

June 17, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Earlier today the B.C. Government provided an update on planning for the return to school in September. Please review the [government's news release](#) and [BC Centre for Disease Control's outlook of the anticipated for the 2021-2022 school year](#).

What this means is that we can expect the next school year will be much closer to normal – with students in class, full-time starting in September. Based on guidance from the Office of the Provincial Health Officer, students will no longer be in learning groups or cohorts in September. Pending further public health guidance, it is also expected that current restrictions on gatherings, extra-curricular activities and sports will be relaxed in time for the new school year. Students and staff will be required to continue to complete daily health checks, to stay home when feeling sick and to practice diligent hand hygiene. Guidance on mask-wearing in school settings will be confirmed later this summer.

It is important to know that the [current K-12 health and safety guidelines](#) must continue to be followed for the remainder of the 2020/2021 school year, including summer school.

The Ministry of Education is currently working with the provincial K-12 education steering committee and public health officials to review the health and safety measures. We anticipate receiving fully updated health and safety measures for the return to school later in August and will share more information at that time.

We encourage you to visit [B.C.'s COVID-19 Safe Schools website](#) which has updated information about back-to-school planning and preparations. If you have any questions, please contact your school.

Wishing you and your child(ren) an enjoyable and safe final few days of the school year.

Sincerely,



Doug Sheppard  
Superintendent of Schools