

SCHOOL MILK DURING COVID-19



School plays an important role in the overall health and well-being of students. As we adjust and move forward together, it is reassuring to know families can still rely on 100% Canadian milk to nourish and fuel students' learning potential at school.

The School Milk Program: Part of your safe and healthy school environment

According to the Manitoba K-12 Guidelines for September 2020¹ and COVID-19 K-12 School Settings Practice Guidance and Protocols²:

"Schools can continue to offer cafeteria services, breakfast and lunch programs with necessary adjustments to ensure health guidelines are in place."

Related guidelines include:

Food Safety

- Students must bring their own lunches, or provided lunches must be individually wrapped in disposable containers.
- For snack programs, dispense snacks directly to children and use prepackaged snacks only.
- No family-style, buffet, or potluck meal service is permitted at this time.
- Staff should serve all food items.

Hand Hygiene

- Ensure that food handling staff practice meticulous hand hygiene.

Physical Distancing

- Limit travel within the school throughout the day.
- Avoid the movement of classes of students where possible. It is preferable that teachers move between classroom

What this means for your school's Milk Program

- Milk at school, in either a single serving carton or cup, is compliant with the MB guidelines for schools.
- Staff must wash or sanitize hands before handling milk cartons and cups.
- Students must wash or sanitize hands before and after eating.
- Distribution of milk must follow physical distancing guidelines by:
 - staggering times for a class representative to access a central milk pick up location
 - delivering milk directly to classrooms in a tub, crate, container
 - having a staff member distribute milk directly to each student
 - following food service guidelines when serving milk from a canteen/cafeteria

Consult your school division and school specific plan for details related to food in your school during COVID-19. Adapting to meet guidelines will be an ongoing process. Take steps to ensure your school is following the most up-to-date information by visiting Manitoba Education's Latest COVID-19 Education News <https://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/covid/index.html>

The School Milk Program is courtesy of



References:

- Government of Manitoba. (July 30, 2020). Welcoming Our Students Back: Restoring Safe Schools - K-12 Guidelines for September 2020. https://manitoba.ca/asset_library/en/covid/k-12-reopeningplan-stage-2.pdf
- Government of Manitoba. (August 24, 2020). Welcoming Our Students Back: Restoring Safe Schools - COVID-19 K-12 School Settings Practice Guidance and Protocols. https://manitoba.ca/asset_library/en/covid/k-12-reopeningplan-guidance.pdf