

Grandview School

Parent Handbook 2026-2027



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Phone

905-576-8403



Email

school@grandviewkids.ca

ATTENDANCE LINE: 905-576-8403

Please call **each day** your child is absent from school.

This handbook is available electronically on our website at
<https://grandviewkids.ca/grandview-school/>

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2026-2027 School Year Calendar

	First Week					Second Week					Third Week					Fourth Week					Fifth Week					
	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	
September 2026		1	2 P	3 P	4 B	5 H	6 X	7 X	8 X	9 X	10 X	11 😊	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
October 2026				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10 H	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
November 2026	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13 P	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
December 2026		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21 B	22 B	23 B	24 B	25 B
January 2027					1 B	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
February 2027	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13 H	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
March 2027	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13 B	14 B	15 B	16 B	17 B	18 B	19 B	20	21	22	23	24	25	
April 2027				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
May 2027	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
June 2027		1	2	3	4 P	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	

P Professional Activity Day
H Statutory Holiday
B Board Designated Holiday

X Family Meetings (no school)
 First/Last Day of School

Family Meetings (no school)	Professional Activity Days	Holidays & School Closures
September 8-11	September 2	September 4-7
	September 3	October 12
First Day of School	October 26	December 21 to January 1
September 14	November 13	February 15
	January 22	March 15-19
Last Day of School	June 4	March 26-29
June 29	June 30	May 24

About Grandview School

Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to Grandview School. We are honoured that you have chosen our school to support your child's learning journey.

At Grandview School, we provide a nurturing, structured environment where students are supported in their learning, daily routines, and social development. Our small class settings allow us to focus on individual strengths while working closely with families and our Grandview Kids partners to support each child's growth and well-being.

We recognize that every family's journey is unique. Through collaborative entry meetings and ongoing communication, we work together to understand your child's needs, goals, and next steps. A central part of our work is helping students build skills for future learning environments while supporting them meaningfully in the present.

This handbook outlines important routines, procedures, and expectations that help our school community function safely and successfully. We hope it serves as a helpful reference throughout the year.

Thank you for entrusting us with your child's education. We look forward to working in partnership with you.

Warm regards,

Janet Harper
Principal, Grandview School

Our Program

Who We Are

Grandview School is the education partner of Grandview Kids and one of six Section 68 school authorities in Ontario. We provide publicly funded education for students who require specialized programming that integrates academic learning with therapeutic supports. All students attending Grandview School are also clients of Grandview Kids.

Our Educational Focus

Grandview School's role is to provide a safe, nurturing, and structured learning environment that supports academic learning, daily routines and independence, social and emotional development, and preparation for future learning environments.

Our School-Based Team

Students at Grandview School are supported by a multidisciplinary education team, which may include:

- Ontario Certified Teachers and Registered Early Childhood Educators
- Program Support, Literacy, and Numeracy Teachers
- Education Consultant
- Principal and Administrative Team

Every student has an Individual Education Plan (IEP) that outlines learning goals, accommodations, and, when needed, modifications. Families are valued partners in the development and review of these plans.

Therapy Services Through Grandview Kids

Therapy services are provided by Grandview Kids, which operates as a separate, health-funded organization. Grandview Kids clinicians collaborate with school staff to support students' participation and success at school.

Depending on a student's needs, the Grandview Kids team may include:

- Speech-Language Pathologists
- Occupational Therapists
- Physiotherapists
- Recreational Therapists
- Therapy Assistants
- Social Workers

For specific questions about therapy goals, schedules, or services, families are encouraged to contact their Grandview Kids therapists directly. Parents and guardians are always welcome to attend therapy sessions with their child.

Supports Not Provided by Grandview School

As a school authority, Grandview School does not have access to some specialized clinical or safety-based supports. These include:

- Psychometrists or Psychologists
- Behaviour Consultants
- Autism Resource Teams

- Hearing or Vision Consultants
- One-to-one Educational Assistants for safety needs related to aggression, risk of physical harm, or elopement

Transitions and Future Planning

A central component of our program is planning for each student's long-term success. If it is determined that a student would benefit from a learning environment with additional resources or supports beyond those available at Grandview School, transition planning may be initiated.

These discussions occur in collaboration with families, Grandview Kids, and home school boards, and are approached thoughtfully, respectfully, and with the child's best interests at the centre of decision-making.

Daily Routines

School Hours

8:30am – Morning supervision and bus unloading begins.

8:45am – Morning bell rings.

11:25am – Recess followed by lunch.

2:30pm – Dismissal and bus loading begins.

2:45pm – Final bell rings.

Student Attendance

Please report all absences and late arrivals to the school office as soon as possible. A 24-hour answering machine is available so you can leave a message at any time.

If your child uses school transportation or nursing services, you must notify those agencies as well.

Lunch and Snacks

Students are required to bring lunch, two snacks, and a reusable water bottle each day. All items must be nut-free. To encourage independence, please send meals and snacks in easy-to-open containers. As students will not have access to a microwave or refrigerator, we recommend using an insulated food container or an icepack to keep food items at the proper temperature throughout the school day.

Grandview School follows a "boomerang lunch" policy. All wrappers, containers, and uneaten food will be sent home daily. This allows parents to see what their child has eaten and helps reduce school waste.

Indoor Shoes and Extra Clothes

To ensure your child's comfort and safety, please send a pair of indoor running shoes, labeled with your child's name or initials, to remain at school year-round. We recommend slip-on or Velcro shoes to help your child develop independence.

In case of accidents or spills, please provide a complete change of clothes for your child (pants, shirt, underwear, and socks), in a clear plastic bag with their name on the front. These clothes will also be kept at school.

Label Personal Belongings

To help ensure your child's belongings make their way back home, please clearly label all personal items with your child's name. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Backpacks and lunchboxes
- Water bottles and food containers
- Jackets, sweaters, and extra clothing
- Hats, gloves, and other seasonal items
- Personal comfort items

Unlabelled belongings are easily misplaced or confused with another students, and clear labelling helps us return items promptly while keeping our shared spaces organized.

Outdoor Learning

Outdoor learning is an essential part of the school day and occurs in all weather conditions unless the temperature or windchill falls below -18°C. Students often begin their day with outdoor play, therefore please send your child to school dressed according to weather conditions. In the winter, children need boots, gloves, hats, and snowpants. In warmer weather, children need hats and non-scented sunscreen should be applied prior to coming to school.

Medical and Health Information

Allergy-Aware Environment

Grandview School is committed to maintaining an allergy-aware environment to help protect students who may be sensitive to certain foods, environmental triggers, or other substances. While we cannot guarantee an allergen-free building, we aim to minimize risks by promoting awareness and safe practices.

To support the well-being of all students, **our school is nut-free, latex-controlled, and scent-free**. Please do not send food containing nuts, bring balloons or toys containing latex, or use fragranced products.

There may also be additional guidelines in your child's classroom based on the allergies or sensitivities of students or staff. Your child's teacher will share any specific information if it applies.

Prevalent Medical Conditions

Students who have one or more prevalent medical conditions—asthma, diabetes, epilepsy, or a risk of anaphylaxis—must have an individualized Plan of Care. This plan is co-created by parents and appropriate school staff to ensure the student's safety and wellbeing. It includes essential information about the student's medical needs, daily management strategies, and emergency procedures.

Medication

Whenever possible, medication should be administered at home. If medication must be given at school, the following requirements apply:

- Families must complete an Administration of Prescribed Medication Form, available from the school office. A new form is needed for each medication or when instructions change.
- Medication must be in its original, tamper-proof container and clearly labeled with child's name, medication name, dosage and frequency, physician's name, storage instructions, and expiry date.
- A drug insert listing possible side effects must accompany the medication.

This procedure ensures that all medications, including life-saving ones such as EpiPens, asthma medication, or seizure medication, are administered safely and accurately.

Diapers and Toileting

Parents are responsible for providing a supply of their child's diapering and toileting needs, including disposable diapers or pull ups, wipes and creams.

Student Illness and Health Screen Policy

Daily Screening at Home

Grandview School follows the health screening criteria established by Grandview Kids. Daily screening at home is required for all students. Parents and guardians must ensure that their

child is free of any symptoms of illness before sending them to school. This is especially important to protect everyone in our community, as many of our students are immunocompromised.

Symptoms to screen for at home include, but are not limited to:

- Fever and/or chills
- Cough or cold
- Influenza
- COVID-19
- Tiredness or lack of energy
- Head lice
- Measles
- Pink eye
- Gastrointestinal issues (nausea, vomiting, diarrhea)

Returning to School After Illness

Students may return to school only when:

- Their symptoms have been improving for at least 24 hours (not just overnight) or 48 hours for gastrointestinal issues,
- They have been fever-free for 24 hours,
- They have not developed any new symptoms, and
- They feel well enough to participate in the school's activities.

In-School Screening

If a student becomes ill or experiences any symptoms during the school day, parents or guardians will be contacted to pick them up as soon as possible, ideally within 30 minutes. In the absence of a doctor's note, the school will assume the illness may be communicable and will send the student home to protect the health of all students and staff. The school's decision regarding a child's health while at school is final.

Student Transportation

A transportation form is completed at the time of registration and a third-party transportation company coordinates school bus service for students to and from school. While we strive to accommodate all transportation requests, space is limited and completion of the transportation form does not guarantee bus placement. Parents are encouraged to have alternate

arrangements in case their child cannot be assigned to a bus route.

School Bus Code of Conduct

While the Education Act does not mandate school transportation, we strive to provide this service for our students. Please understand that transportation is a privilege, not a right.

To ensure students arrive at school safely, on time, and ready to learn, students, parents/guardians, school staff, and bus drivers must work together to maintain an effective and enjoyable school bus transportation system.

Please review the following expectations for students and parents/guardians carefully. By allowing your child to board the school bus, you acknowledge that you have read and understood these expectations and agree to abide by them. Failure to comply may result in the loss of transportation privileges.

Expectations of Students

- Respect the bus driver and follow their instructions.
- Remain in your assigned seat with the seatbelt securely fastened.
- Sit facing forward; keep legs, arms, and hands inside the seat, not in the aisles or out the window.
- Do not yell, use abusive language or profanity, or throw items on the bus or out the window.
- Do not eat or drink on the bus.
- Remember that the school bus is an extension of the classroom, and all school rules apply.

Expectations of Parents/Guardians

- Review the Expectations of Students with your child.
- Ensure your child is ready to board the bus at least 5 minutes before the scheduled time. The bus will wait only 2 minutes and then leave without warning.
- In the morning, seat your child in their assigned spot and secure their seatbelt. In the afternoon, remove their seatbelt if they cannot do so independently.
- If your child uses a wheelchair, ensure that:
 - The wheelchair's brakes are in good condition and not loose.
 - The handlebars are not loose or shaky.
 - The shoulder belt is in good working condition.

- The lap belt runs across the student's pelvic bone.
- In the afternoon, ensure that you or a responsible adult is at the designated drop-off location at least 5 minutes before the scheduled arrival time.
- Keep the school and transportation company informed of any changes to your child's medical health, phone number, and emergency contact information.

Policies and Administration

Custody

Grandview School will only follow custody or access arrangements that are supported by court documents. It is the responsibility of the parent or guardian to provide the school with up-to-date documentation to ensure these arrangements are properly followed.

Communication with Families

The school uses Seesaw as its main communication platform to keep families informed and involved. Through Seesaw, you can receive school updates, view your child's work, and follow their learning progress. Seesaw can be accessed online at app.seesaw.me or through the mobile app. Families will see only their own child's individual work and any group projects their child participates in.

School Community Council (SCC)

Grandview School believes in strong parent and guardian partnerships to foster positive learning environments that support student achievement and well-being. The School Community Council (SCC) meets throughout the school year and collaborates with the principal to enhance student success and promote ongoing family engagement.

Inclement Weather and School Closures

Occasionally, inclement weather may result in transportation cancellations and/or school closures. Families will be notified through Seesaw by 6:30 a.m. if buses are cancelled or the school is closed. If bussing is cancelled but the school remains open, parents may drop off and pick up their child during regular school hours.

In rare circumstances, the school may close during the school day. Parents will be notified and are expected to pick up their child within 30 minutes.

Decisions about cancelling bus service and/or closing the school are made based on the daily weather forecast and in consultation with area bus companies and Grandview Kids.

Depending on the location and type of weather event, transportation can be cancelled for a specific inclement weather zone only. Refer to the map below to determine your child's school bus zone.



Contact Information

For your convenience, the following numbers are provided to help you reach the appropriate staff or service quickly. Please keep this information handy.

Contact	When to Call	Phone Number
Grandview School	For all school-related inquiries and to report student absences	905-576-8403
Grandview Kids	For questions about therapy services and programs	905-728-1673
Stock Transportation	For bus schedules, delays, or other transportation concerns	1-800-889-9491
Durham Region Public Health	For public health guidance and advice on communicable diseases	905-668-7711