect the integrity of the school day.

- If you need something delivered to your son, such as a forgotten lunch, once school has commenced, please leave it at Reception and we will ensure its delivery.
- When classes are in session, we ask that the hallways outside the classrooms be clear.
- It is understood that parents may begin to congregate in the halls five minutes before classes are dismissed. However, any extension of that time frame is not considered appropriate.
- Please also note that we ask parents not to enter the classrooms while school is in session, and that teachers are not available for conversations during that time.
- For detailed discussions about your son's progress, please contact his teacher to arrange an appointment. Teachers can easily be reached through email to set up a convenient time.



# BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS

## EARLY MORNING PROGRAM

The Early Morning Program provides a supervised environment from 7 – 8AM in the McCain Dining Hall. This program is intended to provide parents with the flexibility to drop off their sons early in the morning whenever they need to. There is no charge to attend the Early Morning Program.

All students may be dropped off at the McCain Dining Hall entrance to participate in the Early Morning Program or to attend team activities and clubs.

### PROGRAM DETAILS:

- Boys are supervised by a qualified teacher in the McCain Dining Hall from 7 – 8AM, at which time they will be escorted to the Ian Robinson Quad for supervised outdoor play. (In the case of inclement weather, boys will remain in the McCain Dining Hall until 8:15AM.)
- Boys may use this time to complete homework, read and play games. Computer use is discouraged during this time.
- Pre-registration is not required. Bring your son to the McCain Dining Hall entrance (exterior door) off the Cartwright Loop. Boys will sign in as they arrive.
- As of April 11, Blue Window breakfast options are available, including bagels, cold cereal, assorted muffins, fresh fruit, juice and milk. Blue Window purchases will be charged to your student account. Boys may bring a nut-free breakfast from home. A microwave is available. The Blue Window does not serve food after 7:50AM.
- Boys entering the school building for early morning scheduled activities (e.g. athletics practices) will enter through the McCain Dining Hall entrance. They will also sign in, indicating that they are attending an activity/practice.
- Please note: All students leave the McCain Dining Hall at 8AM as it is no longer supervised.



## AFTER FOUR PROGRAM

The After Four Program operates from 3:45 – 5:45PM, Monday through Friday, unless otherwise noted in the online calendar or Friday Memo. On days of early dismissal, it begins at the conclusion of the dismissal time.

The charge for the After Four Program is \$15 per day. Please understand that 5:45PM should be the latest that your son leaves the school. On days of early dismissal, the charge is \$15 up to 4PM and an additional \$15 after that.

Please note that if your son is not in a club, team activity or Study Hall by 3:55PM, he will be entered automatically in the After Four Program, with subsequent charges. JK – Grade 2 boys are entered into the After Four Program at 3:45PM. The only exceptions are Grade 7 and 8 students, who may make different arrangements with their teachers.

After Four Program students can be picked up at the McCain Dining Hall door. Families can call 437-219-9139 to give notice when they are 5 minutes away.

If you should encounter a situation where:

- a. you are unable to pick your son up at the designated time, or
- b. you have made alternate after-school arrangements for your son it is imperative that you call or email the school and advise Reception and the Homeroom teacher of your plans for your son.



## STUDY HALL

Study Hall is offered for Grades 3 – 8 at no charge. Students arrive at Study Hall, located in the Phelan Learning Commons (PLC), prepared to work. If they are not prepared, they will be sent to After Four, where charges will apply.

Students not picked up from Study Hall at 4:30PM will automatically join the After Four Program and families will be charged accordingly. After 3:55PM, students who have not joined Study Hall and are still at SHS will join the After Four Program. (Students in Grades 7 and 8 who have permission to self-dismiss will do so).

Please note that although Grade 7 and 8 students may attend Study Hall voluntarily, they will be required to attend in certain situations. For example, if a student fails to submit an assignment on the due date, he may be required to attend Study Hall until the assignment is submitted. Attendance at this Study Hall takes priority over all other activities in such a situation.

There is no Study Hall on Faculty & Staff meeting days, Parent/Teacher Conference and Student-Led Conference days, or the last day of a calendar term as indicated on the online calendar.

Parents come to the Phelan Learning Commons (PLC) to sign their son out of Study Hall. Students not picked up by 4:30PM will go to After Four and will have a charge added to their account.

# ARRIVAL, DISMISSAL AND PARKING

## ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE



### 7 – 8AM EARLY MORNING PROGRAM

- All students may be dropped off at the McCain Dining Hall entrance to participate in the Early Morning Program or to attend team activities and clubs.



### 8AM SCHOOL DAY SUPERVISION BEGINS

- Students may be dropped off at the SHS Drive Main Entrance or the Cartwright Loop.
- Parents/Caregivers may also choose to park and walk their son(s) to their classroom inside the school.
- Visitors inside the school must be fully vaccinated for COVID-19, self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms prior to entering the school and wear a well-fitting mask inside from March 28 – April 8.
- Students will drop off backpacks and head outside. There is supervision on the school fields from 8 – 8:30AM.
- On days of inclement weather, supervision will be provided inside.
- Please note that there is no outdoor supervision prior to 8AM, except for clubs or team activities.
- Should you wish to drop off your son prior to 8AM, please use the Early Morning Program.



## 8:30AM SCHOOL DAY BEGINS AND ALL STUDENTS ARE IN THEIR CLASSROOMS

Late Arrivals: Students who arrive after 8:30AM may be signed in by a parent or caregiver at the main entrance reception area and they will receive an admit slip for their Homeroom teacher.



## 3:30 – 3:40PM SCHOOL DISMISSAL



## 3:45 – 4:30PM CLUBS AND ATHLETICS STUDY HALL



## 3:45 – 5:45PM AFTER FOUR PROGRAM



## 5:45PM SCHOOL CLOSES



## SCHOOL DISMISSAL

Regular 3:30PM dismissal procedures:

### JK – GRADE 2

Students are picked up at 3:30PM at their classroom doors by parents/caregivers. Please wear a mask from March 28 – April 8. Parent/caregiver passive symptom screening and vaccination criteria applies. *Should this not work for you, please advise the Homeroom teacher who will assist you with an alternate plan.*

### GRADE 3 – 8

Students in Grades 3 – 8 are dismissed to clubs, teams, Study Hall, After 4, or to wait for parents/caregiver at the designated pick-up spot.

Parents can decide which of the below three options is the best place to pick up their son. Please be sure your son knows from where he is being picked up:

- a. Principal's Entrance at the Cartwright Loop
- b. Main Entrance on SHS Drive
- c. In the playground area. Parents/caregiver choosing to pick up from the playground area can enter through Paul David Field Gate or SHS Field Gate to pick up their son.

**GRADE 6 – 8 INTERMEDIATE BOYS** (when packed up and ready to go), who ask a teacher for permission, can call or text (under supervision) their parent/ caregiver to pick them up. Parents parking on Paul David Street, Bentworth Avenue, Cartwright Avenue or adjacent streets may find this a very helpful strategy as they can then drive onto the property, locating their son at the agreed upon exit.

- Grade 7 – 8 students are permitted to leave the school on their own, provided that their parents have signed a self-dismissal form and they are leaving for the day. Note, they may not re-enter the site once they have left.
- No student in JK to Grade 6 is permitted to wait for a ride and exit the external doorways adjacent to the Principal's Office without an adult.



## ARRIVAL/DEPARTURE PROCEDURES AND PARKING

Thank you for your help in ensuring our return to pre-pandemic car access and parking is a success. We will officially launch on March 28. To help in the transition to this plan, we will be on site providing guidance and reminders during the first week.



## ARRIVAL

As a community, adhering to arrival and departure guidelines will ensure a safe and smooth start to each day. These guidelines have changed considerably as we no longer are required to cohort or distance.



## GENERAL NOTES:

- Cars waiting in driveways will be asked to move at 3:40PM unless your son is getting into your car.
- Please park or stop only on the side of the streets adjacent to the school property. These streets are: Cartwright Avenue (eastbound only), Bentworth Avenue and Paul David Street (southbound).
- Students should never be dropped off or waited for on the opposite side of the street as they would have to cross traffic to access the school or the car.
- Please plan your route so that you do not need to make three point turns.
- Please do not use the driveways of the houses in the community for parking or turning around.
- Do not park in the Lighting Originals parking lot or in any of the parking lots of our neighbouring businesses on the north side of Cartwright Avenue; you may be towed.
- Do not park or drive on the lawns.
- Do not idle your car for more than 1-2 minutes.

If you are early and parked on the street in a parking spot, you are very welcome to wait inside the school. We enjoy these moments to see one another and have our parents/caregivers in our wonderful school!



## RESPECT EACH OTHER AND OUR NEIGHBOURS

Please remember to drive cautiously and exercise the patience and courtesy we wish to model for all of our boys when navigating drop-off and pick-up each day.



## ENTRY/EXIT AT CARTWRIGHT LOOP

Cartwright Loop (north end of the property)

No parking on the Cartwright Loop anytime.

### 7 – 8:30AM

- Pull up and have boys exit on the 'south' side of the car into the Pedestrian Zone. Adults stay in the car.
- Between 7 – 8AM boys enter through the Dining Hall entrance.
- Between 8 – 8:30AM boys enter through the Principal's Office entrance. Walk-in families park on Paul David Street, Cartwright Avenue, Bentworth Avenue or adjacent side streets. Do not park in the Cartwright Loop and leave your car, even for a short amount of time.

### 3:30 – 4PM

- Boys exit by the Principal's Office entrance and stand with the teacher in the Pedestrian Zone.
- Cars may pull in close to the Crosswalk and load students from the Pedestrian Zone.
- The teacher will ask cars who are obstructing others to move along if other cars are ready to leave.
- Walk-in families park on Paul David Street, Cartwright Avenue, Bentworth Avenue, or adjacent side streets. Do not park in the Cartwright Loop and leave your car, even for a short amount of time.
- The teacher will bring boys in at 4PM and take them to Study Hall or After Four.



## SHS DRIVE (WEST SIDE OF PROPERTY)

No parking along SHS Drive except in designated parking spots.

### 8 – 8:30AM DROP-OFF

- Directly in front of the main entrance, there is an indentation that may be used for drop-off only. Please pull up as far north as possible.
- Walk-in families park on Paul David Street, Cartwright Avenue, Bentworth Avenue, parking spots or adjacent side streets.

### 3:30 – 5:30PM PICK-UP

- Directly in front of the main entrance, there is an indentation that may be used for pick-up only. Please pull up as far north as possible.
- At 3:40PM, staff will be outside the main entrance asking stopped cars in the indentation to circle around if their son is not immediately getting into the car.
- Boys begin to arrive in the main entrance to wait for pick-up.
- Note that no parking is permitted along the fire route or in the driveway, except in designated parking spots on the south end of the drive, and of course the accessible spot which should be saved for community members who have the designation posted on their car.
- Students not picked up by 4PM will be taken to Study Hall or After Four.
- All pick-up and parking expectations and restrictions are in place throughout the afternoon, regardless of a staff or faculty member being in attendance.

Thank you for your attention to these directives; the cumulative effect of everyone following them will be greater safety, community care and respect—certainly worth the effort!

Should you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact Jennifer Colleran, Vice-Principal.



# LUNCH & DINING HALL

With restrictions lifted on masking and cohorting, it is no longer necessary to serve lunch in the classrooms. SHS is returning to serving lunch for SK – Grade 8, in the McCain Dining Hall. We will initially use a staggered approach, outlined below, until we are back to serving three divisional lunches per day in the McCain Dining Hall.

We will use the following staggered approach for SK - Grade 8:

- **March 28 – April 7**      Grades 6 – 8 will begin eating in the McCain Dining Hall
- **April 11 – 14**      Grades 3 – 5 will begin eating in the McCain Dining Hall
- **April 19 onward**      SK – Grade 2 will begin eating in the McCain Dining Hall

Junior Kindergarten will continue to eat lunch in their classroom.

# TRIPS

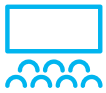
Experiential learning trips - whether day trips to locations in the GTA or overnights - have long been a beloved part of our SHS curriculum. We know that students who participate in experiential trips reap greater academic outcomes and are absent less often. Field trips can expand students' world view and deepen engagement in learning. For these reasons and more, we are delighted to return to offering trips to our students.

We are partnering closely with ALIVE Outdoors to plan the following trips:

<b>April 11 – 14</b>	Grade 7 to Cedar Ridge and Grade 8 to Pinecrest
<b>May 16 – 19</b>	Grade 7 and 8 to Arowhon
<b>May 30 – 31</b>	Grade 3 to Wahanowin
<b>May 30 – June 1</b>	Grade 4 to Wahanowin
<b>June 1 – 3</b>	Grade 5 and 6 to Wahanowin

We will reach out to families outlining trip details, additional information and trip authorization forms approximately two weeks prior to trip departure. As the term unfolds, there may be other opportunities for experiential learning which we will share with families.

# COMMUNITY EVENTS & MEETINGS



## ASSEMBLIES

Live Assemblies, a much loved aspect of the SHS community, will return on Friday, April 29. For those new to live Assemblies, parents continue to drop off at the regular time. Once they have parked, they are then welcome to wait for Assembly to begin at 8:40AM in the Eaton Shier Gymnasium (ESG).



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Parent involvement and our families' regular presence on campus is an integral part of the SHS experience and we very much look forward to welcoming parents and visitors inside the school and onto our campus.

### Please note for:

Outdoor events, passive symptom screening is required.

Indoor events, passive symptom screening and vaccination is required.

- Parents/caregivers picking up students are welcome in the playground between 3:30 and 3:55PM.
- Parents are also welcome at drop-off and pick-up (please be sure to park in designated areas or side streets only).
- Parents are welcome at outdoor inter-school athletic events; passive symptom screening is required.
- Parents are welcome at indoor inter-school athletic events; passive symptom screening and vaccination is required.
- For Parent Teacher Conferences held on April 7 and 8, we will be offering a combination of virtual and live Conferences. Additional information and Conference registration details will be circulated shortly.

- Live Assemblies will begin on Friday, April 29.
- We hope parents will look forward to joining us at the following Parent Coffee Mornings held on the North East lawn:
  - **May 2** from 8:30 – 9:30AM for Primary Parents JK – Grade 2
  - **May 12** from 8:30 – 9:30AM for Intermediate Parents Grades 6 – 8
  - **May 17** from 8:30 – 9:30AM for Junior Parents Grades 3 – 5



## CONTACT

Please direct any questions to:  
Jennifer Colleran, Vice-Principal at  
[jcolleran@sterlinghall.com](mailto:jcolleran@sterlinghall.com)

WE WISH EVERYONE A SAFE AND  
HAPPY RETURN TO SCHOOL AND LOOK  
FORWARD TO SEEING YOU NEXT WEEK!



[STERLINGHALL.COM](http://STERLINGHALL.COM)