

Back-to-school Protocol - 2021/22

August 27, 2021

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Introductory Statement by Barbara Martin, Head of School

The beginning of the school year is always an anticipated event full of excitement, curiosity and joy for the younger and the older students. The beginning of the school year always has a special meaning, it is the time to reconnect to and with everyone.

Since their most recent publication, we have carefully reviewed the Ontario Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health Back-to-School Guidelines and have developed our back-to-school plan, 5 days a week, for all students and staff.

This back-to-school plan was developed to ensure the best teaching and learning conditions for our students and staff, allowing us to live each day to the fullest, to learn, grow and thrive in the safest and healthiest conditions possible.

Our back-to-school plan is based on the following 3 points.

- In-person instruction 5 days a week with partial resuming of group activities,
- A slight reduction of a few health protocols to encourage social and community connections,
- Gradually resuming extra-curricular activities to improve the school experience for our students.

It is with great confidence that I see this school year taking shape. Numerous projects will punctuate the coming weeks and months, including the drafting of our school project. The school project (Projet d'établissement) is a project built collectively by the entire LFT community.

I am convinced that it is through a shared educational vision, centered around the student and the child, as well as the personal and professional development of all that we will accompany our students so that they become responsible and fulfilled future adults; and discerning and committed citizens, in a community of solidarity.

Barbara Martin
Cheffe d'établissement

1. Vaccination policy

The LFT requires that all LFT students and staff eligible for immunization be vaccinated (12 years and older including students born in 2009). Under provincial legislation, this requirement is balanced against our obligations to protect the health and safety of our students and staff. If an eligible student or staff member cannot be vaccinated due to a protected reason under the Human Rights Code, they may request an exemption. Due to the serious health threat posed by COVID-19, affected students and staff will be required to comply with additional health and safety requirements. This will include COVID-19 testing twice a week.

For students

- Proof of vaccination for students over the age of 12 and/or born in 2009 must be submitted **by September 7, 2021 to securite@lft.ca** and all students eligible for vaccination must be double vaccinated **by October 4.**
- Students over the age of 12 and/or born in 2009 whose vaccination status is not up to date will be required to submit negative test results twice a week starting September 7.

For staff

- Proof of vaccination must be submitted **before September 1st to the Human Resources department HR@lft.ca** and all staff must be double vaccinated by October 4th.
- Staff whose vaccination status is not up to date will be required to submit negative test results twice a week starting September 1.

Important: Vaccination status is considered complete upon submission of proof of double vaccination with [a vaccine approved by Canadian health authorities](#) **for more than 14 days.**

As of September 1, students and staff members over the age of 12 will not be allowed to enter the school without reporting their full immunization status or presenting a negative test less than 24 hours old.

Rapid antigen test

If the vaccination status of those eligible for vaccination is not up to date, a rapid antigen test of less than 24 hours will be requested prior to entry into the facility

every Monday and Thursday. For those who wish, a rapid antigen test will also be available directly at the LFT prior to the first hour of class. The procedure for testing at the LFT will be communicated shortly.

The mandatory testing policy for the unvaccinated +12 may be updated later this year.

2. COVID-19 : self-screening and symptoms

In accordance with Ontario directives, LFT requires daily self screening for all students and staff, and follows the guidelines outlined in the attached document in case of COVID-19 symptoms.

- [Students](#)
- [Staff](#)

Mandatory Daily self-screening - My Thrive

The My Thrive application must be completed for all staff and students prior to their arrival at LFT Monday through Friday.

- Individual screening will be conducted daily at the building entrances:
- Only students in "green" status will be allowed to enter the building.
- Students whose status is not up to date will not be allowed to enter the building. They will remain in the courtyard supervised by the school life team until their status is updated by their parents.

For parents (or third parties) dropping off their children at school and in order to facilitate entry into the school, please present your child's status directly from your cell phone.

For middle school students, high school students and students taking the school bus, checks will be done by the school life team (*Vie Scolaire*).

How to register for My Thrive

- Go to: my.thrive.health from your cell phone or computer (bookmark it in your browser)
- Sign up: Enter your email address and set your password
- Enter the code dedicated to the LFT: **lft-covid19**
- Fill in your child's first name, last name and class
- For siblings, go to the menu and click on Add student
- Click on the button for daily self-screening
- For siblings, you can select several children and answer the questionnaire at once.

3 possible statuses:

- Gray: You must complete the questionnaire.

- Green: Based on your answers, your child does not appear to have any symptoms or to be in a risk group and can go to LFT.
- Red: Please contact LFT management and health services immediately.

3. Guidelines for returning to school

Students will be trained in the procedures and supervised throughout their time at school by LFT staff who will ensure that protocol is followed.

Protection Strategies

- Mandatory daily screening
- Wearing of masks
- Personal protective equipment for staff
- Hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette
- Maintaining physical distance

Masks

Masks must be worn indoors by all students from Grade 1 to 12 (medical, non-medical or cloth mask) and staff (medical mask mandatory provided by LFT).

- Masks are strongly recommended for kindergarten students. They will wear one whenever the situation requires it. Kindergarten teachers and supervisors may wear eye protection in addition to masks in circumstances that require it.
- Outdoor masks are not mandatory within the cohort.
- The mask should be changed twice a day (after lunch).
- Parents must wear a mask in the school yard.

Cleaning

The LFT maintains an enhanced cleaning protocol for the facility. In addition to the daily evening cleaning, a complementary cleaning team of 3 full-time staff from 8am to 6pm will ensure the cleaning of bathrooms, doors, hallways, surfaces, etc. between each cohort and/or during recess.

Ventilation

The LFT has mechanical exhaust ventilation that provides building ventilation and air exchange. 45 HEPA units have been ordered and will be installed in all classrooms, offices and common areas (gym, BCDI, multipurpose room, etc). The ventilation of classrooms and common areas is completed by opening windows at the beginning and end of the day and during all breaks. CO2 sensors are in place throughout the facility to monitor air quality.

Cohorts

Students always belong to the cohort of their level within the school (1 cohort = 1 grade. Ex: Grade 1 / CP cohort = all students in CPA and CPB, Grade 6 cohort = all students in 6A and 6B). Exceptions in high school for small classes in Italian, Mandarin, German or Latin where students from 2 cohorts will be able to attend classes in the same room but with a physical distance between the 2 cohorts.

High School Lockers

- Secondary School students will have access to individual lockers:
- Grade 7 to 12 : by cohort area in the hallways of the school
- Grade 6: in their assigned classroom

Traffic and recess

The occupation of spaces and flow within the school are regulated by the cohort principle.

PRIMARY

Recess hours for Primary

- 8:00-8:45 am: Dropoff/childcare
- 10:15-10:30 am: Recess CP - CM2 in the large playground
- 10:30-11:00 am: Kindergarten recess in the small courtyard
- 11:30 am-1:00 pm: Kindergarten lunch break
- 11:45 am-1 pm: Lunch break CP - CM2
- 2:00-2:15 pm: Recess CP - CM2 in the big courtyard
- 2:15-2:45 pm: Kindergarten recess in the small courtyard

Entry/Exit Primary:

- 8:00-8:45 am:
 - Pre K - Kindergarten entrance through the small gate in the courtyard
 - Entrance CP - CM2 by the big gate in the courtyard
- 3:15-3:30 pm: Kindergarten pickup in the courtyard
- 3:30-3:45 pm: CP - CM2 pickup in the courtyard

Outside of the hours below, the entrances and exits are done by the main gate (#1).

SECONDARY

Recess hours for the Secondary School

- 8:00-8:45 am: Welcome
- 10:20-10:35: Recess
 - Grade 6 to 9 in the small courtyard
 - Grade 10, 11 and 12 in the green space on Dufferin Street
- 11:25 am-12:20 pm / 12:25-13:20 pm: Lunch break according to the timetable

- 3:10 - 3:20 pm: Recess
 - Grade 6 to 9 in the small courtyard
 - Grade 10, 11 and 12 in the green space on Dufferin Street

Entrance/Exit Secondary

- 8:00-8:30 and at the end of classes
 - Grade 6 to 9 in the green space on the Dufferin Street side
 - Grade 10, 11 and 12 through door #1 (main door)

4. Back-to-school 2021

Requirements for returning to LFT

A return to school agreement in accordance with the current health protocol must be signed by the parents before the first day of school. Please fill out this form for each child **before September 3rd and send it to securite@lft.ca**.

This form must be completed by all families, including families who have not left Canada. **Students will not be allowed to return to LFT without a completed form.**

As a reminder, for travellers returning to Canada, the government has put in place measures to slow the introduction and spread of COVID-19.

If a **student or family member** has been informed by Ontario authorities that they must observe a quarantine or are not allowed to participate in group activities (including school and camps), they will not be allowed to visit LFT until the end of the quarantine period. If you have any questions, please contact securite@lft.ca or TPH to clarify your situation.

You must confirm the date of entry to LFT and inform the Vie Scolaire (viescolaire@lft.ca) for secondary school students and Karine Gromaire for primary school students (karine.gromaire@lft.ca) of their effective date of entry to the school.

Back-to-school schedule

The first day of school is a very important moment for our students and their teachers. We have chosen to organize the start of the school year over several days, which allows us to accompany the students in their new routine and to train them in the health protocol in a safe and serene context.

[Back-to-school - Primary School](#)

[Back-to-school - Secondary School](#)

5. Teaching and learning model

Principles

LFT welcomes its students :

- 5 days at LFT in person
- Classrooms are set up in such a way as to provide optimal physical distancing between students.
- The secondary school schedule is based on the standard model of 55-minute weekly class periods in all subjects to ensure a variety of learning content and a balanced work pace.

Teaching and learning continuity in the event of a student or class absence

- In the case of an entire class being placed in quarantine by the health authorities, distance learning will be implemented day 2. Each time the case arises, the learning and teaching dispositions will be communicated.
- In the case of the isolation of one or more students, an individual follow-up will be done :
 - by the primary school teacher
 - by a dedicated educational assistant in secondary school, in support of the work plans and course content made available on the Pronote and Google Classroom platforms

Specific courses

Sciences

- Plexiglass or glass dividers are installed on the workstation benches in the laboratories.
- During manipulations, equipment is carefully prepared, cleaned and if gloves are not required, the hand cleaning protocol within the cohort is controlled by the teacher in charge.

Physical and Sports Education (PE)

- Use of the gym, locker rooms, and common indoor and outdoor physical education equipment is permitted in PE classes while maintaining the maximum physical distance.
- Outdoors: Masks are not required to be worn during PE activities.
- Indoors: Masks must be worn for indoor sports.

- In addition to HEPA devices, windows are left open during all PE sessions to increase ventilation.

Music Education

Singing and the use of instruments (guitar and ukulele) are permitted. Masks must still be worn.

6. Meals, transport and extra-curricular activities

Meals

- Primary School students eat in their classrooms.
- Secondary school students eat in their classrooms or outside. High school students (Seconde to Terminale) are encouraged to go out to eat.

Lunch Box

For students who bring their own lunch boxes :

- No sharing of food between students is allowed
- No handling by staff will be allowed

Wednesday Pizza and “Pains au chocolat”

The pizza program and the pain au chocolat sale organized by the *Conseil de Vie Collégienne and Conseil de Vie Lycéenne*, respectively, and the APA (Parent Teacher Association) resume at the beginning of the school year. Food handlers use proper food handling and safety practices. Registration for Pizza lunch is done from your parent portal.

Kids Cuisine et Santé - Hot meal Service

Kids Cuisine et Santé offers families a hot meal delivery service to LFT 4 days a week (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday). Interested families can subscribe to the service directly on [the Kids Cuisine et Santé website](#).

Snacks

Snacks must be provided by families to students. No handling by staff members will be allowed.

- Kindergarten students will take their snacks in their classrooms.
- Elementary and high school students will take their snacks in the yard during recess.

TPS/PS - Childcare

According to the Ontario Ministry of Education guidelines, no food is allowed to be brought in from home for Pre-K children.

Kids Cuisine et Santé will provide meals and snacks in individual containers (see tuition). For any questions, contact karine.gromaire@lft.ca

Transport

The school transportation service is provided by First Student in accordance with the health guidelines of the authorities (Student Transportation)

- School Buses operate at maximum capacity. Each student is assigned a seat that maximizes the physical distance between siblings and/or cohorts.
- The seat directly behind the driver is left empty to maintain physical distancing between the driver and students.
- Windows are left open for better ventilation.
- Masks must be worn by all students regardless of age and by the driver.
- Strict prohibition of any movement in the bus.

Contact: transport@lft.ca

Day Care before and after school

Our daycare service complies with the health protocol. Students will be supervised by cohort (e.g., all third graders) while respecting the physical distance between cohorts:

- either in the courtyard or green space if time permits and recess provisions apply;
- or in the classrooms assigned to each cohort and the provisions for classrooms apply.

LFT offers daycare for students in Pre-K through Grade 9:

- in the morning from 8:00 a.m. until the start of school
- after school from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. upon registration (free for school transportation users)
- from 4:30 pm to 6 pm with registration

You can register your child for daycare on your Parent Portal. For any questions : garderie@lft.ca

7. Annexes

References

- [Guide pour la réouverture des écoles](#)
- [Guide spécifique aux services de gardes d'enfants](#)
- [Programmes avant et après l'école de la maternelle à la 6e année : politiques et lignes directrices à l'intention des conseils scolaires](#)
- [COVID-19: School Information for Parents & Caregivers – City of Toronto](#)
- [School Operation for the 2021-2022 Academic Year in the Context of the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)