

# Return to In-Class Instruction

## What parents and families need to know

The return of students to in-class learning comes as the province introduced new health guidelines that all districts must follow in order to welcome students back.

June first marks the beginning of the Ministry of Education's third stage of a [five-stage approach](#) for K-12 education during the pandemic.

The Ministry of Education supports districts to develop plans that provide:

- In-class learning for children of essential service workers, students with disabilities and students who require additional support.
- Kindergarten to Grade 5 students will be part-time with no more than 50% of students at a time in schools.
- Grades 6-8 students will be in school one day per week, with 20% of students at a time in schools.
- Grades 9-12 students will be welcomed back according to their blocks, signing up for visits directly with their schools.
- Remote and online learning continues to be available for students, although it may look a little different.

### Continuity of Supports

**ESW Supports:** Children of Essential Service Workers are now being accommodated in their home schools during instructional hours at the elementary & middle school levels (age 5 to 12) five days per week. Children of ESW may be grouped together under a single supervisor on days when voluntary, in-class instruction is not occurring at the school.

**Vulnerable Students Supports:** The district has been working with families to provide instruction on a part time basis for vulnerable students as requested by families or identified by our School Based Teams. As weeks progress, students with complex needs or vulnerabilities will continue to work with their school-based case managers to determine the most appropriate educational program. This may include five days per week of instruction during regular instructional hours.

**Food Security Supports:** The district continues to provide lunches to students and families once per week. Students also receive five frozen meals for the week. In order to ensure all families (at-home and in-class learners) can continue to access meals, they are being provided in the same manner that they have since March 30; pick-up of the frozen meals from a central location in each family of schools, once per week.

**Transportation Supports:** Transportation services will be provided for families who choose to send their children to school but who are unable to drive them there.

SD62 school buses are cleaned and disinfected in accordance with the [BCCDC's Cleaning and Disinfectants for Public Settings](#) document. Students will be seated one per bench with students from the same family sharing seats if space is limited.

The transportation department will reach out to families directly to communicate times and pick up/drop off locations based on their needs.

**IT Supports:** The district has supplied approximately 400 Chromebooks to students districtwide to enable them to access online learning.

**Mental Health Supports:** Mental health supports are being provided to students returning to school as well as those continuing to learn remotely. Teachers, support staff and administrators have access to enhanced mental health supports through our internal website.

## Continuity of Learning

### K- Grade 5:

Effective June 1, students in Kindergarten through Grade five will be able to return for full instructional days on Tuesdays and Thursdays of each week.

If the student density exceeds 50% of the total student population, additional instructional days will be added on Monday and Wednesday in order to maintain density targets as set by the Ministry of Education.

For the purposes of maintaining density targets of 50%, students may be redistributed to other classrooms and may not have their regular classroom teacher on in-class instructional days.

### Grade 6–8:

Students will be provided access to voluntary, part-time, in-class instruction at their school based on a rotation of days by grade with Grade 6 students attending Mondays, Grade 7 attending Wednesdays and Grade 8 students attending school on Fridays.

In order to ensure that the school capacity will not exceed 20% on any given day, students must register for attendance based on the selected day for their grade level.

Changes will be made to the way we provide remote learning to those students whose families choose not to have them return to in-class instruction. Teachers will move to one contact with students per week and will provide three to four hours of instruction.

In order to ensure physical distancing in classrooms, the number of students per classroom will be limited based on the available space to configure desks with the appropriate separation.

Students may not be placed with their regular classroom teacher on in-class instructional days, in order to maintain physical distancing limits.

During in-class instructional times, teachers will be focused on supporting students with their at-home learning assignments, rather than introducing new lessons.

The structure of the school day will also, be different as a result of specialty spaces not being available and in order to minimize the amount of movement and number of adult contacts per day.

### Grade 9-12

Students will have access to the in-class instruction at school for up to one day per week. Students will access in-class instruction through a block rotation set up over the course of the week, as follows:

Monday: Blk A – time slots: 9:00 to 10:30 and 1:00 to 2:30

Tuesday: Blk B – time slots: 9:00 to 10:30 and 1:00 to 2:30

Wednesday: Blk C – time slots: 9:00 to 10:30 and 1:00 to 2:30

Thursday: Blk D – time slots: 9:00 to 10:30 and 1:00 to 2:30

Changes will be made to the way we provide remote learning to those students whose families choose not to have them return to in-class instruction. Teachers will move to one contact with students per week and will provide one to two hours of instruction.

Each day will have one section from 9:00 to 10:30 and 1:00 to 2:30 as described above in order to limit the total student density to 20% of the school population and to allow sufficient time for cleaning of spaces between student cohorts. Students will sign-up for in-class instruction to a maximum of one day per week directly with their school.

In some cases, staff may reserve space for certain students, as determined by the teacher, that may require additional support in order to complete academic requirements.

Additionally, students that require additional support, but do not meet criteria for vulnerable or complex needs, will be able to make individual appointments with teachers either at school or by remote access.

## **Health and Safety Information**

Please visit this link to view our Health and Safety Plan as it applies to reopening our schools to in-class instruction.

[SD62 Health & Safety Plan](#)