

Dear Don Mills CI Parent(s)/Guardian(s) and Students:

We hope you had a restful and enjoyable summer. The 2020-2021 school year is going to be very different and we would like to bring your attention to the following information.

Please note that information is always changing so please expect regular updates. Please also ensure that you regularly check your email for messages from DMCI and the TDSB. The TDSB also provides regular updates on its [Return to School Webpage](#).

Student Timetables: Students will be receiving their timetables electronically this year. At present, your child should expect their timetable attached to an email message on September 3-5 for Quadmester 1. Full timetables including courses for all Quads will be distributed to students in paper copy during the first week of school. More information regarding criteria for timetable changes and how to connect with our Guidance Counsellors will follow.

Limited Guests: We are preparing DMCI to receive staff and students. We ask for your continued patience as we review, finalize and communicate operations so that staff and students can return to schools safely. Virtual appointments, phone calls and emails are preferable at this time.

Self-assessment: If you intend to come to DMCI, screen yourself/child for any Covid-19 symptoms. A second screening is required before you enter the building. If clear, sign in and provide your contact information for contact tracing purposes. It is also ideal to download [Covid Alert Today](#).

Face Masks/ Face Coverings: All students and staff must wear a face mask/covering with exemptions for medical reasons. Should you or your child require an exemption, please contact Mr. Bushell at 416-395-3190, ext. 20010, prior to coming to school to discuss the exemption.

School Start Date: At present, Secondary and Virtual School starts September 15th. More information to follow.

Attending School or Virtual School? On Wednesday, August 26th, TDSB parent(s) are expected to receive an email to make a final decision and register their child to attend school or choose remote learning through Virtual School. It is important that parent(s)/guardian(s) state their intentions. As of now, your decision is due August 29th.

DMCI Schedule. Presently, we will be a quadmestered format.

Quad 1: Sept 15 - Nov. 9 + Exams Nov. 10 and Nov. 11

Quad 2: Nov. 12 - Jan. 28 + Exams Jan. 29 and Feb. 1

Quad 3: Feb. 3 - April 19 + Exams April 20-21 *April 8, 2021: OSSLT Day

Quad 4: April 22 - June 23 + Exams June 24, 25, 28

Presently, secondary students in the in-school model will be in school with their teacher every other day and will have live video conferencing (synchronous learning) with their teacher daily. Class sizes will be approximately 15 students or less.

Schedule for 2020-2021 School Year: As of August 26th, 2020 the bell schedule is as follows:

8:40-8:45am - 5 minute warning bell

8:45am-12:30pm - Course 1 (In person at school)

12:30pm-1:00pm - Student Dismissal (return home/lunch)

2:00pm-3:15pm Course 2 (Live Virtual Learning)

Switching Between In-Person and Remote Learning:

Presently, for health and safety reasons, staffing, physical distancing and space allocation, it will not be possible to immediately transition between the two models. As a result, an opportunity to enter the Virtual School or to return to in-person learning will be provided at the end of each quadmester. Please see the following [LINK](#) for dates and further details regarding returning to school. **Students will attend 2 out of every 4 days. Students in our DD ISP program will attend daily**

Mental Health and Wellness: [TDSB Summer Well-Being Guide](#):

Driveway & Parking: The DMCI driveway is one way. Please enter the driveway from the southend only. Please do not park in assigned parking spots. Please do not idle in front of the school. There is a parking lot in the back of the school and because it is quite small you may need to arrange pick up on neighbourhood streets where parking and or stopping is allowed. Please do not park in the parking lots of buildings in the neighbourhood. They are private property. Alternatively, we are close to bike trails and public transit.

Dropping Off Items: There will be a cart outside the front entrance daily from 9am-3pm where you can return outstanding textbooks or library books. For Musical Instruments or other items, please bring them into the Main Office. If you need to return a musical instrument and are unable to enter the building, please phone our Main Office to make arrangements at 416-395-3190.

Computers: We still await further direction on the return of TDSB computers that are no longer needed. We will provide this information when it is available.

Water Fountains: Water fountains will NOT be available. While we have ordered the installation of water filling stations, students must bring their own water. A considerable delay is unfortunately expected for the installation of water bottle filling stations.

Back to School: Preparing Children, Youth, and Parents/Caregivers: Mental health professionals from Yorktown Family Services will host a webinar on supporting children and

youth (age 7-18) returning to school this fall on **Thursday, August 27, 5:30-6:30 pm**. Topics include: preparing yourself as a caregiver, fear/worry/anxiety from children and youth, and coping strategies. Mental health resources will also be provided and navigating the mental health system will also be discussed. Register for the event [here](#). A link to the seminar will be emailed 24 hours prior to the event.

Join the Conversation- Parents may be interested to attend these conversations with experts on timely topics, including: Supporting Mental Health and Well-Being during the Transition Back to Learning, August 27, 6:30-8 p.m. For further descriptions and links to these TDSB seminars, click [here](#).

We understand that you are making important decisions regarding the lives of your children and your family. If you need to speak further, please contact us at 416-395-3190.