



# Owen Sound District Secondary School

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April 9, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians:

As per recent announcements, the provincial government has implemented a province wide shutdown for at least four weeks.

The mental health and well-being of children continues to be a key priority, and schools in Bluewater District School Board will remain open for in-person learning through the Provincial Emergency and Stay at Home Order. The April break will continue as planned, from April 12 to 16, and schools will reopen for in-person learning on April 19.

Considering the recently announced measures, it is more important than ever that we continue to follow health advice over the April break to do our part to keep schools open, for in-person student learning.

At this point in the pandemic, the following public health measures are crucial to help prevent and limit the spread of COVID-19:

- Socialize with your own household
- Stay home and get tested if you feel ill
- Participate in the targeted testing offered by our school board
- Screen every day, including during spring break, for COVID-19 symptoms before attending child care (the COVID-19 School and Child Care Screening Tool at <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening> is available to assist families with symptom screening).
- Practice good hand hygiene habits, masking, and physical distancing
- Refer to <https://www.ontario.ca/page/covid-19-response-framework-keeping-ontario-safe-and-open> to learn what public health measures are in place in our community
- Refrain from travelling

As a reminder, before coming back to school on April 19, students must screen for COVID-19 symptoms. For the most up-to-date screening information, please visit our web page at [https://www.bwdsb.on.ca/spotlight/COVID 19 updates/return to school](https://www.bwdsb.on.ca/spotlight/COVID%20updates/return%20to%20school).

If your child is in **Kindergarten to Grade 4**, you must **complete the attestation below for each child and return it to school on Monday, April 19**. If your child is in **Grades 5 to 8**, they will be **required to provide a verbal confirmation** that they have completed the COVID-19 School and Child Care Screening Tool at <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening> and are symptom free. This attestation (Kindergarten to Grade 4) and verbal confirmation (Grades 5 to 8) will **ONLY be required on the first day back to school on Monday, April 19**. Grades 9 to 12 students will continue to provide a daily verbal confirmation as they have done in the past. As

always, all students will still be required to complete the screening tool daily before coming to school.

By following public health advice, we can all enjoy a safe April break and continue to support in-person learning in our school.

Have a safe and restful break.

Sincerely,

Jeff Brookshaw

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*Please detach this portion, sign, and return it to your child's teacher.*

### **Screening Attestation**

**To be completed for each student in Kindergarten to Grade 4 (one form per student).**

- ✓ **Review the COVID-19 checklist at <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening> with your child.**
- ✓ **Sign below to confirm that your child does not have any symptoms or has not had other exposure to COVID-19.**

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_