

# Cougar Canyon Elementary School

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Website: <https://cc.deltasd.bc.ca/>

Aug 31, 2021

Dear Parents / Guardians:

We hope you all had a lovely summer! The excitement of school has started to build here at Cougar Canyon as staff prepare for students' arrival.

On behalf of Ms. Larson (the new Vice-Principal) and myself (Mrs. Alkema – new Principal), I want to let you know that we are looking forward to the new year ahead at Cougar Canyon as your administration team. We are thrilled to be placed here at such a wonderful school in a great community! We also wish to thank everyone for your patience and kindness as we work within the new Provincial Health Officer's guidelines to welcome students back to school.



## Day 1 – Tuesday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021

**Kindergarten Students** – please refer to the information you received in June with the Gradual Entry Schedule. If you are unsure of when your child needs to be at school, please contact the office.

**All Students in Grades 1-7 will attend from 9:00am-12:00pm**

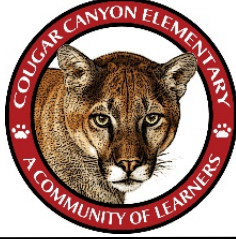
**New Students to Cougar Canyon (Gr. 1-7)** – Please line up at the front door to the school. This is where you will enter and exit on DAY 1 ONLY. After Day One, children will be temporarily placed in a similar-grade class until we have class placements complete for the year. Students will then enter/exit with their temporary class before and after school.

**Home Quest Students returning to Cougar Canyon (Gr. 2-7)** – Please line up on the west side of the school by the round concrete picnic tables – look for your grade sign! This is where these students will begin and end the day on DAY 1 ONLY. After Day One, children will be temporarily placed in a similar-grade level class until we have class placements complete for the year. Starting Day 2, students will enter/exit with their temporary class before and after school.

**All Other Returning Students (Gr. 1-7)** – Please line up at the same door you did last year (2020/2021). All returning students will be returning to be with their last year's class for the majority of the week until we have class placements settled. Even if your child's last year teacher has moved/changed positions, please have them line up where they did all last year and a teacher will receive them at that door. Please watch for the signs indicating where to line up.

### What do we bring on the first day of school?

- 2 masks (required for grade 4-7 students and strongly encouraged for students in grades K-3)
- Healthy recess snack
- Water bottle
- Please do not send the full list of school supplies - For the first week, students should bring only basic supplies: pencil and/or pen; crayons and/or pencil crayons; scissors; eraser



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## Sept. 8, 9, 10 Schedule (Grade 1-7)

8:55 - Warning Bell  
9:00 - School Begins  
10:30-10:45am Recess  
12:08-1:00 – Lunch  
3:00pm - Dismissal

## IMPORTANT Health and Safety Guidelines:

- **Daily Health Checks:** Students and staff need to do daily. The very best way to keep our community healthy is to have healthy staff and students in the building! Please keep your child home if they are ill for any reason. We will be contacting families to pick up their child if they arrive or become ill at school. Please make sure your emergency contact information is up to date in the [Parent Portal](#).
- **Distancing:** Please be mindful and respectful of personal space, especially at drop off and pick up. Adults dropping off are encouraged to wear masks and maintain distance between families.
- **Masks:** There is a provincial mask mandate for all students in grades 4 through 7 to wear a non-medical mask indoors, unless actively eating or drinking while seated at their desk. All students in kindergarten through grade 3 are strongly encouraged to wear a mask; this does remain a family decision. *Please send your student to school with **2 masks each day**. It's always good to have a backup!*
- **Hygiene:** We will continue advocating for good hand hygiene habits (washing hands with soap and water for 20 seconds) and good respiratory etiquette (coughing into elbow, sneezing into a tissue, mindful of personal space)
- **Learning Cohorts:** Students will not be separated into learning cohorts this year. Students will be encouraged to maximize the space around them at all times. Students from different classes will be playing together on the playground during breaktimes (recess and lunch).
- **Parents:** At this time, parents are still asked to remain outside of the building at all times unless a pre-arranged appointment has been made through the office. More details about this will be available in the coming weeks.

Have a wonderful rest of the week. Please reach out if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Lorrenne Alkema  
Principal

Kristy Larson  
Vice Principal