# Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health COVID-19 Guidance for Schools

## Additional tips for physical distancing

## General

- Explore the use of all available space on school premises (indoors and outdoors) to facilitate physical distancing requirements
- Ensure students understand what physical distancing means and why it is important
- Use visual cues such as floor markings and wall signs throughout the school to demonstrate 2-metre distance
- Use virtual technology for large gatherings or assemblies instead of in-person
- Encourage use of phone or video conferencing for meetings with parents or between staff

## Entry/Exit

- Communicate procedures to parents/guardians and students using multiple methods (e.g., letters home, signs posted in school, school website)
- Recommend only one parent/guardian do drop-offs/pick-ups, if possible
- Create separate drop-off/pick-up spots for each cohort of students
- Stagger school entry and exit times for cohorts
- Establish entry and exit points for each cohort (to be used throughout the day)
- Stagger times for student movement around the school as much as possible
- Ensure students do not gather in hallways

## In the Classroom

- Hold classes/activities outside whenever possible
- Remove any unnecessary furniture/objects from the classroom
- Maximize the space between student desks/chairs and aim for 2m distance between students
- Arrange student desks/chairs to ensure students are not facing each other
- Use visual markers (e.g., tape on floor) to show each student the space they should stay within
- Avoid any activities that require close contact between students
- Remind students to greet each other from a distance

## Nutrition Breaks/Playing Outside

- Ensure students remain seated in their designated space while eating
- Discourage close face-to-face interaction
- Stagger nutrition breaks/recess time between different cohorts
- Create designated outdoor areas for each cohort
- Encourage activities/games that can be played while maintaining physical distance

For more information, visit wdgpublichealth.ca

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