



## *Elkford Women's Task Force Society*

August 24, 2021

Dear Elkford Play School Families,

We are so pleased to welcome your child at the Elkford Play School. We are so excited to see all the children as we begin the 2021/22 preschool year!

As you know, the Elkford Play School is a licensed childcare facility and operates according to Childcare Licensing and Regulations set by the province of British Columbia. As much as we'd hoped it wouldn't be, COVID-19 is very much a part of our operating reality. As such we are required to follow public health orders and maintain a safe operating plan. I am pleased to report that our current operating procedures meet or exceed guidelines. The updated guidelines can be found on the BC CDC website and we have an updated copy posted at the Play School.

Of note there are some requirements that parents need to be aware of. The first being masks for anyone over 12 years of age are mandatory, meaning parents/caregivers are required to wear a mask for pick up and drop off. The second being if you are a visitor to the classroom, you must always wear a mask. This would apply to parents coming for special activities or to drop off special snacks. Provincial Health Orders made on August 24, 2021, require anyone over 12 to wear masks in public spaces. The Elkford Community Conference Centre is a public building. We just wanted to be clear on this policy. Your child is not required to wear a mask coming in to and leaving the building. If you want to have your child wear a mask while entering and leaving the building that is fine, it's completely up to you. In terms of pick up and drop off, we'd like to keep the number of adults dropping off children to a maximum of five at a time. We are not assigning pick up and drop off times at this point.

We ask that parents/caregivers doing drop off and pick up be mindful of the number of people in the hallway outside of the classroom. If there are five parents/caregivers in the hallway,

please wait outside until someone leaves. If parents have questions or concerns that may need to be addressed by staff that require a bit of time to answer, we ask that you book a time to meet with the teachers outside of class hours. Please use the hand sanitizer inside the entrance of the building when you enter.

We ask that you complete a daily health screening and keep your child home when your child is not well. Your diligence will allow us to continue to operate safely. Staying home when you are sick protects your child, other students and their families, and our teachers. Please send a text or call the Play School if your child is ill and let the teachers know that they won't be attending school. We will have the children wash their hands when they enter the classroom, after toileting, before and after snack time, after contact with bodily fluid, after outside play, after sneezing or coughing, and whenever hands are visibly dirty. Each class has a class set of supplies that are specific to that class. The classroom is cleaned at lunch and after school. Supplies are cleaned daily. A more detailed cleaning protocol is described in our COVID-19 Safety Plan and Operating Policy posted at the Play School.

The transition away from Mom & Dad and into the classroom can be a little difficult for some children. Particularly for some of the children in this age group due to having limited social opportunities because of COVID. Please give your child some time to adjust to the changes, it's very exciting and at times scary for some children. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to speak to our teachers. Below please find the contact information for the Play School. If you call during class time, please leave a message and the teachers will return your call after class.

Elkford Play School  
(250)433-1863  
Monday – Thursday

I can be reached by email at [ewtf@telus.net](mailto:ewtf@telus.net) or by phone at (250)425-5125. I wish you a wonderful year ahead and welcome all our families to the Elkford Play School!

Sincerely,

Kim Bauer, Executive Director  
Elkford Women's Task Force Society