



July 16, 2021

Dear TCDSB Families,

As we plan for the 2021-2022 school year, we look forward to welcoming staff and students to school in September. We have seen more access to vaccines in Ontario and anticipate a continued rollout throughout the summer and fall. Currently, approximately 80% of Ontarians have received their first vaccination, and 60% have received their second dose, with those rates increasing on a daily basis. We will continue to rely on health and safety measures prescribed by Toronto Public Health (TPH) and the Government of Ontario as we welcome students and staff back to in-person learning.

As we prepare for students to return to in-person learning in September, we recognize that some families may require the option for their child to learn remotely. As was [communicated on May 27, 2021](#), families will receive a registration link **today July 16, 2021** with the option to select a learning model for your child(ren). **This choice will be effective for the entire 2021-2022 school year.**

**You will receive individual emails with a unique link for each of your child(ren) and will have until midnight on August 6 to respond. Please note: All students will be assumed to be in-person unless indicated otherwise, so non-responses will be considered in-person registrations.**

**Changing your registration choice:** Families will receive a confirmation email once they submit their child's registration. The confirmation email will include a link giving families the ability to change their registration preference **prior to the August 6 deadline**.

The information below has been prepared to assist you with making the decision that is best for your child(ren). Please review the information below and the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) before completing the learning model registration for your child(ren).

### **Elementary In-Person Learning**

For students in Kindergarten to Grade 8 who select in-person learning, learning will continue as it did last September and includes:

- Students will attend school five days per week, with 300 minutes of instruction per day, remaining in one cohort for the full day.
- Class cohorts will stay together, where possible.
- Increased flexibility in scheduling of recesses, lunches, and washroom breaks.
- Teachers will maintain a virtual learning environment (such as Google Classroom or Brightspace) to support students if a transition to remote learning is required.
- All current health and safety protocols such as screening, hand hygiene, etc. will remain in place and updated as needed with guidance from TPH.
- The use of non-medical or cloth masks indoors on school property, including in hallways and in classrooms remains mandatory for all students and staff at this time, subject to evolving Ministry directions over the summer.



- At this time elementary special education and intervention programs such as Intensive Support Program (ISP) classes, and Kindergarten Language Program (KLP), Program to Assist Social Thinking (PAST) and Empower™ Reading will be offered in the in-person learning environment only.
- At this time elementary specialty programs such as French Immersion, Extended French will be offered in the in-person learning environment only.

### **Elementary Remote Learning**

For students in Kindergarten to Grade 8 who select Remote, learning will continue as it did last September via St Anne Catholic Academy, School of Virtual Learning. This will include:

- Teachers will record daily attendance, and students will be assigned to virtual classrooms.
- Student will receive 300 minutes of learning daily with a combination of synchronous and asynchronous opportunities.
- Continue to have access to virtual supports if needed including mental health, counsellors, guidance, etc.
- Access to regular programs and curriculum including core French instruction.
- Gifted withdrawal programming will be offered virtually only.

At this time, we are unable to offer Extended French and French Immersion Programming for students enrolled in remote learning given the limited availability of qualified French Teachers. **Those families wanting to guarantee French Immersion or Extended French Programming for their child(ren) should consider In-Person Learning.**

### **Special Education and IEPs**

We recognize that in-person learning provides a more comprehensive opportunity to implement responsive individualized programming option for students with special education needs. Students with special education needs that opt for remote learning will continue to be supported according to their Individual Education Plan (IEP).

### **Switching Learning Models**

While we understand families want to choose their child's preferred learning model throughout the school year, we also recognize that classroom stability is important to student learning and development. Therefore, we are asking that **families make their choice for the entire school year (September 2021 until June 2022)**.

If you select remote learning, your child will be a student of St Anne, School of Virtual Learning and will **not** be part of their current in-person school. **Families will have the ability to make a transfer request to an in-person or home school as per the [Admissions Policy](#), however transfers will only be fulfilled if there is space.** Families whose transfer requests cannot be accommodated immediately will be placed on a



waitlist until there is an opportunity to transfer. In instances where there is no availability, a request to transfer may not be possible.

We are working with school administration to ensure students who select remote learning in September 2021 will have a spot back in their home school for the 2022-23 school year.

Together, we have learned so much from this past year and hope to provide families with a learning model option that will best support your child(ren). We appreciate your continued understanding, patience, and partnership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Browne", is written over a thin horizontal line.

Dr. Brendan Browne  
Director of Education