



PHO updates K-12 Restart: kids back in class this September

B.C.'s response to COVID-19 under the guidance of Dr. Bonnie Henry, has led to the best outcomes in North America. By all doing our part and following the science-based direction of the Provincial Health Officer, B.C. has achieved a low community transmission rate.

Minister of Education Rob Fleming announced today that the stages for K-12's restart have been updated based on direction from the Provincial Health Officer and her team.

Stage 2 has been revised to allow for all students to go back to class in September by creating learning groups or cohorts with a limited

number of students. The Ministry announced today that elementary and middle schools will limit learning groups to 60, while high schools will be limited to 120.

To support the return to school, comprehensive COVID-19 safety measures will be put in place in all districts to help protect students and staff.

These include enhanced cleaning and disinfecting protocols, extra hand washing and sanitizing stations, signs to direct traffic flow, additional custodians for daytime cleaning, and physical barriers where needed. Staff will have access to masks that will be provided by

the government to districts.

We are holding a virtual K-12 Presidents Council meeting on August 4 at 3 p.m. to review the B.C. K-12 Restart plan.

We are also putting together *Frequently Asked Questions* that we will post on the BC Schools web site by the end of this week. We'll update this when questions come up as things evolve.

In safety and solidarity,

Warren Williams
K-12 Presidents Council President

For more information on the K-12 Education Restart Plan, visit: gov.bc.ca/covid19returntoschool

Schools are in Stage 2

The goal of the Framework is to maximize in-class instruction for all students while meeting the revised BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC) school safety guidelines. This is supported by four foundational principles:

- Maintain a healthy and safe environment for all students, families and staff
- 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 opportunity for all students

K-12 Schools are in

Remote learning for all	Remote learning with exceptions	In-class & remote learning	Learning groups: full-time in-class	Learning as usual: full-time in-class
Stage 5	Stage 4	Stage 3	Stage 2	Stage 1

Learning Groups for Students & Staff



■ Beginning in September, students will be organized into learning groups. This reduces the number of close, in-person interactions and ensures a full return to in-class instruction for most students