



May 29, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Monday, June 1st is the day that students can voluntarily come back to school. We, as a district, have been planning for this day for sometime and are really looking forward to seeing your children next week. Please ensure you are familiar with the school protocols before your child comes to school. All safety plans are on your school's website.

Please also ensure that you have let your school know that you are coming as students who come without registering with their school will be unable to attend due to the safety precautions and class limits we have put into place. Busses are running as well for those students who are registered. Please contact your school principal if you have any questions.

Please click [here](#) for a letter to parents from the Minister of Education.

Please click [here](#) for a letter to parents from Interior Health Authority.

The Ministry of Education has provided the following direction to all School Districts which we are following as we do our planning and support:

- 1. Maintain a healthy and safe environment for all students, families and employees.**
 - The SD 5 School Protocols can be found under "Keeping our Students and Staff Safe" on the front page of our website [here](#).
- 2. Provide services to support children of Essential Services workers.**
 - Children of Essential Service workers will have access to 5 days per week of in-school instruction and/or school care at the choice of the parent(s) or guardian(s) to return to in-class instruction.
 - Remote or virtual learning remains an option. The District calendar is in effect - non-instructional days are not available. Please fill out the form on our [website](#) and contact your school principal if you need school care for your children.
 - Children aged 0-5 (pre-K): Essential workers can fill out a form to identify their need for urgent child care. The "Temporary Emergency Child Care for Essential Workers" sign up form and more information, including frequently asked questions, can be found [here](#) or by calling 1-888-338-6622 and selecting option 4. For more information click [here](#) for Continuity of Supports.
- 3. Support vulnerable students who may need special assistance.**
 - Students with disabilities/diverse-abilities and students who require additional supports will have access to 5 days per week of in-school instruction and/or school care at the choice of the



parent(s) or guardian(s). Remote or virtual learning remains an option. The District calendar is in effect - non-instructional days are not available.

- Some medically fragile students are at higher risk during the pandemic. We are asking parents to check BCCDC website for information <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/priority-populations>.
- It is anticipated that most children requiring in-person instruction in K-12 school settings will be capable of following the District Health and Safety procedures outlined. For more information click [here](#) for Continuity of Supports.

4. Provide continuity of educational opportunities for all students.

Guiding Principles:

- Our Stage 3 Continuity of Learning plan will adhere to the existing District Framework where possible.
- We continue to support students working remotely from home with technology as required.
- We will support students' learning in person throughout the district.
- We will provide access to appropriate technology as needed following all safety protocols as outlined in the safety document "link" above. For more information click [here](#) for Continuity of Learning Plan.



The Facebook page is a place where we can celebrate the good things that are happening in School District 5! In order for you to get the updates on your own Facebook page, please "like" our Facebook page so you can keep up to date. For those who don't have Facebook, the Facebook link is on our website.

Please continue to send any photos or videos you would like to share to our CBO email at cbo.mailing@sd5.bc.ca and we will post these on our Facebook page [here](#). We would also love to share examples from parents who are working with their children at home!

Please see the following links from the Ministry of Education for more information:

[K – 12 Education Restart Plan](#)

[Continuity of Learning – Planning Guide for teachers](#)

[WorkSafeBC K – 12 Education Protocols](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions on Continuity of Learning](#)

[Keep Learning](#)

[BC's Response to Covid-19 Website](#)

Please check out our website for more information at: www.sd5.bc.ca.

We have wonderful, committed staff who have always had your children's best interest at the forefront of their decision-making and they will continue to do that throughout these challenging times.

Take care,

Silke Yardley

