

A few FAQs....

### 1. What do you mean “school is safe”?

The Provincial Health Office, the district, and our staff will be doing everything in our power to make sure students and staff are safe at school. In his last video message, Jordan Tinney stated, “Schools are safe places to be.”

The BC and District plan for returning to school includes:

- a. New health and safety measures for all staff and students will be taught and followed by all
- b. Increased custodial time, handwashing, hand sanitizer availability and cleaning supplies for diligent and regular cleaning throughout the day
- c. Learning groups that act like a family bubble that help us reduce transmission and provide a consistent group of people that students and staff interact with regularly
- d. Clear illness policies for all staff and students

See here for more information: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/covid-19-return-to-school> and

<https://www.surreyschools.ca/covid19/Pages/default.aspx>

### 2. What happens if a staff or student gets sick at school?

Every morning, we are going to ask parents to conduct a health check on their child. **If your child is showing any signs of being sick, please keep them home.** The symptoms and BC Self Assessment can be found here: <https://bc.thrive.health/>

Regular health screenings and keeping kids home when they are sick will be the absolute best ways to ensure we all stay safe at school. Also, the extra handwashing, health and safety measures, and cleaning protocols will keep us all safe. However, as we know, kids get sick.

If your child starts showing symptoms at school, we are going to do the following:

- a. Ask them to put on a mask
- b. Isolate them either on the stage or the music room with an adult supervisor
- c. Call you to come to pick them up immediately
- d. The students from that class will be removed, and thorough cleaning will be done before the students re-enter the space.

**Please know that we are going to need you to come as soon as possible to pick up your child. Please make arrangements for this possibility as we need to air on the side of caution at all times.**

Then...

- a. Monitor your child's symptoms and seek the advice of a health care professional like your doctor, the 811 Nurses line, or the health office. They will advise you of the next steps.
- b. Let us know the outcome of that information, and we will act accordingly

Staff are required to do the same self-assessment daily before coming to work. If a staff member gets sick at school, we will immediately ask them to put on a mask and go home. Another teacher will take over the class, and the room will be thoroughly cleaned. They will be asked to follow the same steps in terms of contacting a health professional and following their advice.

### **3. My child has regular allergies, what do I need to do?**

Students and staff who experience seasonal allergies or other COVID-19 like symptoms that are related to an existing condition can continue to attend school when they are experiencing these symptoms as normal. If you notice a sudden change in the severity or type of symptoms, you may want to keep the child home and call a health care professional.

### **4. What about all of our community events and assemblies?**

We are not going to be able to gather for these events, but we are looking at how to still hold community events in a virtual or alternative way. Our staff are going to be taking some time on Tuesday and Wednesday to discuss “how we can safely” rather than just cancelling them altogether.

### **5. Can I still drop off my child’s lunch? Regularly or even just once in a while for a treat?**

No. We are going to ask that all parents send food with their child at the beginning of the day. We do have some parents who drop off lunches quite regularly, and this may be a change in practice for those families. Please send your child with all they will need for a successful day. If your child forgets their lunch, we do have multiple options to provide food for them, including hot items such as chilli, ravioli, soup, and noodles. We also have cold items such as granola bars, fruit cups, and applesauce. We will never let a child go hungry.

### **6. Can I sign up for the Surrey Blended Learning Transition option for just a little a while until I see what school is like?**

At this time, if you are choosing the Blended Learning Transition option, the one point for students to return to full-time face to face instruction is January 1<sup>st</sup>. Jordan Tinney explains the reasons behind that one return date in this video: <https://vimeo.com/454242865> This video is 30 mins, but you can skip the parts that you desire to listen to.

Please also know that Surrey Blended requires significant parent involvement. The registration form will be closed for this option at 4pm on Tuesday, Sept. 8<sup>th</sup>. Please make sure you register before then if you are making the choice not to send you children back to our school full time.