



PROPOSED PLAN FOR HEALTH AND SAFETY

SD47 RESTART PLAN

Our priority during this unique time in Powell River, B.C. and across the globe is the health and safety of our students, staff and community.

We work closely with local health authorities, the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education, and take seriously any direction provided by the Provincial Health Officer as we work to stop the spread of COVID-19.

As we prepare to reopen our schools to full time face-to-face instruction, we do so following the **Provincial Health & Safety Standards and Guidelines for K-12 Settings**.

RISK MITIGATION MEASURES

HAND HYGIENE

ILLNESS & SELF ASSESSMENT

Students and staff with cold, influenza, or COVID-19 like symptoms should stay home, self-isolate, and be assessed by a health-care provider. Testing is recommended for anyone with these symptoms, even mild ones.

LEARNING GROUPS

Learning Groups are a recommended public health measure to help reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19. Organizing students and staff into learning groups helps to reduce the number of different interactions and potential exposure to COVID-19 and supports better contact tracing if there is a confirmed case in a school community.

CLEANING & DISINFECTING

NON-MEDICAL MASKS

COVID-19 AND CHILDREN

- COVID-19 virus has a very low infection rate in children (ages 0 to 19).
- In B.C., less than 1% of children tested have been COVID-19 positive, and even fewer are suspected to have been infected based on serological testing.
- Most children are not at high risk for COVID-19 infection.
- Children under 10 comprise a smaller proportion of the total confirmed child cases compared to children between the ages of 10 and 19.
- Based on published literature to date, the majority of cases in children are the result of household transmission by droplet spread from a symptomatic adult family member with COVID-19. Even in family clusters, adults appear to be the primary drivers of transmission.
- Children typically have much milder symptoms of COVID-19, if any. They often present with low-grade fever and a dry cough.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

FRENCH IMMERSION

Students who were enrolled in French Immersion at James Thomson and wish to enroll in PIE for the 2020/2021 school year will be provided with French language support virtually.

ISP PROGRAM

SD47's International Education program will operate at a reduced level this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Students quarantine for two weeks in both their home country and Canada. In addition, students must have a negative COVID-19 test.

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

There will be no after school programs at this time to minimize contact between learning groups and reduce occupancy in school buildings.

STRONG START

StrongStart BC programs will offer a virtual service to families at this time.

FIELD TRIPS & EXTRA CURRICULAR

Only field trips that do not require bus or vehicle transportation will be permitted. There will be no extracurricular programs at this time unless a safety plan has been created and approved.

COMMUNITY USE

There will be no community use of school buildings at this time to ensure the health and safety of students and staff.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Ensure a healthy and safe environment for all students, families, and employees.

Provide the services needed to support children of our essential workers.

Support vulnerable students who may need special assistance.

Provide continuity of educational opportunities for all students.