



COVID-19 | FAQ As of March 17, 2020

La version française suivra dans les meilleurs délais. Vous comprendrez que, dans les circonstances actuelles, la priorité est de vous envoyer nos communications le plus rapidement possible. Nous vous remercions de votre patience.

We wish to provide answers to some commonly asked questions in an attempt to help shed some light on the current situation in the Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Board schools. Please understand that this situation is evolving very quickly and responses may be changed or updated regularly.

1. Why has the school board closed all its schools/centres?

Following a directive from the Government of Québec, all schools/centres across the province of Québec **are closed** until March 27, 2020 to help reduce the spread of the coronavirus. The head office remains operational to ensure essential services.

2. Are the teachers or any other staff working?

Teachers are not working until further notice. Our head office continues to ensure that essential services are maintained.

3. Can I come and get some of my child's things? Can I pick up my child's books?

We have received a very clear directive from the Ministry of Education that parents and students may not access school/centre buildings over the course of the shutdown period mandated by the Government. This also applies to staff members, unless their presence is required to provide essential services that they cannot execute remotely.

4. Are daycare services open?

Some emergency daycares are open, free of charge, only for the children of identified essential service personnel, such as health care, law enforcement and public security, until March 27. These locations were identified by the Government of Québec because of their proximity to hospitals, clinics, and long-term care facilities.

5. Will I have to pay my school daycare fees for the days of the closure?

No. Anything that has been prepaid will be credited. No fees will be charged.

6. Is the school year going to be compromised?

At this time, the Ministry of Education has stated that the school year should not be compromised.

7. What will happen with school trips?

All trips are cancelled during the closure. All other trips must be revised in partnership with the school or centre's governing board on a as-needed basis. Details regarding refunds are dependent upon the tour operators, hotels or other businesses that will be receiving the cancellation notices. We will provide you with specific details about these activities as this situation unfolds.

8. What cleaning has been done in the school during the closure?

Special cleaning measures have been in place since last week and reinforced during the school/centre shutdown. Surfaces are being disinfected regularly by caretakers, and another thorough cleaning will be done before students and staff return.



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Our protocols for cleaning are also enforced in our schools offering emergency daycare services, and caretakers are on duty during daycare hours. This includes regularly wiping down, with a disinfectant, all surfaces such as doorknobs, hand dryers, sinks and any high-traffic areas.

9. Can teachers assign work for my child to do at home?

The Minister of Education has been clear in this regard: teachers are not expected to provide work to students during this 14-day period. This includes students registered in distance learning programs. Consequently, at this time, no work will be sent to them during this period.

This being said, we understand that some students may wish to remain engaged with the curriculum during this time. Consequently, the school board's Pedagogical Services team is creating an online toolkit with links to learning resources organized by grade level and subject area. We will notify you as soon as these are available on the SWLSB website and the SWLSB Facebook page.

We will make every effort to add additional questions as they arise and update answers as the situation changes.

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