

**WELCOME
BACK!**



ÉCOLE NORTH OYSTER

2026-2027 School Schedule & Calendar

SCHOOL HOURS – GRADES K - 7

8:30 am	Welcome Bell
8:35 am	School starts
8:35 am - 10:15 am	Instructional time
10:15 am – 10:30 am	Short Recess
10:30 – 11:50 am	Instructional time
11:50 am – 12:21 pm	Long Recess
12:21 pm – 2:09 pm	Instructional Time
2:09 pm	Dismissal

Office Hours: Monday - Friday
from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm

START UP PLANS

First Day of School: Tuesday, September 8, 2026

Students in Grades 1–7 will attend for one hour
(11:00 am – 12:00 pm)

Families will be provided a homeroom number before their child's first day. Additionally, staff at the front of the building will have homeroom lists for reference. Homeroom classes will gather on the soccer field before heading inside.

Kindergarten families have received separate communication regarding Gradual Entry.

Regular instructional hours begin on
Wednesday, September 9th.

SEPTEMBER						
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2026 – 2027 School Calendar

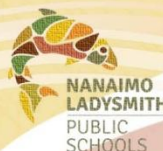
Schools open for students	Tuesday, September 8, 2026
National Day for Truth & Reconciliation	Wednesday, Sept 30, 2026
Thanksgiving Day	Monday, October 12, 2026
Professional Development Day (PSA)	Friday, October 23, 2026
Professional Development Day (School/Based)	Monday, October 26, 2026
Remembrance Day	Wednesday, Nov 11, 2026
Professional Development Day (School/Based)	Monday, November 30, 2026
Last day of classes before winter break	Friday, December 18, 2026
Winter break – Schools not in session	Dec 21, 2026 – Jan 1, 2027
Schools reopen after winter break	Monday, January 4, 2027
Professional Development Day (School/Based)	Friday, February 12, 2027
Family Day	Monday, February 15, 2027
Last day of classes before spring break	Friday, March 12, 2027
Spring break – Schools not in session	March 15 – March 26, 2027
Schools reopen after spring break	Tuesday, March 30, 2027
Good Friday	Friday, March 26, 2027
Easter Monday	Monday, March 29, 2027
Professional Development Day (District)	Monday, April 26, 2027
Curriculum Implementation Day	Friday, May 21, 2027
Victoria Day	Monday, May 24, 2027
Last Day of Classes	Tuesday, June 29, 2027
Year-end Administrative Day	Wednesday, June 30, 2027

 STATUTORY HOLIDAY	 VACATION PERIOD
 NON-INSTRUCTIONAL DAY	 ADMINISTRATIVE DAY
 FIRST DAY OF CLASSES	 LAST DAY OF CLASSES

Total days in session: 186

Minimum number of hours of instruction that must be offered as per School Act and Calendar Regulation:
 853 hours of instruction for students in Kindergarten
 878 hours of instruction for students in Grades 1 to 7
 952 hours of instruction for students in Grades 8 to 12

ONLINE LEARNING (K-12): Island Connect Ed has year round schooling with the school closed during district-wide winter and spring vacations and August 10 – August 28, 2026 for summer vacation.



Nu w'il'm to École North Oyster School!
'Uy' skweyul – Good day – Bonjour

We are very excited to welcome back returning students and to extend a warm bienvenue to families who are new to our community. We kindly ask that you take a moment to read through the following handbook to help the school year run smoothly and efficiently. Our beautiful school, located on the traditional and unceded territory of the Stz'uminus people, which we are grateful to learn from and respect its care.

North Oyster Mission Statement

To create a community partnership within a safe environment that will inspire well rounded, lifelong learners.
Créer une association des différents membres de la communauté scolaire au sein d'un milieu sécurisant où les élèves aspireront à devenir des apprenants à part entière pour la vie.

North Oyster strives to instill a love of learning, the ability to self-regulate, to process information, to think critically and creatively, and to acknowledge and celebrate differing abilities and backgrounds. North Oyster students are nurtured to become resourceful global citizens of tomorrow. A child's education is a shared responsibility between home and school. Support and encouragement are essential to ensure that a child reaches their potential. An educational program that is balanced can foster the development of the *whole child - intellectually, socially, and physically.*

The Right Opportunity in the Right Environment

Children need to assume an active role in their learning. They learn in various ways and at different rates. We know also that learning is both an individual and a group process. At North Oyster we value success and build it in for every child. Commitment and cooperation between school and home are the key.

Open Communication

Parents and teachers need to establish and maintain open communication. Effective communication means taking the issue right to the source: Please feel free to phone, e-mail or come in and talk with us about any concerns you may have. As partners in your child's education, we must each feel comfortable conveying our observations and concerns while listening actively to what the other party is saying. A child's needs are best served when home and school cooperate in an open and ethical manner. Over the year, teachers will inform parents of the goings-on at school. If there is a concern, the teacher contacts the parent, sometimes the office as well. When parents have concerns, they should first contact the teacher (by note / phone call / e-mail) to arrange a time to meet and discuss in person. Sometimes issues are referred to school administration. In every case, the utmost in terms of confidentiality and respect are assured and expected.

Parents' Advisory Council (PAC)

The Parents' Advisory Council (PAC) is the central link between parents and the school. By definition, *every parent is automatically a member of the PAC*. Parents are strongly encouraged to get involved in PAC activities as this benefits all students. The PAC organizes special events and fundraising activities. Please note, all fundraising efforts should be aligned with PAC initiatives. The PAC executive consists of a President, a Vice-President, a Treasurer, a Secretary, two Directors and a school representative to the District-PAC (DPAC). The North Oyster PAC asks parents to LIKE and follow their Facebook page. E-mail: northoysterpac@gmail.com

Peanut/ tree nut aware school

North Oyster School has student(s) with potentially life-threatening food allergies that require the student to always have an epi-pen with them. The food allergies include all nuts as well as any products that may contain these foods.

In order to reduce the risk of accidental exposure to these foods we are asking students to avoid bringing snacks containing nuts to school. Due to the nature of these serious allergies, as well as the potential that may be a "hidden" ingredient in many foods, please support us in reminding your children not to share or sample food from others.

We realize avoiding these potential allergens requires extra planning. We thank you in advance for your cooperation and understanding.

Scent aware school

North Oyster is also a **scent-aware** workplace. For the health and safety of our students and staff, we kindly ask that all individuals refrain from wearing scented products such as perfumes, colognes, or heavily scented lotions when coming to school.

Some members of our school community have medical conditions that can be triggered by strong scents, including migraines, asthma, and other respiratory issues. Your cooperation in helping us maintain a safe and comfortable environment for everyone is greatly appreciated.

Nanaimo Ladysmith Public Schools - CODE OF CONDUCT

Nanaimo Ladysmith Public Schools Code of Conduct



"Educative, Preventative, Restorative"

Statement of Purpose

Nanaimo Ladysmith Public Schools is committed to creating learning environments where everyone feels included, respected, supported, and equal so everyone can grow and succeed (Reference: [Policy 105 Justice Equity Diversity Inclusion](#)).

The [School Act](#) gives school administrators the authority to make decisions, give consequences, search students' belongings and take away illegal or dangerous items to help keep schools safe, positive, and inclusive places for everyone.

Reference to the BC Human Rights Code

The [BC Human Rights Code](#) states that a person must not treat another person or group unfairly when they use public services or facilities. This includes discrimination based on race, skin colour, ancestry, where they were born, religion, marital or family status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or age.

Conduct Expectations

Acceptable Conduct - Socially responsible behaviours that help make schools safe, caring, and inclusive environments:

- Contributing positively to the school community.
- Solving problems in peaceful ways.
- Valuing diversity and defending human rights
- Respectful interactions with students, staff, and community members.
- Speaking up and reporting incidents that demean or disrespect others or threaten safety.
- Respecting the law as it applies to yourself and others.
- Respecting learning time and maintaining academic integrity.
- Demonstrating commitment to learning through regular attendance and being ready to learn.

Unacceptable Conduct - Behaviour that interferes with the learning or orderly environment of the school:

- Disrupting learning or creating problems that disturb the orderly environment of the school or any school function.
- Participating in harassment, intimidation, bullying, or discrimination in person or online.
- Vaping or smoking on school grounds (prohibited on all school district property).
- Verbal threats, swarming, or physical violence.
- Illegal acts including theft, property damage, possession/distribution of illegal substances, or weapon possession.
- Disrespect to others and their property.
- Breaching academic integrity.
- Any use of photos/videos or recording audio of others without clear consent.
- Use of wearable or concealed technology to record audio or visual information.

Personal Digital Device and Artificial Intelligence (AI) Guidelines:

Research demonstrates that restricting personal digital devices at school improves student wellness and academic focus.

- Personal digital devices at Secondary are restricted during instructional time.
- Personal digital devices at Elementary are restricted during school hours.
- Students must provide notice whenever AI tools are used in their schoolwork. All AI-generated or AI-assisted content must be clearly identified or acknowledged.
- Wearable or concealed devices capable of recording audio or video (including, but not limited to, smart glasses, AI pendants or similar devices) are prohibited at school.

Considerations include:

- Restrictions during hours of instruction.
- Use for instructional purposes and digital literacy.
- Appropriateness to student's age and developmental stage.
- Accessibility and accommodation needs.
- Medical and health needs.
- Equity to support learning outcomes (Reference: [Provincial Standards for Codes of Conduct Order, Ministerial Order](#)).

Nanaimo Ladysmith Public Schools - CODE OF CONDUCT

Nanaimo Ladysmith Public Schools Code of Conduct



"Educative, Preventative, Restorative"

Consequences:

SD68 expects all students, staff, and community members to adhere to conduct expectations that are **educative**, **preventative**, and **restorative** in practice and response (Reference: [AP 602.1 Code of Conduct](#)).

Special Considerations:

Some students may not be able to meet behaviour expectations because of an intellectual, physical, sensory, emotional, or behavioural disability. These students need special consideration, and schools must choose supports and responses that do not punish them for challenges directly related to their disability (Reference: [AP 602.1 Code of Conduct](#)).

Restorative Practices focus on:

- Helping students learn self-discipline, repair harm, and return to the school community stronger.
- Supporting the person or people who were harmed.
- Using meaningful conversations or mediation to address issues.
- Building positive relationships and a strong sense of community.
- Working toward healing, repair, and a sense of belonging.

Student Suspension:

It is a comprehensive problem-solving process to support behaviour change, ensure safety, set clear consequences, and encourage collaboration between families, schools, and community services. Consequences depend on the student's age, maturity, needs, and situation (Reference: [AP 602.12 Student Suspension](#)).

Retaliation Prevention:

No student, staff member, parent, or volunteer is allowed to retaliate against someone who reports harassment, intimidation, bullying, or discrimination. Retaliation is not tolerated and will result in appropriate consequences (Reference: [AP 602.6 Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Student](#)).

Appeal Process:

Students and parents may appeal decisions that significantly affect a student's health, education, or welfare. Information about the formal appeal process is available through AP 502.2 Appeals under the School Act. Whenever possible, concerns should be discussed and resolved at the school first (Reference: School Act, [AP 502.2 Appeals under the School Act](#)).

Rising Expectations

As students get older and progress through grades they are expected to show more maturity and take more responsibility for their actions. Expectations should be **educative**, **preventative**, and grow gradually based on age and developmental level (Reference: [Provincial Standards for Codes of Conduct Order](#)).

Meaningful consequences may include:

- Face-to-face meetings to address harm.
- Circle processes to restore equity and respect.
- Acts of service to benefit the school or community.
- Support to learn problem-solving strategies.
- Reflective processes to create restoration plans.
- Educational opportunities to support learning.

Notification: School administration may inform other parties or agencies of serious breaches of the code of conduct depending on how severe or repeated the behaviour is, and how it affects others or the school community. Illegal activities will be reported to the RCMP and/or District Administration to develop safety plans, including **educative**, **preventative** and **restorative** action (Reference: [AP 602.1 Code of Conduct](#)).

Supporting Administrative Procedures:

- Policy 105 [Justice Equity Diversity Inclusion \(JEDI\)](#)
- 502.2AP [Appeals under the School Act](#)
- 602.12AP [Student Suspension](#)
- 602.1AP [Code of Conduct](#)
- 602.19AP [Anti-Racism and Cultural Safety](#)
- 602.18AP [Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity](#)
- 602.3AP [School Attire Expectations](#)
- 602.6AP [Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Students](#)

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RISING EXPECTATIONS

Expectations will increase as students become older and more mature, and as they move through successive grades. Students are expected to exhibit increased personal responsibility and self-discipline and there will be increasing consequences for inappropriate behaviour.

In addition to applying natural and logical consequences for unsafe action, our discipline procedures include such methods as safety plans and check-ins with our social emotional supporting staff.

An action plan focusing on acceptable behaviour will be developed with the student and family. This plan may include a modified timetable permitting the student only partial attendance in regular classes for a specified time or until safety patterns of behaviour are improving.

Where appropriate, North Oyster staff and administration will employ additional disciplinary strategies designed to enhance the “educative nature” of our disciplinary approach. Such additional disciplinary strategies for the student being disciplined might include:

- sitting down with community, police or fire safety authorities.
- intervention with a counsellor or child and youth care worker.
- his/her family being required to pay restitution for damage done.
- being required to perform school or community service consistent with the offense.
- being required to perform an educational task appropriate to the offence, for example, a research assignment on the dangers of tobacco use.
- being required to meet, in a controlled setting, with the “harmed” of his/her offence, hearing of the impact of the offence on the harmed person and to provide specific restitution, apology, etc.

SCHOOL DISTRICT # 68 (Nanaimo/Ladysmith) PARENT/STUDENT APPEALS

In accordance with Section 11 of the School Act, a student or the parent of a student entitled to an educational program in the School District may appeal a decision of an employee of the School Board which significantly affects the education, health or safety of the student. The failure of an employee to make a decision shall be deemed to be a decision for the purpose of bringing an appeal.

The Board advises that the proper channeling of complaints involving instruction, discipline, safety, and health is as follows:

- Teacher
- School Principal
- Superintendent of Schools
- Board of School Trustees

Any complaint about school personnel will be investigated by the administration before consideration and action by the Board. Please refer to our District Policy Manual: Parent Complaints (502.1AP) & Appeals Under the School Act (502.2AP)

ARRIVING TO SCHOOL

At École North Oyster, school site outdoor supervision is provided for 15 minutes before the bell at 8:30am.

We would like to thank all our parents who make a big effort to get their children to school on time whether they drive or walk. When students are here on time, it sets the tone for the day. They can start relaxed and ready to face the day in an organized fashion. When you make sure your child arrives on time, you model values that help support learning.

There are days when getting to school on time just does not happen. We want students to know that they are welcome at school when they arrive.

CLASSROOM VISITATION PROTOCOL

As parents, many of you have no doubt experienced the challenges of keeping your child(ren) on task for a period of time. You can imagine trying to keep 25 or more children on task. I am sure you will agree this could be daunting indeed. We really encourage parents to come to the school however, interruptions during instructional time make it very difficult to have a valuable discussion with you at the same time that we are teaching the children.

We would ask parents to help us by following these protocols:

1. Make an appointment to meet with your child(ren)'s teacher:
 - Call the school and leave a message to have the teacher contact you
 - Put a message in the child's planner
 - Check in at the office during non-instructional times and we will help set up a mutually convenient meeting time
2. Requesting homework for children that are absent from school:
 - When you call the school to advise of a student's absence, ask that homework be prepared that can be picked up or sent home with another student
 - If the absence is a planned one, give the teacher enough notice to prepare the appropriate homework material.

3. If you are dropping off forgotten homework, lunches or other important items, please leave it at the office. The students should be told to pick it up at the office, or it will be delivered at an appropriate time.

All visitors to the school during instructional time need to stop in at the office, sign in. This way we know who is in the building! We thank you in advance for helping to keep our school safe!

SCHOOL WORK POLICY WITH REGARDS TO MID-YEAR VACATIONS

Children are legally required to be in school according to the School Act unless they are ill. Unless a child is ill, the school cannot be responsible for preparing work packages for such things as family holidays that are taken outside of the regular school calendar. The reasons for this are that:

- A large amount of class instruction is done orally through demonstrations and discussions and therefore cannot easily be made up through work sheets unless considerable explanations take place
- Vocabulary development and understanding of the concepts in Science, Language Arts, etc. is tightly linked to the active participation of the student
- It is difficult for a teacher to assign work ahead of time and to know exactly what will be covered two or three weeks down the road. As the approach at the elementary level is more child-oriented than content-oriented, many variables constantly come into play such as the children's pace, difficulties, interests, unexpected special events, etc. which all affect the day-to-day planning.

WHAT TO DO IF YOUR CHILD IS HAVING PROBLEMS

Should you feel that your child is having educational, emotional, or social problems at school, please contact your child's teacher immediately.

In consultation with you, your child's teacher may make the appropriate referral to our School Based team which will then work on a plan to address the given identified areas of need. You should never feel intimidated or shy to come and discuss your concerns for your child with your teacher. The teacher, the principal and all of the support staff are here to serve your children. Together, the school and the home can help children over problems and/or problem times.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

Should your child have a serious injury during school hours, the following procedure is followed:

- The nature and seriousness of the child's injury is determined.
- If the time is not an important consideration, the home is contacted, and the parents are asked to come for the child.
- If the home cannot be contacted the emergency number provided to the school is called.
- If no contact is made, the school will take the necessary action to ensure the child gets medical attention. The school will continue in its attempt to contact parents/guardians.
- If emergency care is required, the school will do so as quickly as possible. In such cases the parent may have to meet their child at the hospital.
- Remember, your earthquake contact should be someone who can reach your child. Your child will not be released to anyone else.

School District 68 Has an Emergency Closure Policy.

The decision to close schools is made by the Superintendent in conjunction with school principals, the transportation supervisor, the RCMP and the Ministry of Highways. The following emergency School closure situations are possible:

- School bus morning runs may be cancelled but schools may stay open. Announcements will be on local radio stations (WAVE 102.3 FM and WOLF 106.9 FM) by 7 a.m.
- Both schools and bus runs may be cancelled in the morning. Again, this will be announced by 7 a.m. on local radio stations.
- Schools closed in the morning may re-open in the afternoon if conditions improve. Announcements will be on local radio stations by 11 a.m.
- Although it is unlikely, it is possible that in some extreme emergency a school or schools may be dismissed during the day, and students sent home. Radio stations will have announcements. Individual schools will attempt to notify parents. Parents should make sure the school has current telephone numbers and that students have an alternate place to go, if necessary.

EARLY DETECTION SYSTEM

"For Your Child's Safety"

The purpose is to detect as soon as possible the whereabouts of each student not in class. For the system to operate effectively and efficiently, parents are requested to do one of the following:

- Email the school at info.no@sd68.bc.ca

- **Phone the school** (250-245-3330) if your child is late or absent from school for any reason. We have an answering machine, so you do not need to wait until the school opens to call.
- **Send a note** with another child in the family.
- **Give advance notification**, preferably written, of dental/medical appointments, or any changes from the usual routing: e.g. staying/going home for lunch, early music lessons, etc.

Most parents already inform the school and this is very much appreciated. If the school has not been notified of a child's absence by 9:00 a.m. or 12:30 p.m. the school secretary will try to contact a parent at home, at work, or at the emergency number provided.

Students should:

- walk/bike to and from school with friends;
 - be cautious of strangers;
 - report suspicious events and people to parents or teachers;
 - follow a safe route to and from school established with their parents;
 - inform parents of participation in any after school activities (including detentions of more than 15 minutes).
- Thank you for your cooperation.

STUDENT MEDICATION

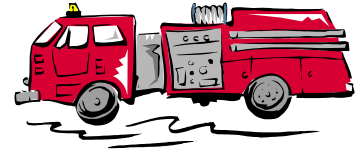
- Teachers shall not be required to administer medical procedures, nor shall teachers be required to administer medications on a regular or predictable basis.
- The administration of medication and/or other medical procedures shall be the responsibility of appropriate health personnel except for those mature students capable and trained in self-administration.
- The Board shall ensure that schools establish systems for administering medication and other medical procedures.
- Students who require medication at school will report to the office
- Student **Medication paperwork is needed** in order for students to receive medication at school
- If you have any further questions or concerns regarding medication for your child, please contact the school office.

LOST AND FOUND

The lost and found collection at schools is quite an amazing site to see! Please check it regularly. Items will be donated to local charities a few times in the year.

FIRE DRILL

All schools conduct Fire drills several times throughout the year. Any continuous ringing of the fire bell must be treated as a real emergency (as it well could be). Pupils evacuate the school in an orderly fashion and gather at a designated place at a safe distance from the building. The deliberate activation of a false fire alarm is a very serious offence and will be treated as such.



EARTHQUAKE DRILL

Earthquake drills are conducted on a regular basis. Students stay indoors (usually under desks). In the event of an earthquake, when shaking stops, the school is evacuated in an orderly fashion. Teachers and students move to a pre-determined open space away from buildings and overhead power lines.

LOCKDOWN DRILL/HOLD AND SECURE

Lockdown drills are conducted three times per school year. Drills are supervised activities involving all members of the school community to provide the opportunity to practice the skills in the response procedure. Students are directed to the closest secure area where they remain until the lockdown is over. Classes who are outside the building in a Lockdown do not return to the school. They go to a designated safe place off of the school grounds.

Hold and Secure happens when there is a threat outside of the school, including but not limited to wildlife (cougars, bears), and police incidents not related to the school. In a Hold and Secure students are free to move within the building but are not permitted to leave nor is anyone from the outside permitted to enter.

FIELD TRIPS AND INSURANCE

Our students may be on many field trips throughout the year. There is nothing better than experiencing something firsthand and a great deal of learning in many associated areas happens on field trips. All our students are required to have a signed permission slip before they can partake in these activities.

Often parents are called upon to drive a class to the field trip. Under our Board Policy, there is a special insurance rider that protects parents driving over and above their own policy. Parents also will need to complete a Volunteer Driver's Application.

704.2AP Volunteers – Volunteer Vehicles

- The BC minimum third party liability insurance required on each vehicle is \$200,000.
- Volunteer vehicles are not to carry more than the number of passengers prescribed by law. Volunteer vehicles are to carry a maximum of nine passengers.
- Children may not sit in front seats with airbags.
- All children must use an age and weight appropriate child seat until their 9th birthday unless they have reached 4'9" (145 cm) tall.
- Children who are 20 lbs (9 kg) to 40 lbs (18 kg) should be restrained in a forward-facing child seat and children who are over 40 lbs (18 kg) should be restrained in a booster seat.
- The principal or delegate shall inform in writing the volunteer driver/owner that the vehicle must meet all safety requirements, including a seat belt for each passenger.
- All volunteer drivers must have completed the Criminal Record Check and it must be on file at the school. Please complete on line in the beginning of school year to avoid disappointment for yearend field trips.

NANAIMO LADYSMITH PUBLIC SCHOOLS POLICY ON INCLUSION

All members of the Nanaimo Ladysmith Public Schools community have the right to expect that its policies, procedures, programs and communications are inclusive and respectful; taking into consideration visible and invisible diversities including but not limited to: race, sexual orientation, gender identity, ability, religion, culture and socio-economic status. The Board expects that all students, staff, and members of our school communities will:

- Adhere to a code of conduct that is educative, preventative and restorative in practice and response;
- Foster school cultures that are responsive to the diverse social and cultural needs of individuals and groups;
- Understand how characteristics of diversity impact the access to, and outcomes of, education;
- Recognize the injustices of marginalization, advocate for social justice and promote human rights; and
- Participate in the ongoing development of practices that promote fair and equitable treatment for everyone, cultivating mutual respect, civility and a sense of belonging.

DROP OFF/PICK UP AND PARKING

The road and parking lot at North Oyster is very busy before school and at the end of the day. Please note the following safety guidelines:

- Supervision is provided 15 minutes before and after school. Students should not arrive before 8:15 am and should be picked up promptly at 2:09 pm. As our dismissal time is 2:09 pm, staff supervision concludes at approximately 2:25 pm. After this time, students are expected to be picked up or enrolled in an approved before- or after-school care program.
- The front drive-through is for school buses only. Please do not use or park in this area, as buses need clear space to turn safely.
- For everyone's safety, we ask that things with wheels always be walked while on school property.
- The staff parking lot is reserved for staff only. Please avoid using it during drop-off or pick-up.
- Parking across the road from the school is illegal. For student safety, families are asked to use the Community Centre parking lot across the road and cross only at the designated crosswalk.

Thank you for your cooperation in helping us keep all students and families safe!

HOT LUNCH

We are extremely fortunate to have regularly scheduled hot lunches (dates TBD). Orders are online using Munch-a-lunch. Please note: if your child is absent from school on hot lunch day, you can arrange for the lunch to be picked up at the office OR it can be donated to someone who does not have lunch on that day. No refunds can be given.

Families in need of support are encouraged to connect with the office or North Oyster PAC directly. We do not want students to miss the opportunity to participate in these fun and nutritious lunch options due to financial constraints.

GENERAL ELECTRONICS

Students and families are reminded that the school cannot be responsible for personal items brought from home, including toys, electronics, or other personal belongings. We ask that personal technology such as gaming devices, music players, smart watches, cameras, recording devices, and similar items remain at home unless specifically requested by a teacher for a learning activity or show & tell. If brought to school, the teacher or principal will keep the item safe until the end of the day. If this had occurred with high frequency, a guardian will be asked to come and collect the device.

CELL PHONES

Students are reminded that all personal cellular devices, including phones and watches, are to be off and put away during the school day unless they are used for educational purposes under the supervision of an adult. Families are asked to contact the office for messages to be delivered during the day if there is an emergency.



Due to an expectation of privacy, students are not permitted to use personal electronic devices to take photos/videos during the school day.

Personal Digital Device Restrictions

Research suggests that restricting the use of personal digital devices at school leads to improved student wellness and academic focus. The use of personal digital devices during the school day, inclusive of outdoor recess breaks, is limited to instructional purposes and digital literacy in a way that is appropriate to the students' age and developmental stage, under the direction of the classroom teacher. Consideration will be given to:

- *accessibility and accommodation needs;*
- *medical and health needs;*
- *equity to support learning environments.*

PBIS

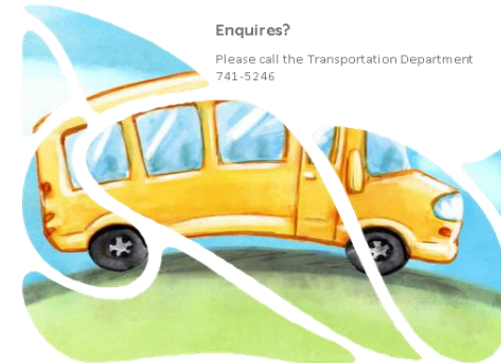
North Oyster is a PBIS school. PBIS stands for Positive Behaviour Intervention and Supports. PBIS is research driven, school-wide system for teaching and responding to behaviour. Part of the system involves having a set of school-wide expectations for all students and all adults. These expectations are explicitly taught at various times in the year, including during monthly assemblies. We also use a system of positive recognition with our Outstanding Orca slips. These slips are given to students who are modeling positive behaviour. Any adult can recognize any student.

A second aspect of PBIS is working to engage productive behaviour. In keeping with the District Policy on Inclusion, PBIS focuses on discipline that is educative, preventative and restorative. Data is collected using Problem Behaviour slips and is tracked to determine trends. As PBIS is a school-wide system, adults become responsible for all students and students in turn learn to respond to all adults. Having school-wide expectations helps to ensure that the Ministry Order around school Codes of Conduct is adhered to, helping to make North Oyster Safe, Caring and Orderly for all.

The Behaviour Matrix follows on the last page of this handbook.

School Bus Safety Guidelines

We need to work together to ensure safe and efficient transportation of students.



Notes to Parents

- Riding the School bus is a privilege not a right.
- The school bus is an extension of the school, and the same code of conduct and all NLPS Board policies and administrative procedures apply.
- Remember that the proper conduct of your child while waiting for the bus and while riding the bus is your responsibility.
- Parents/guardians are financially responsible for bus damage that is caused by their child.
- Parents and students should be aware that buses are equipped with video cameras to monitor student behaviour.
- Students must be registered and use their bus pass to ride the bus to and from school. Lost or damaged cards will incur a \$10 fee for replacement.
- Students that are not registered cannot ride the bus home with a friend unless a written note from the non-registered parent is provided to the driver.

Unacceptable Items on the Bus

For safety purposes, the Motor Vehicle Act does not permit equipment such as skis, sleds, skateboards, hockey sticks, etc. on a school bus. Only backpacks, small musical instruments and other items that fit comfortably on a student's lap may be transported in the passenger area of a school bus.

Expectations for Students on Buses

Unsafe or harmful actions while riding the bus and are not permitted. Corrective actions will be implemented if a student is reported to have engaged in these behaviours.

- Disregard for Safety Procedures
- Defiance or Disrespect
- Conflict and Aggressive Behaviour
- Possession or Use of Prohibited Items
- Inappropriate Use of Property or Technology

Supportive Responses to Unsafe/Harmful Behaviour

When a student is unable to meet bus behavior expectations, supportive responses may include verbal reminders, assigned seating, safety notices, or other appropriate measures. If the driver determines a Bus Safety Notice is necessary, the information will be emailed to the parent or guardian, with a copy sent to the school principal. Based on the frequency and severity of the behavior, the student may be suspended from bus transportation.

Loading and Unloading Procedures

Red Flashing Lights

- a) Used when the bus cannot pull completely off the road.
- b) Not used if the bus can pull completely off the road.

Loading

- a) Students stay in the safety zone (at least 3.7 meters away from the bus) until the bus stops completely.
- b) Students load the bus.

Unloading

- a) Students unload to the safety zone (at least 3.7 meters away from the bus).
- b) Students remain in the safety zone until the bus leaves and disperse when safe to do so.

Winter Weather Service

School bus service may be canceled for the day or limited to winter stops if a route is deemed too hazardous due to snow or ice conditions. In the event of a cancellation, parents will be notified by 7:00 AM through local radio stations (102.3 The Wave, 106.9 The Wolf, and 91.7 Coast FM) and a notice on the district website. Additional route-specific updates, such as a winter route advisory, will be sent via School Messenger to parents' email and text. To ensure you receive these notifications, please keep your contact information updated with the transportation department.

École North Oyster School Climate Matrix

		Context							
		Hallway	Washroom	School Yard/Outside	Assembly	Classroom	Inside for Recess	Field Trips	Electronics
I am...	Respectful	I walk quietly. I take off my hat as soon as I enter the school.	I am calm. I respect others' privacy. I use the closest washroom.	I wait my turn and I share the playground. I listen to supervisors. I meet my family at the front of the school.	I enter quietly. I sit and listen with my body. I applaud politely and participate when asked. I sing the anthem.	I listen to the speaker. I raise my hand & wait. I get up at appropriate times. I use my inside voice.	I am quiet. I take turns. I share.	I listen to facilitators. I am extra polite. I raise my hand & wait my turn.	I turn my personal electronics off between 8h15 am and 2h15 pm. I call from the office if I need to speak to my parent with permission from my teacher.
	Responsible	I walk in a straight line, leaving a space as I follow the person in front of me. I use the correct entrance and exit	I flush the toilet. I report concerns to an adult.	"I think before I act." I do not go in the forest or behind portables. I help those in need. I line up promptly at bell.	I use the washroom before or after the assembly. I follow the presenters' instructions.	I am on time. I am prepared. I take care of items and personal spaces. I keep our work spaces neat & tidy.	I choose a quiet activity. I clean up when I've finished or when the bell rings.	I return permission slips on time. I am a proud representative of our school.	I use devices for learning purposes and with teacher permission/ supervision. I choose appropriate content (e.g., songs, images).
	Safe	I look ahead. I keep to the right. I have my hands at my side.	I wash my hands with soap. I go straight to the bathroom and back.	I play in designated areas. I report unsafe situations. I keep my hands to myself. I look both ways before using the crosswalk. I wait for the bus to stop before moving.	I keep my hands to myself. I wait for my teacher to give directions before I exit with my class.	I walk. I sit safely. I keep my hands and feet to myself. I follow class expectations.	I stay where I am for the entire time. I ask the supervisor permission to go to washroom.	I stay with my group. I listen to the people in charge. I ask permission to go to the washroom. I follow the rules.	I visit only teacher-approved internet sites. I photograph and record people only with prior consent.

Matrice du Cadre Scolaire de l'École North Oyster

		Contexte							
		Corridors	Salle de bain	Cours de l'école	Assemblée	Classe	Récréations intérieures	Excursions	Technologie
Je suis...	Respectueux	Je marche en silence. J'enlève mon chapeau et je m'essuie les pieds en entrant à l'école.	Je suis calme. Je respecte l'intimité des autres. J'utilise la salle de bain la plus proche.	J'attends mon tour. Je partage les jeux. J'écoute les superviseur(e)s. Je donne les rendez-vous en avant de l'école.	J'entre calmement. Je prends une position d'écoute respectueuse. J'applaudis et je participe lorsqu'approprié. Je chante notre hymne national et chansons d'école.	J'écoute la personne qui parle. Je lève la main pour parler et j'attends mon tour. Je me lève à des moments appropriés. J'utilise un niveau de voix approprié.	Je reste calme. J'attends mon tour. Je partage les jeux.	J'écoute l'animateur. Je suis poli. Je lève la main pour parler et j'attends mon tour.	Je ferme mes appareils électroniques personnels de 8h15 à 14h15. Je téléphone au bureau si je dois parler à un parent.
	Responsable	Je marche en ligne droite et je laisse de l'espace en suivant la personne devant moi. J'utilise la bonne entrée et sortie.	Je tire la chasse d'eau. J'informe une personne responsable s'il y a un problème.	Je pense avant d'agir. Je n'entre pas à la forêt, ni en arrière des portatives. J'aide ceux qui en ont besoin. Je vais en ligne dès que la cloche sonne.	Je vais à la salle de bain avant ou après l'assemblée. J'écoute les personnes responsables.	Je suis à l'heure. Je suis prêt(e). Je prends soin du matériel. Je respecte l'espace personnel des autres. Je garde notre environnement propre et organisé.	Je choisis une activité calme. Je range tout lorsque la cloche sonne.	Je me prépare à l'avance. Je m'assure que personne n'attend après moi. Je représente fièrement notre école.	Je cible l'information dont j'ai besoin pour compléter ma tâche. Je choisis du contenu approprié et approuvé par l'enseignant(e).
	Sécuritaire	Je regarde devant. Je garde la droite. Je garde mes mains pour moi.	Je me lave les mains avec du savon. Je vais directement à la salle de bain et je retourne à la classe immédiatement.	Je joue aux endroits désignés. J'informe une personne responsable si je vois un danger. Je garde mes mains pour moi. Je regarde des deux côtés avant d'utiliser le passage clouté.	Je garde mes mains et mes pieds pour moi. J'attends les directives de mon enseignant(e) avant de sortir par une des 4 sorties.	Je marche. Je m'assois de manière appropriée. Je garde mes mains pour moi. Je suis les attentes de la classe.	Je reste où je suis pour toute la récréation. Je demande la permission à un(e) superviseur pour aller à la salle de bain.	Je reste avec le groupe. Je suis les consignes de sécurité des personnes responsables. Je demande la permission pour aller à la salle de bain.	Je suis un citoyen(ne) numérique avisé(e). Je demande le consentement des personnes avant de les photographier, filmer ou enregistrer.

Nanaimo Ladysmith Public Schools Strategic Plan 2024-2028

Educational Action Plan (2025-2026)



ECOLE NORTH OYSTER



Outstanding ORCA Values

Responsible



Safe



Respectful



**Welcome to an amazing year of
learning, celebrations, and community
building!**