

# Student/Parent

# HANDBOOK 2024/2025

"Inspiring students to be the best they can be"

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"Clear Vista School respectfully acknowledges that we are situated on Treaty 6 a traditional meeting ground, gathering place, and traveling route to the Cree, Saulteaux, Blackfoot, Metis, Dene, Nakota Sioux and Anishinaabe. We acknowledge all the many Indigenous Nations, Metis, and Inuit whose footsteps have marked these lands for time immemorial. We respect the Treaties that were made on these territories, we acknowledge the harms and mistakes of the past, and we dedicate ourselves to move forward in partnership with Indigenous communities in a spirit of reconciliation and collaboration."







Dear Families and Students,

Welcome back to school!

I hope you all had a wonderful summer and are feeling refreshed and ready for the new school year. Our team has been overjoyed with getting back to school and welcoming our students as we embark on this year's journey of learning and discovery.

The staff at Clear Vista is dedicated to walk side-by-side with families fostering a positive and enriching environment where every student can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally. Thank you for your continued support and partnership. If you have any questions or need assistance, please feel free to reach out.

Here's to a fantastic year ahead!

Warm regards,

Aaron Weimer Principal Clear Vista School

# **Programs**



#### Kindergarten

Kindergarten is an important time for children to discover, play, and grow their potential in a safe, caring and exciting learning environment!

Children learn to share, cooperate, be responsible, make decisions, problem-solve and express themselves in a challenging and interactive classroom setting.

Kindergarten helps to set our students up for future success, with the building blocks for literacy, numeracy, and scientific thinking. Kindergarten has many key components for success in Grade One and beyond!

Our Kindergarten program is offered in 2 cohorts. ECS A (Monday/Wednesday) and ECS B (Tuesday/Thursday) and alternating Fridays of full-day programming.

#### **Career and Technology Foundations**

Students in junior high have the opportunity to participate in options! Clear Vista offers a wide variety of options for students to choose from and explore their interests.

Complementary courses are based on the Career and Technology Foundations Curriculum, and are designed to reinforce learning in core courses; while also providing learning experiences that allow students to explore interests that they may wish to study in more depth in High School.

Complementary courses are offered to students in grade 7 and 8 in the areas of: Band, Financial Management, Drama, Sports Recreation & Archery, Leadership, Agriculture, Computer Science, Construction, Fitness, Environmental & Outdoor Education, Foods, Travel & Tourism, Film Studies, Art, Industrial Education, & Spanish!

# Programs Continued



# Learning Assistance Programs (LA 2 and LA 3) LA 2

A district wide non-graded program (Grades 3-5) that provides programming support for students with low to moderate cognitive disabilities, developmental delays and behavioral difficulties. The goal for this programming is to help students reach their maximum potential and become life-long learners.

#### LA<sub>3</sub>

A district wide non-graded, life skills program for students in grades 6-8. This program provides programming support for students with mild to moderate cognitive disabilities and developmental delays. The LA3 programs goals are to improve ability to communicate and interact with others, using appropriate behaviors and social skills. The primary focus is on numeracy and literacy that have real life applications and every day experiences. Skill development that builds to next level to support High School and beyond, to live independently as possible.

For both of the Learning Assistance programs, instruction may take different forms including one to one instruction, small group instruction, whole group activities, or teacher directed activities. Instruction may also include integrated activities with grade level classrooms or option classes.

#### Literacy

We have a dedicated Early Literacy Teacher Lead responsible for providing literacy instruction and intervention to K-3 students, individually and in small groups. The Early Literacy Teacher Lead is also a literacy coach to classroom teachers, supporting a jobembedded approach to professional development and teacher collaboration. They will allocate much of their daily time, working with students and staff to address literacy learning needs.

#### Counselling

The approach at Clear Vista School is comprehensive; whereby, we focus on being proactive and working with the entire student body. Our Family School Liaison Worker provides support services to students for emotional, social and academic needs. If you have questions or concerns, please call the school at 780-352-6616 and ask to speak with Mrs. Loomis. The student consent form can be found attached.

# Vision and Mission



### Vision



Clear Vista strives to create a collaborative learning community that: models high levels of accountability in both students and staff; builds strong student character through positive connections and experiences; ensures all students are achieving their maximum potential in an engaging, inspiring environment; ensures students are well-prepared, productive, engaged citizens.

## Mission



Clear Vista School is a positive and supportive educational community that inspires students to do their best, celebrates achievements and encourages lifelong learning.





### **School Act**

#### **Student Code of Conduct**

At Clear Vista School, we expect students to follow the Student Code of Conduct as set by the Alberta Government

#### Student Responsibilities:

"Section 31 of the *Education Act* states - A student, as a partner in education, has the responsibility to

- a. Attend school regularly and punctually,
- b.Be ready to learn and actively engage in and diligently pursue the student's education,
- c.Ensure that the student's conduct contributes to a welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environment that respects diversity and fosters a sense of belonging,
- d. Respect the rights of others in the school,
- e.Refrain from, report and not tolerate bullying or bullying behavior directed towards others in the school, whether or not it occurs within the school building, during the school day or by electronic means,
- f. Comply with the rules of the school and the policies of the board,
- g. Cooperate with everyone authorized by the board to provide education programs and other services,
- h.Be accountable to the student's teachers and other school staff for the student's conduct.
- i. Positively contribute to the student's school and community."

#### A Safe Learning Environment

All students are expected to participate in creating a school environment that is safe, welcoming, caring, and respectful to all members of our school community. It is expected that the environment at Clear Vista is one that respects diversity and fosters a sense of belonging.

Generally, students are expected to:

- a.respect for self, others, and property
- b. emphasis on academic participation
- c. cooperation with authority
- d.following the rules





### Continued...

#### **Specific Expectations:**

In the classroom students will, be on-time and prepared to learn, be kind to others, follow instructions, complete all assigned work. In the hallway students will, follow instructions, respect the space of others, and walk quietly. Outside students will, follow instructions, be kind and co-operative, and respect the space of others.

#### **Student Attire**

- 1. The focus of Clear Vista School is student learning within an inclusive environment. Students, with the support of their guardians, are trusted to make appropriate clothing choices to express themselves freely without being judged or harassed so long as those choices do not become a distraction or safety concern at school.
- 2. Clothing that depicts offensive words, slogans, or images are not permitted at school. Examples include references to or images of; violence, a sexual nature, or drugs (including alcohol, tobacco, or marijuana).
- 3. Clothing used to express potential gang affiliation is not permitted at school.
- 4. Head coverings, including hats, are permitted apart from hoods which obscure the school's ability to identify students (or non-students) within the building.
- 5. Students wearing clothing that is inappropriate for school will be given the opportunity to either change or cover up offensive words or images.
- 6.To maintain the cleanliness and safety of our school, students are expected to remove dirty footwear at the school entrances. They are required to wear clean footwear inside the building and appropriate footwear (running shoes) while participating in activities within the gym. For grade 6 to 8 students, having a change of clothes for participating in physical education class is strongly encouraged.





## Continued...

#### **School Rules**

These expectations are reviewed by teachers with their homeroom students on the first day of class. It is expected that staff members consistently apply and enforce these expectations to all students. Any exceptions to these expectations should be outlined in an IPP, BSP, or Medical Support Plan.

- Student Phone in Office: There may be times when students need to use the phone. Generally, use of the student phone is limited to recess times and lunch time. Students requiring the phone during class time must get permission from their teacher and should be urgent in nature.
- Cell Phones and Electronic Devices: Students may not use cell phones or electronic devices during instructional time, recesses, or lunch time. If at school, the device is required to be on "silent" or off and the device shall be stored in their locker. Accessing social media platforms while at school or while participating in school activities is strictly prohibited. Students in grades 6 8 may use their cell phone to check and send messages during Transition times after recess and lunch time. Students are exempt from these restrictions when the use of the device is required for health or medical reasons as detailed in an IPP or Medical Support Plan. See <a href="WRPS AP 141">WRPS AP 141</a>
- Valuables at School: It is recommended that students leave personal valuables such as toys, jewellery, money, gaming systems, and personal electronic devices at home. If it is necessary to have these items at school, they need to remain in their locked locker. The school will not be held responsible for stolen goods or breakage.
- Violence, Possession of Drugs or Weapons: Violence, or possession of weapons or illegal drugs, including alcohol and tobacco, are not allowed on school property. Parental contact will be made in all situations involving violence or the possession of drugs or weapons. Enacting VTRA protocol, suspension and involvement of R.C.M.P. may be included in the school's response.

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# Continued...

#### School Rules Continued...

- Skateboards, Bikes, Scooters, Heelies and Roller Blades: Students must walk bikes, scooters, and skateboards on school property from 8:20 to 3:45 p.m. unless under the supervision of a guardian. Rollerblades and heelies can be worn to the school doors but must be taken off and remain off until dismissal at the end of the school day. Rollerblades, skateboards and scooters must be carried while indoors and stored in the student's locker. Bikes need to be locked in the bike rack.
- School Canteen and Vending Machines: If the canteen is available, students in grades 6 8 may access the canteen during lunch recess. The school does not provide change for the vending machines.
- Microwave Use: Students in grade 6 8 may access microwaves outside of the gym at lunchtime. All students are to use these with care and respect. Teachers are to post common rules that outline the proper use of the microwave as well as a rotational student cleaning schedule.
- Personal A-V Equipment: Personal A-V equipment is not allowed in any class during the day unless this use is written in an IPP or because of the "Bring Your Own Device" (BYOD) policy a teacher has allowed students to use their devices in that class. Students need to keep equipment such as cell phones, iPods and DS devices in their locked lockers when not used in classes.
- *Videos:* Only audio/visual materials licensed for school use are to be used in the school. Privately owned or rented videos are not acceptable for school use.
- Cameras/Recordings: Personal cameras are not to be used by students on school
  property unless it is a public event such as a sports game. Students using school
  cameras and BYOD devices in their learning need to be aware of FOIP rules, use
  school cameras with care, and delete all pictures from the camera after use.
- Backpacks, and bags: Bags and backpacks are to be locked in lockers throughout the school day unless this use is written in an IPP or Medical Support Plan. Items required by the student can be retrieved at breaks or during class time with the permission of a teacher.

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### Continued...

#### School Rules Continued...

- Personal Property: All personal property should be clearly labelled. Personal belongings not required for school should be left at home. The school is not responsible for lost, damaged or stolen items. Students and parents are invited to check the Lost and Found boxes periodically for missing belongings.
- Lockers and Locks: Lockers are supplied for students at Clear Vista. Locks are supplied for students using hallway lockers (typically grades 6 to 8). Only school locks are allowed on lockers and a \$5.00 locker/lock rental fee is assessed to these students. Lockers are the property of WRPS and WRPS reserves the right to for staff to open, search and inspect a locker without notice if WRPS staff have reasonable grounds to believe that there may be drugs, alcohol, stolen property, weapons or anything deemed by the school or police to be a danger to others in the locker this is in accordance with WRPS AP 354.

# Bell Times and Operations

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2024/2025									
Description	Start	End	Duration	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4		
Morning Supervision	8:20 AM	8:30 AM	10:00						
Transition (Bell: 8:35)	8:30 AM	8:40 AM	10:00						
Period 1	8:40 AM	9:16 AM	36:00						
Period 2	9:16 AM	9:52 AM	36:00						
Recess	9:52 AM	10:07 AM	15:00						
Transition	10:07 AM	10:12 AM	05:00						
	10:12 AM		36:00						
Period 4	10:48 AM	11:24 AM	36:00						
Period 5	11:24 AM	12:00 PM	36:00						
Recess	12:00 PM	12:15 PM	15:00						
Transition	12:15 PM	12:21 PM	06:00						
	12:21 PM		25:00						
Transition	12:46 PM	12:51 PM	05:00						
Period 6	12:51 PM	1:27 PM	36:00						
Period 7	1:27 PM	2:03 PM	36:00						
Recess	2:03 PM	2:18 PM	15:00						
Transition		2:23 PM	05:00						
	2:23 PM	2:59 PM	36:00						
Period 9	2:59 PM	3:35 PM	36:00						
Bus Supervision	3:35 PM	3:45 PM	10:00						

# School Operations

### Communication

Contact the school by phone: **780-352-6616** or by email: **cv@wrps11.ca**.

The school is open from 8:00 am - 4:00 pm. Please refer to the <u>CV Calendar</u> for school operational days.

# School Messenger and Home-School Communication

#### **School Messenger**

Wetaskiwin Regional Public Schools and Clear Vista School use School Messenger to communicate district-wide and school-wide information about events, school closures, safety alerts and more via text and email to parents and guardians. Please opt in if you haven't already in the past by texting "yes" to 978338.

#### **Contacting the School**

If you have any questions or concerns about your child's education, please address them quickly and appropriately, communicating your concerns calmly and clearly.

The first step in addressing a question or concern you may have is to speak with your child's teacher. The classroom teacher will be able to provide the most accurate information and make suggestions on how to improve or fix an issue. If you have questions on how to contact your child's teacher please contact the school by phone or email.

If you do not feel your concern has been addressed by your child's classroom teacher, please contact school administration (Principal or Vice-Principal). They will ask whether or not you have spoken with your child's teacher. If necessary a meeting may be set up with the student, teacher, and an administrator to discuss your concern.

### **Student Permision Forms**

Wetaskiwin Regional Public Schools and Clear Vista School will be issuing permission forms and documents needing parent signatures digitally through <u>PowerSchool</u>. If you do not have an account, please contact the office.

Often times a permission will sit in limbo in the parent/guardians cart. Please ensure you are confirming the form through the cart. Once you receive a receipt that is your communication it has gone through correctly.

# School Operations Continued

### **Drop Off/Pick Up (Staff Parking Lot)**

Clear Vista School unlocks the front entrance and division doors at 8:20 am for students to enter the building, this is when supervision begins. After 8:40 am doors are locked, and the front entrance must be used for entry. Students are asked to sign in at the office before going to class.

Students should enter and exit the school using their designated boot room doors. Div 1- North doors, Div II- West doors, & Div III South doors.

Upon arriving on school property, students' behaviour must be consistent with school expectations.

We ask that the staff parking lots be reserved for WRPS employees only, in order to ensure the safety of our staff and students both before and after school.

### **Entering the Building**

Clear Vista School keeps our doors locked throughout the day to ensure student and staff safety. If you need to pick up-or drop off your child please ring the doorbell and we will gladly permit entry. Upon entry you must check-into the office. If you are dropping something off for your child, our admin assistants will gladly page them to the office right before the next recess bell.

### Volunteering

Volunteers are always welcome at CV, whether as a community volunteer reading buddy, chaperone on field-trips, or helping to organize hot lunch days; once approved as per <u>WRPS Administrative Procedure 490: Volunteers in Schools</u>.

Please complete the Google Form if you are interested in <u>Volunteering</u>:)

# School Operations Continued

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### **Cell Phones and Electronic Devices**

Please see Wetaskiwin Regional Public Schools <u>Administrative Procedure 141 Cell</u> Phones and Electronic Devices.

Cell phones (and other electronic devices) are to be kept in a student's locker, backpack or pocket and not to be brought out during instructional time. Parents/Guardians, please do not contact your child during class time via text message. You are able to leave a message at the school office. Cell phones that are being used inappropriately will result in a warning from staff, confiscation for the period, or confiscation by the office. Repeated issues with cell phones will be dealt with by school administration and parents/guardians.

### **Reporting Student Absences**

Parents are requested to notify the school regarding each child's absence by phoning (780-352-6616) or emailing the school (cv@wrps11.ca) anytime before 9:00 AM to leave a message stating the reason for the absence. An automated phone call will go out in the morning to ensure parents/guardians are aware that their child has been marked as absent from school.

We encourage parents/guardians to utilize the Division's **SafeArrival App** to record student absences. There are 3 convenient methods to report:

- 1. Using your mobile device (download the **SchoolMessenger app**). The first time you use the app, select Sign Up to create your account (will need to be verified via your email). Then select Attendance then Report an Absence.
- 2. Use the safe arrival website, **go.schoolmessenger.ca**. The first time you use the website, select Sign Up to create your account. Select Attendance then Report an Absence.
- 3. Call the toll-free number **1-833-525-9071** to report an absence using the automated phone system.

# **Contact Information**



#### **Clear Vista School Office Staff:**

Principal: Mr. Aaron Weimer, aaron.weimer@wrps11.ca

Vice Principal: Mrs. Shannon Russell, shannon.russell@wrps11.ca

Administrative Assistants: Ms. Amber Gouin, amber.gouin@wrps11.ca & Ms. Lori Cochrane, lori.cochrane@wrps11.ca

A complete list of staff and their contact information can be found on our <u>CV staff</u> <u>directory page</u>.

- **L** 1-780-352-6616
- ☑ cv@wrps11.ca
- 4510 47 Street, Wetaskiwin, AB, T9A 1B8
- https://www.clearvista.ca/
- © @clearvistaschool