



# K-12 Education Restart Plan

Ministry of Education



The Ministry of Education has a five-stage approach for resuming in-class instruction in a measured way to align with [B.C.'s Restart Plan](#). Each stage will be guided by health and safety guidelines, measures, protocols and orders as well as the principles developed for continuity of learning during the pandemic:

- Maintain a healthy and safe environment for all students, families and employees
- Provide the services needed to support the children of our essential workers (ESWs)
- Support vulnerable students who may need special assistance
- Provide continuity of educational opportunities for all students

STAGE 1	STAGE 2	STAGE 3	STAGE 4	STAGE 5
SCHOOL DENSITY TARGETS 100%	SCHOOL DENSITY TARGETS K-7: 100% Grade 8-12: 40%	SCHOOL DENSITY TARGETS K-5: 50% Gr. 6-12: 20%	SCHOOL DENSITY TARGETS K-12: 20%	SCHOOL DENSITY TARGETS K-12: 0%
<b>In-class instruction:</b>  K-12: 5 day per week	<b>In-class instruction:</b>  K-7: 5 days per week  Grade 8-12: 2 days per week  ----- 5 days per week available for: ✓ Children of essential service workers ✓ Students with disabilities/ diverse abilities ✓ Students who require additional supports  ----- <b>Remote/online instruction:</b> Balance of learning	<b>In-class instruction:</b>  K-5: 2 to 3 days per week  Gr. 6-7: 1 day per week  Gr 8-12: 1 day per week  5 days per week available for: ✓ Children of essential service workers ✓ Students with disabilities/ diverse abilities ✓ Students who require additional supports  ----- <b>Remote/online instruction:</b>  Parent/Guardian choice to return to in-class instruction optional  Balance of learning	<b>In-class instruction:</b>  K-12: Limited  ----- 5 days per week available for: ✓ Children of essential service workers ✓ Students with disabilities/ diverse abilities ✓ Students who require additional supports  ----- <b>Remote/online instruction:</b> K-12: Majority of all students	<b>In-class instruction:</b>  K-12: None  ----- Suspend all in-class instruction for all grades and students  ----- <b>Remote/online instruction:</b> K-12: All Students

## Moving from Stage 4 to Stage 3 on June 1

As part of B.C.'s Restart Plan, the focus for the K-12 sector is to increase in-class instruction in a gradual and controlled manner while ensuring health and safety measures to reduce the risk of Covid-19 transmission are in place. School density targets have been established to ensure the number of students in the K-12 environment is manageable and aligns with public health guidance. Both the school density targets and the individual choices made by parents and guardians to send their children back to school will impact classroom schedules. Guidelines for days of in-class instruction have been established by the Ministry of Education for each stage of the K-12 Education Restart Plan to provide clarity to families, students and school districts about what to expect. This document is intended to provide a framework for what Stage 3 might look like in schools throughout the Province.

## Next Steps: Ministry, Boards of Education & Independent School Authorities

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### May 15th

- Release of K-12 Education Restart Plan and Planning & Reporting template.

### May 15th – 22nd

- School districts and independent schools will develop plans outlining their approach to delivering education during Stage 3.
- If school districts or independent schools anticipate they will not be able to move to Stage 3 due to local circumstances, they should contact the Ministry. First Nations independent schools do not need to develop or submit a plan.
- As a part of the plan, school districts and authorities will outline how:
  - ✓ *Measures will put in place to meet the requirements of Provincial COVID-19 Health & Safety Guidelines for K-12 Settings.*
  - ✓ *In-person instruction will be offered within the school density targets and the recommended days per week (e.g. alternate days, half-days, blended model).*
    - *To accommodate health and safety measures including physical distancing and reducing physical contact, classes must be limited to a small number of students at any one time (e.g., be less than 50% of the normal class enrolment).*
  - ✓ *Children of ESWs and students requiring additional support will be supported full-time if requested.*
  - ✓ *Remote, online and in-person learning will be delivered and balanced over the school week.*
  - ✓ *Supports like meals and technology loans will continue.*
- School districts must ensure the teacher and support staff workloads between in-class and on-line delivery are balanced and manageable. Districts must also ensure the appropriate leadership is available and on-site at schools to ensure health and safety measures are in place.
- Prior to June 1, Boards of Education and local unions must facilitate a process with education partners to develop multiple suggested delivery models that do not increase current teacher workload and meet the needs of students during Stage 3. The decision regarding the model adopted by school districts will be done in collaboration with the local union.
- School districts/authorities should engage with parents/guardians to assess the number of students who are planning to return to in-class instruction.

### May 19th – 22nd

- Districts and FISA Member Associations will submit their plans to the Ministry for review.

### June 1st

- Stage 3 of the K-12 Restart Plan starts.

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## What can Parents and Students Expect in Stage 3?

### Regular Communication

- Contact from school or school district/authority to enquire about interest in resuming in-person instruction.
- Regular information updates on school and district websites.

### Options to Attend School In-Person

- Guidelines established for the K-12 sector:
  - *Grades K-5 (2-3 days per week)*
  - *Grades 6 – 12 (1 day per week)*
  - *5 days week available for children of Essential Service Workers, students with disabilities/ diverse abilities, and students requiring additional supports.*
  - **Note: teachers, administrators and support staff should be considered ESWs.**
- School districts and independent schools will organize their daily and weekly schedules based on school density targets and the number of children who are choosing to return to in-class instruction. This means children may not have their regular classroom teacher or classmates.
- Bussing and transportation services to be implemented in accordance with operation plans.

### Increased Health & Safety Measures

- Parents will be asked to monitor their children daily for symptoms and not to send them to school if they are sick. People who are sick will not be allowed in school.
- Students will be asked to wash their hands frequently, including before coming to school. They will have access to hand sanitizer when hand washing is not available.
- Schools will be cleaned more frequently, including classrooms and high touch areas.
- Schools may implement staggered drop-off and pick up times and modify lunch and recess hours.
- School and classrooms might look different:
  - *Increased spacing between students in classrooms and smaller group activities*
  - *No physical contact sports but more time outside with classmates*
  - *Limitations on assemblies and other large gatherings*
- Wearing non-medical masks will be a personal choice for students and teachers.
- Students will be asked to label their personal items and not to share them.
- Parents may need to remind children to minimize physical contact with their friends.

### On-Going Learning & Supports

- Continuation of online/remote learning opportunities to supplement in-school instruction.
- Focus on mental health supports for students returning to school and those who continue to learn remotely.

- Meal programs available with additional health and safety, physical distancing and hygiene measures in place. Meal pick up will continue for students not in attendance.