



bonnie  
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playschool

## Bonnie Doon Playschool COVID-19 Plan – September 2, 2020 version

This plan outlines how Bonnie Doon Playschool (BDPS) will operate within the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. The plan is based on requirements and risk mitigation measures set out by the Alberta Government. This plan will be in effect until measures are no longer required by the Alberta Government and will be amended/updated as required to remain compliant with Alberta Government guidelines (which may shift as the pandemic changes). **Additions since the last version have been highlighted in yellow.** Parents will be notified as soon as possible when any changes are announced. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the President at [President@bonniedoonplayschool.ca](mailto:President@bonniedoonplayschool.ca). We are all in this together to keep our children safe, and it is the expectation of the playschool that all playschool staff and parents abide by all the requirements to the best of their ability.

The following measures are based on the **August 31, 2020** Preschool Guidance document (<https://open.alberta.ca/publications/covid-19-information-guidance-for-preschools>) unless otherwise noted.

**Screening** - Teachers will be required to assess themselves for symptoms of COVID-19 before every shift **using the Alberta Health Daily Checklist.**

- Parents/Guardians conducting drop-off **are expected to screen each child for symptoms using the Alberta Health Daily Checklist before leaving home** (See

<https://open.alberta.ca/publications/covid-19-information-alberta-health-daily-checklist>)

**- Parents and children must not enter the preschool space if they have COVID-19 symptoms.**

- Children's temperatures must be checked daily by parents/guardians before coming to school. For reference, normal temperatures are:

- Mouth: 35.5-37.5°C (95.9-99.5°F)

- Underarm: 36.5-37.5°C (97.7-99.5°F)

- Ear: 35.8-38.0°C (96.4-100.4°F)

**- Forehead: 36.6-38.0°C (97.9-100.4°F)**

**Masks** - Teachers will wear a mask at all times. Teachers will follow the Alberta Government guidance document on masks: <https://open.alberta.ca/publications/covid-19-information-guidance-for-wearing-non-medical-masks>

- Adults are required to wear a mask in the boot room and classroom.

- Parent/Guardian volunteers will wear a mask at all times when in the presence of teachers and children, e.g., parent helpers.

- Young children are unlikely to wear a mask properly and not touch it so mask use is not recommended for students.

**Room materials** – structures and toys that cannot be cleaned and disinfected between classes will not be used.

- The entire space, toys and all surfaces will be cleaned before and after classes (in the case of the hall being used in the evening).
- A cleaning log will be posted and used to track cleaning.
- Each class will have designated material where it is difficult to clean or disinfect between each class. E.g., each class will have their own box of craft supplies, toys, books, puzzles, etc. In the case of a book that is shared by all three classes, only the teachers will touch the book. Book boxes, etc could be switched between classes after a weekend (as per: items that cannot be cleaned or disinfected should be stored in a sealed container for at least 72 hours).
- Play dough and sensory tables (e.g., water tables and sand tables) will not be used. Individual sensory bins are permitted e.g., play dough in a container labelled with a child's name.
- Singing and wind instruments are considered high risk activities and alternatives will be considered (e.g., playing a recorded song on a device). Other instruments e.g., drums, triangles, rainsticks, maracas are permitted as long as they are not shared between classes, or if shared are disinfected between each use.

**Activities** - Higher risk activities (e.g., involving shared surfaces or objects frequently touched or clustering in one area of the room) will be modified to encourage physical distancing (e.g., by staggering activities) or not occur.

- Where possible, physical distancing practices will occur. e.g. "air fives" instead of high fives.
- Children will be encouraged to practice proper hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette (wash hands frequently, sneeze/cough into elbow, put used tissues into a waste receptacle and wash hands immediately after).

**Drop-off and Pick-up** – The boot room area is not big enough for all families to be inside and maintain 2 metres of physical distancing at drop-off and pick up.

- Families will be assigned a drop-off time of either 9:10-9:20am or 9:20-9:30am to stagger drop-off and avoid congestion. For dismissal, students will be ready with their coats on at 11:45am. Half will be dismissed through the boot room and half through the doors at the front entrance. These groups will also be assigned to remain consistent.
- We recognize in the first few weeks there may be some anxiety around drop-off time. For children who need a little extra time, it's ok for one adult wearing a mask to enter the classroom with them and get them settled into an activity before saying goodbye. Try to stay 2 metres away from other kids in the classroom.
- Families are asked to use their judgment on their arrival as to whether they can safely maintain 2 metres of physical distancing given the number of people in the boot room. If the boot room is "full", please line up outside until another family exits. Families should line up at least 2 metres apart outside of the door.
- Families are asked to minimize the number of people dropping off and picking up the student. When possible, only one parent/guardian should accompany the child inside. If possible, please keep siblings at home. We understand this won't always be possible.
- Please bring your own pen for sign in.
- Alcohol-based hand rub (with at least 60% alcohol) will be available near the entrance. This is primarily for adults; children should only use sanitizer when soap and water is not readily available. Please keep it out of reach to avoid accidental ingestion. Please use it upon entry and after touching any shared items.

**Sick policy** – If a child develops symptoms during class, the child will be isolated in a separate room and the parent/guardian will be notified to come pick up the child immediately.

- If the child requires close contact and care a teacher will care for the child until the parent is able to pick up the child.
- Staff will wash hands before and after touching any items used by the child.
- All items used by the child while isolated will be cleaned and disinfected as soon as the child is picked up. Items that cannot be cleaned and disinfected will be removed from the centre and stored in a sealed container for a minimum of **72 hours**.
- BDPS will keep a record of all children's known pre-existing conditions. If a child develops symptoms that could be caused by either COVID-19 or by a known pre-existing condition e.g., allergies, the child should be tested for COVID-19 to confirm that this is not the source of their symptoms before returning to school.
  - A child that has tested negative does not need to be retested unless new or different symptoms develop.
- If two or more children/teachers in a class are identified as having symptoms consistent with COVID-19, **Alberta Health Services Coordinated COVID-19 Response will be contacted for additional guidance and decision making support.**
- If BDPS is connected to a confirmed or probable case of COVID-19 it will be required to **follow requirements of Alberta Health Services, which may include temporary closure** to allow for contact tracing. (definition of "probable" found here: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/health-professionals/national-case-definition.html>)

Reminder: All Albertans are legally required to isolate for:

- 14 days if they are a close contact of someone with COVID-19 or returned from international travel.
- 10 days minimum if they have any symptoms that are not related to a pre-existing illness or health condition: cough, fever, shortness of breath, runny nose or sore throat.
  - If you are tested for COVID-19 and the results come back negative and you are not a returning traveller or a close contact of someone who has tested positive, you may end isolation once symptoms have resolved. **Proof of a negative test is not necessary to return to school.**
- If a teacher is absent and a substitute/parent volunteer will be present, parents will be notified.

**Food** – Food provided by families for snack time will be stored with the child's belongings (as usual).

- Activities involving food preparation will be paused.
- Where possible, children will practice physical distancing while eating (sit further apart and sitting side by side rather than facing each other).
- Food may be provided to the children in individual portions by the teachers (e.g., for special events), but they must not serve themselves.
- Children will bring their drink in a labelled water bottle. If a refill of water is required, it will be completed by a teacher.
- Children must be able to open their water bottles on their own. Practice with them ahead of time - this is a common challenge!

**Special Events** - Field trips, group transportation, holiday events, performances and celebrations are paused or cancelled. They offer fewer possibilities of physical distancing and may lead to mingling with people outside of the class.

- In class field trips will continue. Special crafts/activities, decorations and food will be possible for special events as long as the guidelines are followed. E.g., instead of an in person Christmas concert, something special by the children could be recorded and shared with families.

**In-Class parent/guardian volunteers** – in addition to wearing a mask, volunteers will minimize time spent in the classroom and stay two metres away from teachers and children when possible.