

Chemong Public School

School Information

Principal: Deb Strain
Vice-Principal: Peter Cain
Administrative Assistants: Gail McQuigge
Kerry Timmermans



School Hours

7:45	Office Opens
8:45	Classes Begin
10:25 - 11:05	Recreation/Nutrition Break
11:05	Classes Resume
12:45 - 1:25	Nutrition/Recreation Break
1:25	Classes Resume
3:05	Dismissal
3:10	Buses Leave
4:00	Office Closes

Note: Morning supervision begins at 8:30 am.
Students cannot arrive prior to this time.

School Policies

Student Sign In/Out

Students who arrive late at school are required to sign in at the office and take a late slip to their teacher. Students who are being picked up, during the school day, are requested to remain in their classroom until parents sign them out at the office.

Volunteers and Visitors

Under the Safe Schools Act, all parents, visitors and volunteers **MUST** report to the office, sign in and wear an identification badge. Visitors should enter and exit the building through the front doors.

Notes for Absence, Changes to Routine

Parents are to send the teacher a note explaining reasons for absence: teachers must track this information in the Ministry Register of Attendance. Parents are also asked to write the teacher a note if there is to be a change in routine (e.g. when a child is being picked up instead of taking the bus).

Drop Off and Pick Up Areas

The Library parking lot is the safest spot for parent parking as well as the street in front of the library.

- T Please note that **NO STOPPING** signs indicate no parking/stopping areas at specific times during the school day.

- T For the safety of the students, **please do not enter the main parking area during bus arrival and departure times (8:30 to 8:45 am and 2:45 to 3:10 pm)**

Inclement Weather

Normally, all children will go out for recess. In extreme weather such as heavy rain, blizzard, or severe cold (-26 C), an indoor recess break will occur. Children will remain in their own classrooms during indoor recesses. Each teacher will establish class routines for indoor recesses.

Nutrition Break

Lunch and snacks are eaten in the classroom. There will be two nutrition breaks each day. Students are expected to remain seated during eating time. Teachers will establish routines for the lunch period. Suggestions:

- T healthy snacks and lunches are encouraged
- T no pop or energy drinks
- T no glass containers
- T re-usable snack containers are great; label tops and bottoms!
- T NO nut or peanut products (Wow butter is allowed but needs to be labelled)

Nutrition Program

Healthy snacks are provided each day for students who forgot their lunches or need extra food.

Leaving for Lunch

Students who normally stay at school for lunch are required to bring a note if they are leaving the school property, indicating which break they are leaving (1st or 2nd break). Students can only leave for one break a day. **We strongly recommend that students be in Grade 6 before they are permitted by parents to go out to lunch. In giving permission for a student to leave the property, the parent is assuming responsibility for the safety and behaviour of the student.**

Dress Code

Dress in a manner that is appropriate to school activities with regard to exposure, cleanliness, and message. School is a place of business for students and staff, and the expectations regarding appropriate dress apply to everyone. From time to time, as fashion changes, the school principal may interpret to students an understanding of appropriate with regard to specific clothing. Students are encouraged to

express their individuality within the following general guidelines. The exception would be school theme days.

Exposure/Cleanliness/Message

- T shirts, shorts, skirts, dresses etc. should cover the torso
- T clothing should cover undergarments
- T provocative clothing is not allowed, and shoulder straps should be 'two fingers' wide
- T shorts and skirts should reach mid-thigh (or bottom of finger tips when arms are at your side)
- T good hygiene is expected
- T clothing with suggestive or offensive slogans or drawings is prohibited

Other Clothing Notes

- T hats are outdoor wear
- T students are requested to bring indoor shoes to keep at school; (e.g. running shoes for gym)
- T parents are encouraged to label clothing as this greatly assists with returning lost items
- T sleep/pajama pants are not acceptable attire

Personal Property

The school is not responsible for the loss or damage to personal property. Students are advised not to bring valuable articles to school or to leave them unattended in washrooms, classrooms, or change rooms.

Personal Electronic Devices (PEDs)

The use of technology for student learning is a key 21st century skill to enable all of our students to learn and succeed. Under staff direction, Personal Electronic Devices (PEDs) can be used effectively as an educational resource, support or aid for teaching and learning. Furthermore PEDs, when used appropriately, can provide a safety net for students and staff. In our school community, PEDs are to be used respectfully and conscientiously.

In order to ensure a safe and positive climate for all stakeholders, school principals with their teaching staff will monitor and regulate the use of Personal Electronic Devices. Guidelines include:

- The privacy, dignity and safety of others must be maintained through the appropriate use of cell phones and electronic devices both on school property and during off site school events
- During instructional time PEDs are to be in lockers
- The usage of PEDs is restricted in some areas of school including washrooms & change rooms
- When the usage of a PED is inappropriate, the school principal or designate will apply progressive discipline strategies. Depending on the infraction, strategies may include, but are not limited to; speaking with student, parent meeting, detention, confiscating the PED, removal of privilege to have a PED at school or suspension.

As with other personal property items, schools are not responsible for lost, stolen or damaged PEDs. These guidelines apply to all stakeholders in the school including students, staff, parents, volunteers and visitors.

School Property

Students are expected to pay for damage to school property. This includes all materials loaned to students, including textbooks, musical instruments and the school building and surrounding property.

The school has the authority to search school property such as lockers, desks, etc. without notice to or permission of any person in accordance with school board policies and procedures. Personal property such as knapsacks, purses etc. may become subject to search in accordance with school board policies and procedures.

Lockers

Lockers are the property of the school. Students in Intermediate grades and some Junior grades will be provided with lockers and a record will be kept of lock combinations. Lockers may be inspected by school staff at any time.

Bicycles, Skateboards & Scooters

For safety reasons, children are asked to walk their bicycles and scooters on school property. Bicycles should have a lock and **helmets are required by law**. Bikes and scooters are not allowed on the playground during the school day. Skateboards are not permitted to be ridden on any school board property.

Student Health Insurance

Individual coverage is available to students and information is distributed each September. Claim forms are available at the school office. This coverage is not mandatory and Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board receives no financial benefit. The coverage is good value for the relatively minor cost.

Health

Illness

Children with colds, fevers, etc. should be kept home to prevent the spreading of germs to other students and to ensure a faster recovery. Students who are well enough to be at school are expected to participate in regular outdoor recesses and in physical education. Parents will be phoned in the event of illness or accidents. Should a serious illness or accident require immediate action, necessary steps, such as calling an ambulance or family doctor, will be taken. It is important to notify the office of changes to the pupil data sheet, such as work telephone numbers or emergency contacts.

Allergies

Please notify the school if your child develops an allergy. The school will help parents plan emergency procedures for serious allergies. Students who require epi-pens are asked to carry them at all times; a small waist belt fanny pack is suitable.

Peanut & Nut Safe School/Scent Sensitive

Due to life-threatening allergies in our student body, Chemong tries to be a **peanut, nut and scent sensitive building**. Please check labels on prepared foods such as cookies and granola bars for nut listings. Soy butter is a safe alternative, but must be clearly labelled as such. Thank you for keeping everyone safe!

Medication, including Epi-pens

Forms, available from the office, must be completed if staff are to administer medication at school.

Communicable Diseases

Please call the school secretary if your child has: chicken pox, pertussis (whooping cough), measles (red or german), mumps, or pink eye. The secretary notifies the health unit.

Head Lice

Please notify the office immediately if your child has pediculosis (head lice), as this spreads easily. Students with live head lice will be sent home upon notification of parents. A letter will be sent home with the students in that class.

Transportation

Riding on a school bus is a privilege, not a right.
Students guilty of any misconduct may lose this privilege.

Bus Safety

- Students will be picked up and discharged only at designated stops.
- Students must take assigned seats on the bus as directed by the driver. Students must remain quietly in their seats throughout the trip to and from school.
- At all times, bus drivers are in charge of their buses and passengers. It is important that the students follow the driver's directions.
- Students are expected to not create a disturbance, however slight, by interfering or touching another student's belongings or using loud voices.
- Food and drink are not to be consumed on the bus.
- Student's lunch pail, books, parcels, bulky items, etc., must be placed on the floor near the feet, or on the lap. Unsafe, bulky items will not be transported on the bus.
- Student conduct shall be the same on the bus as that required in the normal classroom setting.

Bus operations are the sole responsibility of the bus companies. You should know the following:

- 1) Name of Bus Company
- 2) Phone No.
- 3) Bus Driver's Name
- 4) Route No.

Changing Transportation Arrangements

The policy of the school board is that only students entitled to ride a specific bus may do so.

In emergency situations, parents may contact the principal regarding temporary arrangements.

Emergency Procedures

Sometimes severe weather conditions may create problems for bus routes. Local radio stations carry up-to-date bus cancellations or check STSCO website www.stsco.ca Please note that if buses do not run in the morning, they do not run at the end of the school day. Parents are responsible for transportation home if they have driven students to school.

Snow Days

The school is open on snow days even if the buses are cancelled. Parents may transport their children to school but must make arrangements to pick them up at 3:05 p.m. Depending on the number of students at the school, some classes may be combined and classes may not run as normal but there will be instructional activities provided for all students who attend.

Communication

In addition to formal reporting of student achievement, the school uses other formats to inform and consult parents and the community:

T **Chemong School Council** consisting of elected parents, community members, and staff representatives, advises about policy and school plans, and supports the school with a broad range of activities.

T **Newslink**, the school newsletter, is produced on a monthly basis at the beginning of each month and posted on Edsby.

T **Classroom Updates** are sent home regarding various events specific to their classrooms and may include communication through newsletters, curriculum up-dates, agendas, notes and telephone calls.

T **School Twitter Account** is available for all parents. You can follow us at **@ChemongPublic**

T As of September 2016, KPR will be moving to **EDSBY**. Chemong's school calendar and website will now be on EDSBY. Visit www.edsby.com. They have a page specifically for parents and even an introductory video you can watch.

- Your username will be your email address, now is the time to ensure the school secretary has your current and correct email address. Edsby provisions each parent with their own account so if there is a Mom and a Dad at home, we encourage you to ensure we have both addresses.

- When the time comes, you will be sent the log in information with an auto generated password which you may customize.
- If you have more than one child attending our school, you can use the same information to log in and see information for all of your children.
- Edsby also has a free app for all smart phones. If you're using a Blackberry, Edsby works great within your browser as well. The power of Edsby while using your smart device means you'll have up-to-the minute access regarding school information.

B) Communicating Student Progress

Teachers may request interviews with parents as concerns arise. Teachers will schedule interviews by the end of term 1. A progress report will be distributed in November. Formal report cards will go home in February and June for Kindergarten to Grade 8. Parents will be responsible to complete page 3 and return that page to the school for inclusion in the Ontario Student Record. This form includes the opportunity for parents to request an interview.

C) Student Information

The school will send a student information form home each September, in order to update information. During the year, it is important to call the school office if there are any changes to the information, such as work numbers, or emergency contacts.

Student Expectations

Homework

Although homework is not usually assigned it can help students to practice the skills they have learned in the classroom or to prepare for the learning the next day. Teachers do not assign marks to students' homework or use homework as part of the student's final grades. Teachers do, however, comment on students' homework completion in the learning skills and work habits section of the report card. The type of homework will depend on your child's age and individual needs but may include:

- Treading daily with or without parents
- Treviewing vocabulary and math facts
- Tcompleting work not completed in class
- Tstudying for tests
- Tdoing research for projects and assignments to be completed in class
- Tpreparing presentations on knowledge or skills learned in class

Homework Tips for Parents:

- TCheck your child's agenda or Edsby
- TBalance free time, extra-curricular activities and homework
- TEstablish a study area. A well lit, comfortable location at a desk or table is best.
- TMinimize distractions such as television, music, telephone calls, texting

TMake a learning tool kit filled with all the tools your child will need so they don't need to look for them every night.
TContact the teacher if problems arise with homework. The teacher and school will work with you and your child to solve homework problems.

School Phone

The office phone is very busy throughout the day; please leave a message as we check the answering machine on an on-going basis. Students and parents are asked to make arrangements for transportation and social arrangements from home in advance.

We also ask that students' limit their calls to important and urgent information such as illness, accident, or other unexpected school commitments. Students should not be making these calls from cell phones as the office needs to know if a student is ill or if they are leaving the property.

Extra-curricular Activities

The students are very fortunate to participate in numerous sport and non-sport extra-curricular activities.

It is a privilege to be selected for a school team.

Teacher Coaches will make selections based on try-outs and a set of criterion, with emphasis on:

- T skill level
- T attendance at practice
- T academic performance (completion of homework, assignments)
- T acceptable conduct

In order to remain a member of an extra-curricular team, the student must meet the following criteria:

- T be compliant with the **Code of Conduct**;
- T be co-operative in all areas at school;
- T have a positive attitude;
- T show a good effort at all times - in class and other times;
- T have regular attendance at school;
- T be responsible and trustworthy;

Parent co-operation regarding these guidelines is appreciated. The staff takes on these activities as an extra responsibility and the reward is working with co-operative and enthusiastic students.

Code of Conduct

The Chemong Code of Conduct sets clear standards of behaviour for all members of the school community-students, staff, parents, community partners, volunteers and visitors-and is based on the Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board (KPRDSB) Code of Conduct and the Provincial Code of Conduct.

It is a common goal for all of us in the Chemong School Community to create a positive, safe and enjoyable learning environment for everyone. Students should be responsible

citizens, demonstrate respect for persons and property and develop self-discipline.

This Code of Conduct applies at school, during school-related or school-sponsored activities as well as at events that happen outside of school but might have an impact on the school climate, including on school buses.

It is important to note that the Code of Conduct strives to make schools safer by focussing on: promoting positive behaviour, providing early and ongoing intervention, preventing and addressing inappropriate behaviour and addressing inappropriate behaviour with consequences. As a result, it makes a shift away from a punitive approach to incidents of harm and wrong doing to a restorative approach that seeks to correct the inappropriate behaviour and, in KPRDSB, to repair the harm that has been caused.

Progressive Discipline and Restorative Practice

Progressive Discipline and Restorative Practices are two of the supports that will be used when working with inappropriate behaviour or conduct at Chemong. We will use both strategies when considering the most appropriate way to respond to each situation in order to provide students with the opportunity to learn from the choices they make.

Our goal for students is that they develop self-discipline and learn to respect themselves and others. Our goal for the school is to develop and maintain a positive learning environment. Discipline is a shared responsibility amongst staff, students and parents. Students will be provided with positive reinforcement, praise, and encouragement in recognition of their appropriate behavior.

We are all responsible for our choices and actions. It is important that we learn from our experiences. The needs of the individual student will be considered when 'poor choices' have been made and responsibility for actions/consequences are imposed.

These consequences may include:

- T discussion
- T parental contact
- T loss of privileges (e.g. bus riding, recesses, etc)
- T time-out
- T detention
- T student behaviour contract
- T restitution of damages
- T school community service
- T referral for Board Support Services
- T suspension

As part of provincial legislation (reg 472/07), a Principal shall consider whether to suspend a pupil if they believe that the pupil is engaged in any of the following activities while at school, at a school-related activity or in other circumstances where engaging in the activity will have an impact of the school climate:

T uttering a threat to inflict serious bodily harm on another person

T possessing alcohol or illegal drugs.

T swearing at a teacher or at another person in a position of authority

T committing an act of vandalism

T being under the influence of alcohol

T bullying

A Principal shall suspend a pupil if they believe that the pupil is engaged in any of the following activities while at school, at a school-related activity or in other circumstances where engaging in the activity will have an impact of the school climate:

T possessing a weapon, including possessing a firearm

T using a weapon to cause or to threaten bodily harm to another person

T committing physical assault on another person that causes bodily harm requiring treatment by a medical practitioner.- committing sexual assault

T trafficking in weapons or illegal drugs

T committing robbery

T giving alcohol to a minor

Roles and Responsibilities

It is expected that students shall:

T attend school regularly, be on time and be prepared for all classes and school activities

T work to the best of their ability

T behave in a courteous and tolerant manner towards others, regardless of individual differences, e.g. race, ability, sexual orientation, language or opinion

T learn and act within boundaries of behaviour necessary to minimize danger to themselves and others

T act within the limits of the law and not bring to school: drugs, alcohol, cigarettes (matches or lighters) or weapons of any sort

T treat all school property and the property of others with care and respect

T learn to use self-control when dealing with conflict or confrontation and develop alternatives to physical and verbal abuse

T act in a manner that is free from abusive or profane language or offensive gestures

T learn to express emotions in a socially acceptable manner

T use good manners at all times in the school (e.g., removing hats in the building)

It is expected that staff shall:

T foster in their students a positive self-image

T treat students with respect and sensitivity

T consistently implement the school wide, proactive approach to discipline

T protect students from persons or conditions which interfere with the learning process

T maintain regular communication between home and school (newsletters, phone calls, etc)

It is expected that parents shall:

- T assist their children in developing responsible behaviour
- T nurture a positive self-image in their children
- T be an equal partner in the education of their children
- T support reasonable disciplinary measures taken by the staff
- T attend to their children's physical and emotional well-being
- T ensure and facilitate regular attendance
- T communicate relevant information concerning their children's individual needs
- T support reasonable disciplinary measures taken by the staff

Chemong Expectations

1. Students must be allowed to learn.
2. Teachers must be allowed to teach.
3. Everyone must use polite language and display a courteous manner.
4. Students must play without hurting others and are not permitted to throw stones, sticks or snowballs. If it looks like a fight, it's not all right.
5. Older students will refrain from holding hands, hugging, etc, while at school.
6. Everyone must walk in the hallways and classrooms.
7. Students must remain on school property during the school day except with a note from parents to go out during one of the nutrition breaks.
8. Everyone must act within the limits of the law and not bring to school: drugs, alcohol, cigarettes (matches, lighters), or weapons. Laser pointers are not permitted.

Our Anti-Bullying Pledge

We will not accept bullying at our school. Our goal is to develop and support respectful friendships.

We agree that it is everyone's responsibility to stop bullying. It is up to each of us to make sure that bullying does not take place.

We will:

- § Treat others with fairness and respect.
- § Find ways to help others join games and other activities.
- § Speak out against bullying.
- § Refuse to let others be bullied.
- § Report bullying to an adult.
- § Refuse to bully others.
- § Be responsible bystanders who are part of the solution.
- § Help others feel safe and comfortable at our school.

Promoting Respect through Student

Clubs/Groups/Activities

In keeping with the Board's Equity, Diversity and Inclusion policy (B-3.2) and administrative regulation (B-3.2.1), all schools within the Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board, including Chemong School, welcome and support students who wish to lead or participate in school clubs, groups, or activities that promote safe, accepting, equitable, positive, diverse and inclusive environments. This includes activities that promote anti-racism, gender equity, respect for people living with disabilities, and for people of all sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions (including clubs, groups or activities with the name Gay-Straight Alliance or GSA).

Anti-Bullying - Safe @ Chemong

Bullying is a serious issue and is not acceptable on school property, on school buses, during school-sanctioned activities or online (cyberbullying). Bullying, including cyberbullying, has now been added to the list of activities that may result in a suspension from school.

According to the Ministry of Education, **bullying** is defined as follows:

Bullying is typically a form of repeated, persistent, and aggressive behaviour directed at an individual or individuals that is intended to cause (or should be known to cause) fear and distress and/or harm to another person's body, feelings, self-esteem, or reputation.

Bullying occurs in a context where there is a real or perceived power imbalance.

Bullying takes many forms including physical, verbal, social and electronic. Below are examples of each form of bullying.

- Physical bullying is defined as hitting, shoving, tripping, stealing or damaging property.
- Verbal bullying involves name calling, mocking or making racist, sexist or homophobic comments.
- Social bullying often involves excluding others from a group or activity (shunning) or spreading gossip or rumours about them.
- Electronic bullying or cyberbullying entails spreading rumours, hurtful comments, images and/or gossip through the use of personal electronic devices or technology, including but not limited to email, cell phones, the Internet and text messaging.

No form of bullying is acceptable, and when bullying occurs, we will consider the most appropriate way to respond to each situation based on a number of factors including the students' age, their personal history and mitigating factors.



