

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 35 (LANGLEY)

RETURN TO SCHOOL INSTRUCTION

Guide for Parents/Guardians

June 1, 2020

This guide is meant to help families transition to in-school learning beginning on June 1st. The following document contains a list of frequently asked questions to inform and prepare families with children returning to in-school instruction and those with children continuing with remote learning. Our District acknowledges this new reality in education continues to change and that we will be ready to plan, adapt, and communicate information when it becomes available. Our commitment is to keep families up to date on health and safety protocols and instruction delivery when necessary.

This guide is based on our Education Restart Guidelines for Schools K-12 (COVID-19), District COVID-19 Safety Plans for Schools, as well as the Ministry of Education, Provincial Health Office, BC Centre for Disease Control, and WorkSafeBC.

If you have any questions or concerns from a District level, please e-mail feedback@sd35.bc.ca. If you have any school specific inquiries, please contact your school administrator.

GETTING PREPARED

What does my child need to bring to school?

Elementary Level - Your child will need to bring the following items to and from school (labelled with your child's name):

- A pencil box with personal school supplies items – pencils, crayons, markers
- Any notebooks being used to support their remote learning plan
- A waste-free, self-contained lunch - no dishes/cutlery will be provided, no heating available
- A full water bottle and enough snacks/liquids for the day
- A book or selection of books to read (please send the book(s) in a large baggie; schools can provide if necessary)
- A favorite quiet activity that will be used only by your child (i.e., Lego, drawing, coloring, small toys – no soft surfaces such as blankets or stuffed animals)
- A personal device for online learning access (only if needed)
- A change of clothes and outside gear
- Inside shoes
- Personal hand sanitizer (not required but if available)



Middle/Secondary Level - Your child's school will provide you with information specific to your school. This may include details on what supplies, notebooks, and personal devices to bring if necessary.

Why does my child have to bring their own supplies and toys to and from school each day?

Elementary Level - For health and safety reasons, students will be required to use their own supplies/toys and will be restricted from sharing these personal belongings with others. Students will need to bring home their supplies to continue remote learning. This daily procedure will also assist custodial staff in their cleaning during before and after school hours.

Why does my child have to bring a waste-free lunch?

Elementary Level - Students are encouraged to bring a waste-free lunch to reduce trash in the school. School staff are not able to provide utensils or warm up a student's lunch. Parents/guardians are asked to avoid dropping off their child's lunch as schools are trying to limit the number of items coming in and out of the school.

What do I need to do before my child returns to in-school instruction?

To help you prepare your child, please review all of the communications materials shared by the District and your child's school in the week leading up to June 1st. Please take the time to become familiar with the health and safety procedures provided by the District and your specific school. If your child has any flu-like symptoms, they will not be attending school. If your child has allergies or asthma, please inform school staff prior to returning to school.

STRUCTURE AND SCHEDULE

How many people (teachers/staff/students) are allowed to be in the building due to COVID-19 health and safety restrictions?

As per provincial guidelines, our elementary schools will not have more than 50% of the student population at any given time/day. At the middle and secondary level, schools will not have more than 20% of the student population.

The provincial ban on 50 or more people at an event does not apply to schools as there is adequate space for physical distancing. In our planning, our staff have taken this into consideration and have organized class configurations that meet health and safety room capacity guidelines and staff to student ratios.

What days will my child be attending in-class learning/structure of the school?

To ensure physical distancing and balance remote and in-school learning, schools will be creating schedules that meet health and safety guidelines such as physical distancing.

Elementary Level - At the K-5 level, schools may create two sets of schedules. For example, half of the students returning to in-school learning will attend on Monday/Tuesday. Meanwhile, the other half of the students returning to in-school learning will attend on Thursday/Friday. Wednesday will be a remote instruction only day for all schools except for essential service worker students and students requiring in-person support. Detailed information will be communicated by schools in advance.

Middle/Secondary Level - At the middle school level, students will be in attendance for one full day either on Tuesday or Thursday. Students will not be in school on Wednesday except for essential service worker students and students requiring additional support. All students will continue with remote learning. Detailed information will be communicated by schools in advance.

At the secondary level, students will be in attendance for two half-day sessions on either Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, or Friday. Students will not be in school on Wednesday except for students requiring additional support. All students will continue with remote learning. Detailed information will be communicated by schools in advance.

What will schedules be like?

Schools may implement staggered start and end times to ensure physical distancing. The schedules for the day will be school dependent. Below are samples of basic schedules.

SHAPE OF THE DAY ~ ELEMENTARY ~		K-1	2-5
	8:40am	A-L Arrive	A-L Arrive
	8:55am	M-Z Arrive	M-Z Arrive
	9:00am	Attendance	Attendance
	9:45am – 10am	Support Staff Break	
	10:00am - 10:15am	Recess	
	10:25am – 10:40am		Recess
	11:00am – 11:30am		
	11:30am – 12noon	K-1 Outside Play; Teacher Lunch Break	
	12noon	K-1 Eat; Teachers and Support Staff in Class	2-5 Eat; Teachers and Support Staff in Class
	12:15pm – 12:45pm		2-5 Outside Play; Teacher Lunch Break
	12:45pm – 2:25pm	Learning Block	
	2:25pm	A-L Dismissal	A-L Dismissal
2:39pm	M-Z Dismissal	M-Z Dismissal	

SAMPLE SHAPE OF THE DAY - MIDDLE						
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	<i>* Times could be adjusted based on individual school bell schedules</i>
HUB STUDENTS 8:20am – 2:38pm	ESW/ Vulnerable	ESW/ Vulnerable	ESW/ Vulnerable	ESW/ Vulnerable	ESW/ Vulnerable	
ALL STUDENTS 6-8 8:20am – 2:38pm	Remote Learning	In School Instruction	Remote Learning	In School Instruction	Remote Learning	

SAMPLE SHAPE OF THE DAY - SECONDARY						
	Rotation	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:30am – 9:45am	1	Group A	Group C	Remote/ Vulnerable	Group B	Group D
9:45am – 11:00am	2	Group A	Group C	Remote/ Vulnerable	Group B	Group D
11:00am – 12noon	BREAK					
12noon – 1:15pm	3	Group B	Group D	Remote/ Vulnerable	Group A	Group C
1:15pm – 2:30pm	4	Group B	Group D	Remote/ Vulnerable	Group A	Group C

* Times could be adjusted based on individual school bell schedules

Will my children attend in-school instruction on the same days if they go to the same school?

Schools will make every effort to ensure children of the same family attend on the same days at the elementary and middle school level. This may not be the case at the secondary level.

What will the school configuration be like?

Students can expect schools to look very different than what it was like before Spring Break. Each site's configuration will vary and depend on the school (location, student population, and number of students). Some students may spend their time in classrooms, gym, library, or other multi-purpose rooms. Students can expect to see furniture moved or removed in classrooms and other spaces, signage, cones, and floor markers in various places throughout the school. Staff will be vigilant in following health and safety guidelines related to school configuration.

ARRIVING AT SCHOOL/LEAVING SCHOOL

What will drop-off and pick-up be like?

Schools may implement staggered start and end times to ensure physical distancing. The times and the entrances used will be school dependent and determined based on number of students.

Elementary Level - For example, one school may have all students with last names starting with A-L arrive at 8:35am and students with last names starting with M-Z arrive at 8:50am. Pick-up time for these groups of students may be 2:25pm and 2:40pm respectively. Students will be assigned an entrance/exit point. Detailed information will be communicated by schools in advance.

Middle/Secondary Level - Depending on school student numbers, schools may use one or more entrance and start times may be staggered. Your child's school will provide you with information specific to your school.

What procedures or measures are expected at drop-off and pick-up?



Elementary Level - At the start of the school day students will be required to enter the school from their designated check-in area (to be communicated by the school in advance) and complete a health check. Parents of children (Kindergarten to Grade 4) will be required to assist in checking them in and answering a set of questions to assess their child's health. For older students, it is encouraged to have parent involvement at drop-off time to assist with the health check and entry into school.

If a student answers "yes" to any of the following questions they will not be able to attend:

1. Does anyone in your household have a confirmed case of COVID-19?
2. Have you traveled outside of Canada in the past 2 weeks?
3. Do you have flu-like symptoms such as cough or fever?

Parents will not be allowed to enter the school unless prearranged by the school. The students will then be directed to wash or sanitize their hands, then escorted into their appropriate class, where they can store their personal belongings for the day.

The pick-up exit points for students may be different than the entry. Schools will indicate this in their instructions.

Middle/Secondary Level - At the start of the school day students will be required to enter the school from their designated check-in area and complete a health check. These students will be answering a set of questions to assess their health. If a student answers “yes” to any of the questions listed above, they will not be able to attend. The pick-up exit points for students may be different than the entry. Schools will indicate this in their instructions.

What is the process if my child shows flu-like symptoms at school?

Staff will assist your child and have them wait in a designated safe space. Staff will be contacting parents to arrange pick-up of their child.

What if a student or staff member is found to be a confirmed case of COVID-19?

The District will be taking direction from the Fraser Health Authority. Public Health staff will ensure there is robust contact tracing and management of any clusters or outbreaks. They will also ensure that students, staff, and parents have access to health care providers and that appropriate supports are in place.

Will schools be taking attendance?

Yes. Schools will be taking attendance. Teachers will be making note of students attending in-school learning each day. This information will be sent to the office and recorded in MyEDBC.

If my child is not returning to in-class learning, will they be marked as absent?

No. If your child does not return to in-class learning they will not be marked as absent in MyEDBC. There will simply be no information put into their MyEDBC profile and no related consequences to the student and their education record.

What happens if my child arrives late to school?

Elementary/Middle Level - Your school may provide you specific instructions for late students. At elementary level, late students need to be signed in by their parent/guardian and complete the health check.

How will staff maintain physical distancing and avoid physical contact of students throughout the day?

Staff will be working with kids and communicating health and safety guidelines in an age-appropriate manner to help minimize physical contact and encourage physical distancing. The District understands that with smaller children this will be a challenge, but we will make every effort to ensure students are able to adopt personal measures. Parents are encouraged to help educate their children about avoiding contact with others and adhering to physical distancing.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICE

What procedures or measures are expected at drop-off and pick-up by transportation?

Students are asked to wait at least 5 minutes before their assigned pick-up time. As they board the bus, the driver may be wearing a face shield. Students will board one at a time and will be instructed to move as far back as possible to take seats that have designated markers/stickers. One student per bench. Siblings may be required to sit together. Students will wait to board until the student ahead of them has boarded to ensure physical distancing. A similar procedure will follow for drop-off.



What cleaning protocols will be in place on buses?

Buses will be cleaned in between runs with a focus on touch points such as seats and handrails. At the end of each day, buses will be cleaned with a bio-mister.

How will students receive information about transportation?

Schools will be sending out information about bus schedules, bus stops location/time ahead of June 1st.

IN-SCHOOL INSTRUCTION AND ACTIVITIES

Who will be teaching my child throughout the day?

Elementary Level - Teachers will be supporting students with in-school learning and assisting students with their remote learning plan as assigned by their regular teacher. It is likely the teacher supporting your child will not be their regular teacher. Teachers will be leading daily physical activity indoor and/or outdoor. Support staff such as Special Education Assistants will be supporting their assigned students as well as assisting with supervision during breaks. Other staff such as Youth Care Workers or Aboriginal Support Workers and Teacher Librarians may be on site assisting students as well. Staffing is site specific and could vary among schools.

Middle Level - Students will be supported by a team of teachers and support staff. Schools will make every effort to ensure students have support from at least one of their pod teachers.

Secondary Level - Students will be supported by a team of teachers and support staff organized by departments/subject areas.

Will my child be learning with their classmates? Siblings?

In some schools, staff will make every effort to keep siblings together. Schools will try to keep students of the same class and grade together, however, with many variables (number of students, teacher and support staff considerations, room configurations), it is likely your child may be with a group of students from different grades or classes.

Will my child be with the same group of students all day?

Elementary/Middle Level - To accommodate physical distancing and organize use of facilities on school sites, students attending in-class learning will remain with their designated group for that day. This group of students will remain the same for both days.

Secondary Level - Students attending in-school for support with their remote learning may be with a small group of students for the entire half-day session. It is dependent on the needs of the students.

Will my child have regular breaks?

Elementary/Middle Level - Students will have recess, lunch break and outside play time. The times will vary for each school. Similar to start and end times, recess and lunch breaks may be staggered to accommodate physical distancing and use of school facilities.

Secondary Level - Procedures in place will be school dependent and communicated by the school.

Who will be supervising the students while their teachers have breaks?

Elementary/Middle Level - Support staff, other teachers and administrators will be supervising students while their teachers are on break.

Will my child be playing outside and mixing with the members of the community?

Our schools will remain closed campuses. This means if students are not attending in-school learning, they are asked to refrain from using recreation facilities on school grounds. These spaces will be reserved for use by our in-class learning groups during the day. This will help schools maintain health and safety protocols such as physical distancing.

HEALTH AND SAFETY – PERSONAL MEASURES

Can students or staff wear personal protective equipment (PPE) such as masks or gloves?

Personal Protective Equipment is not effective as a stand-alone preventive measure, it should be suited to the task, and must be worn and disposed of properly. Outside of health care settings, the effectiveness of PPE is generally limited to protecting others should you be infected. PPE is not required, beyond those used by staff as part of regular precautions for the hazards normally encountered in their regular course of work.

A student or staff member can personally choose to wear a mask if they have one. It is important to treat anyone wearing masks with respect.

How often will students be washing their hands?



Students will be required to wash or sanitize their hands:

- upon entering the school in the morning
- before and after eating their snack as well as before and after eating their lunch
- after playing outside
- when they return from the washroom

Students will be encouraged to wash their hands frequently and when necessary, which may include times outside of what is outlined above.

Will all students be using the same bathroom?

Elementary Level - In order to maintain minimal student use in the bathrooms, each class will be assigned a specific bathroom to use. Only one student at a time will be using the bathroom.

Middle/Secondary Level- Procedures in place will be school dependent and communicated by the school.

HEALTH AND SAFETY - CLEANING PROCEDURES

What cleaning protocols will be in place?

- All schools will have day and evening custodians.
- Touch surfaces in common areas will be cleaned multiple times a day.
- Washrooms will be cleaned every 45 min to 60 min.
- Reception areas will be cleaned every hour.
- Staffrooms will be cleaned after each break.
- Evening custodians will clean all surfaces in classrooms and other rooms.
- All schools will be bio-misted once per week.
- Procedures have also been developed for the use and cleaning of district buses.

REMOTE LEARNING

Will my child's teacher continue to do remote learning?

In-class instruction is aligned with each student's learning plan for the week. Students will receive teacher and staff support with their plan for the day, along with opportunities for flexible learning and physical activity.

Elementary Level - There will be a shift in remote learning for all classes so that teachers are able to support both environments. You may notice different schedules and reduced accessibility for remote learning while teachers are working in-school. Your child's classroom teacher will communicate these changes based on their in-school schedule, but you will continue to receive the weekly learning plan at the beginning of each week.

Middle/Secondary Level - Remote learning will be the main form of education delivery for students. Students will be able to access in-school learning to enhance and support remote learning.

