

Delta Christian School

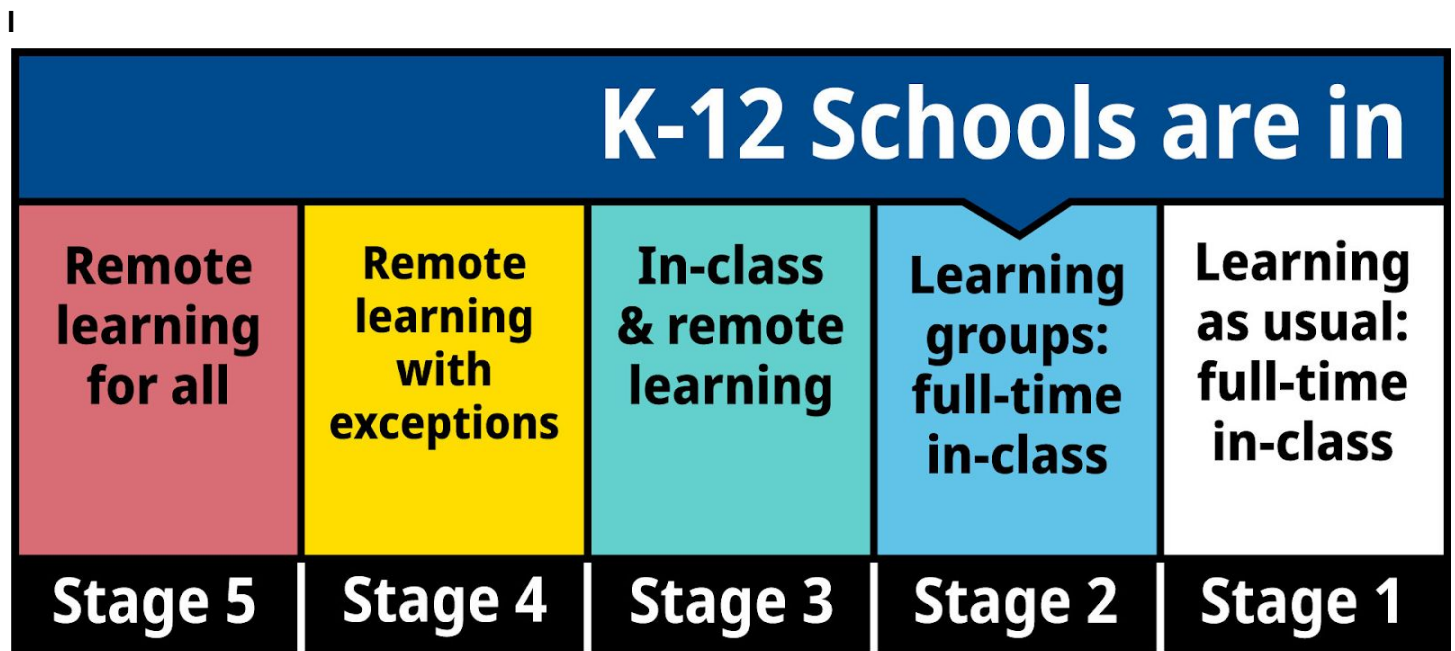
Stage 2 Return to School Guide (Parents)



Updated: November 17, 2020
Care | Connection | Competencies



v. September 8, 2020



Stage 2: Schools will enter Stage 2 in September 2020.

Learning Group Size

- Elementary: 60
- Middle: 60
- Secondary: 120

Density Targets

- Not applicable

Instruction Method: Full-time instruction for all students for the maximum instructional time possible within learning group limits.

COVID-19 Resources

- [Operational Guidelines for School Districts and Independent School Authorities](#)
- [COVID-19 Public Health Guidance for K-12 School Settings](#) (BC Centre for Disease Control)
- [BC's Back to School Plan](#) (Ministry of Education)
- [COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions](#) (WorkSafe BC)
- 2020-2021 DCS Parent Calendar (subject to change upon further direction from the Ministry of Education). Please see [the linked calendar](#).

1. First Day of School and Orientation Week

As with schools across the province, DCS students will be returning to school on **Thursday, September 10**. Students will be dismissed at 12:00PM on Thursday and Friday of the first week as students and staff acclimate to being back in the classroom. This will serve as an orientation week for staff and students. These extra two days of preparation (Tuesday and Wednesday) will provide educators and staff extra time to adjust to their new routines, finalize plans for learning groups, review health and safety protocols, and confirm lesson plans that align with the new normal in schools. When students arrive on Thursday, September 10, a significant amount of time will be spent on informing students about their classes and learning group, practice their new routines and familiarize themselves with how to move safely from their classroom to outdoor and common areas of the school.

Note to **Kindergarten Families**: Due to the delayed start to the school year, half-day gradual entry will be extended to Friday, September 25.

First Day of School and Orientation Week

As with the majority of schools across the province, DCS students will be returning to school on **Thursday, September 10**. Students will be dismissed at 12:00 PM (students last name A-M) and 12:10 PM (student last name N-Z) on Thursday and Friday of the first week as students and staff acclimate to being back in the classroom. This will serve as an orientation week for staff and students. These extra two days of preparation (Tuesday and Wednesday) will provide educators and staff extra time to adjust to their new routines, finalize plans for learning groups, review health and safety protocols, and confirm lesson plans that align with the new normal in schools. When students arrive on Thursday, September 10, a large portion of the day will be spent on informing students about their classes and learning group, practice their new routines and familiarize themselves with how to move safely from their classroom to outdoor and common areas of the school.

Designated Entrance and Exit Doors

- K Pod East doors (former Wind & Tide access)
- Grade 1 Pod East doors (former Wind & Tide access)
- Grades 2-3 Pod West doors (by outdoor hockey area)
- Grades 4-5 Pod Central doors (by outdoor basketball courts)
- Grades 6-7 Pod Intermediate Staircase (by main gate)

Morning Drop-Off

- 8:35-8:42 AM A-M drop-off window
- 8:43-8:50 AM N-Z drop-off window
- Richmond Pick-Up South Arm United Church 8:20 AM, Ironwood Mall 8:26

To minimize foot traffic in and around the building, students will be welcomed and received by staff directly from their vehicles in the Kiss & Go and at the large gate for those arriving on foot. The length of the Kiss & Go will be extended through the staff parking lot. Students may be dropped off at the Kiss & Go or parents may walk your children to their designated entrances. Students will be directed to their classrooms by staff once they enter the building. Parents are not to enter the building into the classroom areas or through the designated student entrances. Arrangements to enter into the building will have to go through the school office with Carolyn Finger. The school office will be open for parent visitors. Outdoor play or use of the playground will not be permitted before school.

Afternoon Pick-Up

Please note the changed pick-up for the first two days of school. Please respect the designated times to ensure the expeditious flow of students. A staff member will be located on 53rd St. holding a sign to indicate A-M and N-Z pick-up times.

Just for September 10-11 and half days.

12:00-12:10 PM A-M pick-up time

12:10-12:20 PM N-Z pick-up time

Richmond bus Depart from school at 12:05 PM

Delta bus Depart from school at 12:05 PM

Starting on Monday, September 12 and on regular school days.

3:00 - 3:10 PM A-M pick-up window

3:10 - 3:20 PM N-Z pick-up window

Richmond bus Depart from school at 3:05 PM

Delta bus Depart from school at 3:05 PM

The Kiss & Go will be available and lengthened through the staff parking lot. Students being picked up by vehicle will be waiting on curbside physically distanced with hula hoops on the ground as markers. Students will enter into their vehicles at the front of the line. Please be patient as this process will be less efficient, but will increase safe distancing between students. Students who are being picked up by foot will be situated in designated zones on the back field / back pavement area with their pod. Parents will come to the designated pod area in the back field to pick up your children if you are not using the Kiss & Go. Students who are heading home on their own need to leave the premises immediately after they are dismissed from the classroom. Outdoor play or use of the playground will not be permitted after school. Students may not be left unsupervised by parents after school.

2. Instructional Delivery

As directed by the Ministry of Education, Delta Christian School will only be offering on-site learning opportunities to students through Stage 2. Families who are opting for a home-based/online learning program will need to explore other options with public or independent distributed learning schools. We encourage you to have a conversation with Mr. Young prior to making any decisions in this area. Arrangements for continuity of learning will be made with families with children who have extended illness through this period. Students who will be absent beyond three days will have a weekly package prepared by the classroom teacher to be completed at home.

Under the School Act, a person must enrol in an educational program between the ages of 5 and 16. Across all Stages, parents/caregivers have the choice to enrol their child in an educational program offered by a public or independent school (including “bricks and mortar” schools, distributed learning schools, or through blended programs) or to register their child for homeschooling prior to the start of the school year. With homeschooling, parents/caregivers are responsible for designing the educational program for their child and must register their child with either a public or independent school.

Flexible Learning Options

Alternatives to Full-Time, In-Class	Option A: Full Return to On-Site Learning	Option B: Remote Learning Gradual Return	Option C: Home Learning Plan Due to Health Conditions
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Instruction			
<p>Purpose</p>	<p>With enhanced health and safety protocol, students will return to the classroom. Students will receive a full program and benefit from social interaction with their peers. This option optimizes academic, social and emotional support, which are essential to every child. The majority of students learn best in a classroom with direct contact with teachers, other professional staff, and their fellow learners.</p> <p>Please refer to Stage 2 Return to School document</p>	<p>Flexible option for students for reasons of family choice who are not yet ready to return to full-time, face-to-face instruction. The goal is to work toward the student returning full time to the start of the next term. Readiness will be determined in partnership between the school and family.</p>	<p>Flexible option for students with medical or chronic immunocompromised situations requiring a long-term absence from school. The goal is to provide long-term support for the student and family.</p>
<p>Criteria (Who?)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Students who are ready for a return to in-class learning starting on Thursday, September 10. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Students with immunocompromised family members in the household. <input type="checkbox"/> Students with personal anxieties about a return to school. <input type="checkbox"/> Families with significant concerns or who have apprehensions about the uncertainty of the COVID-19 impacts in our community and are not yet confident to return. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Students who require a prolonged absence due to a health condition, chronic illness or who are immunocompromised. <input type="checkbox"/> Requires verification by a medical practitioner.
<p>Next Steps</p>	<p>[Action Required] Fill in the <i>Flexible Learning Options Return Form</i> by Monday, August 31 by 10:00 AM. Required for all families to complete.</p>		
<p>What Does it Look Like?</p>	<p>Please refer to Stage 2 Return to School Guide for Parents.</p>	<p>The school leadership team will review the specific concerns and needs of your child and discuss the needs with any involved staff and parents.</p> <p>The School-Based-Team (SBT) will work with staff to design strategies and provide resources, and regularly monitor the child's remote learning.</p> <p>Instruction will focus on core learning areas to ensure the student remains connected and progressing in his/her learning.</p> <p>Remote learning will be</p>	<p>The School-Based-Team (SBT) and any involved staff will meet to discuss the delivery of the home learning plan and any ongoing student-specific needs.</p> <p>Our Educational Support Services Coordinator will work with classroom teachers to design a home learning plan that support a long-term absence from school.</p> <p>Support plans will be provided on a term-by-term basis and reviewed and updated as necessary as the end of a term.</p> <p>Instruction will focus on core</p>

		highly parent directed. Re-entry back to school will be considered on a term-by-term basis.	learning to ensure the student remains connected and progressing in his/her learning.
Who Provides Instruction	Face-to-face instruction with classroom teachers.	The designated remote learning teacher/facilitator will provide a weekly package of learning with support through online communication. But, parents will be primarily responsible for monitoring the student's learning at home. The distribution of weekly learning packages requires a pick-up of materials at the school to support online learning.	

3. Bus Transportation

School bus transportation services will continue to be offered as usual for Richmond and Delta. All students will be required to wear masks on the school bus. Students will be assigned individually to seats as much as possible, while siblings will be seated together.

The following instructions have been provided to school (August 16, 2020):

- Buses should be cleaned and disinfected in accordance with BCCDC guidelines
- Buses should be loaded from back to front and offloaded from front to back
- Keep seating consistent and assign seats where possible. Each student should have their own seat unless sharing with a member of their household
- No student is required to wear a mask if they do not tolerate it
- Masks aren't recommended for elementary students on buses because they are more likely to touch their face and may need help putting them on and taking them off
- Schools and school districts can consider a transparent barrier to separate the driver from the students
- Schools and school districts should keep up to date passenger lists to share with public health if contact tracing needs to occur
- Students should clean their hands before they leave home, when they leave school, and when they get home

4. Dolphin Pods (Learning Groups)

Students will be assigned to our usual homeroom classes and these classes will be grouped together in [learning groups](#) of up to 60. At DCS, we will be referring to these learning groups as "pods", as dolphins (our mascot) travel in pods. Interaction amongst students will be limited to those in their assigned pod whether in the classroom or on the playground. For example, a pod of no more than 60 students and adults may include two classes who may do cross-class activities together or share the same play area at recess. Each pod will be identified by a type of dolphin, such as the Spinner Pod or the Bottlenose Pod.

We will be recognizing the positive behaviour of pods when we see positive interaction between students and the following safety rules in the upcoming year with "Pod Points".

*Class lists will be communicated to families on Friday, September 4.

5. Staggered Drop-Off and Pick-Up Times

- a. Arrival - Families will be assigned one of two drop-off windows based on last name. Students will be required to go through their designated entrance to their classroom to wash their hands. Each Dolphin Pod will have a designated entrance. Please refrain from dropping off your child(ren) before the arrival time as supervision will not be provided.
- b. Departure - A staggered pick-up schedule will be implemented based on last name. Students will be required to go directly to the designated Kiss & Go pick-up area or meet their parents in the back field for immediate departure. After-school play on the school premises will not be permitted.

c. Designated Entrance and Exit Doors

- i. K-1 - East doors (former Wind & Tide access)
- ii. 2-3 - West doors (by outdoor hockey area)
- iii. 4-5 - Central doors (by outdoor basketball courts)
- iv. 6-7 - Intermediate Staircase (by main gate)

6. Staggered Recess and Lunch Breaks

Students will have a morning recess break and a lunch break. For each of these breaks, half of the dolphin pods will go out to play first and the other pods will stay in to eat. The pods will then switch. Morning recess and lunch breaks have been extended to ensure adequate time for handwashing and transitions. Afternoon recess will not take place this year to create more time for the extended morning and lunch breaks.

Students are to bring food that does not require heating up using the microwave.

7. 2020-2021 Parent Calendar

- a. Please see [the linked calendar](#).

8. Health & Safety Measures

Delta Christian School will be adhering to all safety protocols as established by the Ministries of Health and Education and WorkSafe BC. We have formed a Joint Health & Safety Committee made up of staff and medical professionals that will continue to direct the school in this area.

Through increased government funding, Delta Christian School will be adding mid-day cleaning to high touch and shared areas. In addition, a thorough cleaning of the facility will be done at the end of each day. This includes (Ministry of Education, August 16, 2020):

- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces at least twice every 24 hours (once during the school day). This is in addition to a general school cleaning, which should happen at least once a day.
- Clean and disinfect any surface that is visibly dirty
- Use common cleaning and disinfectant products
- Limit frequently-touched items that aren't easy to clean
- Empty garbage containers daily
- Clean and disinfect laminated materials daily if multiple people touch them

Enhanced Hygiene Measure

- Students are each encouraged to bring a personal-sized hand sanitizer to be carried around in their pocket
- Mandatory handwashing upon entrance into the building, after returning from recess and washroom, and before departure at the end of day
- Minimizing shared toys and materials
- Increased access to hand sanitizer stations at main entrances
- Increased signage around the building reminding students of physical distancing and hygiene practices
- Restricted use of water fountain and encouraging use of refillable bottles
- Guidance to staff from a Registered Nurse

Mandatory Daily Health Checks at Delta Christian School (October 1, 2020)

Thank you for continuing to perform daily health checks on your children before sending them to school. This is the first and most effective line of defence to protect the health of the community. Delta Christian School is requiring students to stay home if they are showing COVID-19 or cold/flu symptoms.

Part 1: Daily Health Check for Symptoms of COVID-19

(COVID-19 symptom list based on BCCDC example checklist September 11, 2020)

Key Symptoms of	Do you have any of the following new key	Circle One
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Illness*	symptoms?		
	Fever	Yes	No
	Chills	Yes	No
	Cough or worsening of chronic cough	Yes	No
	Shortness of breath	Yes	No
	Loss of sense of smell or taste	Yes	No
	Diarrhea	Yes	No
	Nausea and vomiting	Yes	No
International Travel	Have you returned from travel outside Canada in the last 14 days?	Yes	No
Confirmed Contact	Are you a confirmed contact of a person confirmed to have COVID-19?	Yes	No

If you answered "Yes" to any of the questions included above, especially with a fever, your child should stay home and seek a health assessment. A health assessment includes calling 8-1-1, or a primary care provider like a physician or nurse practitioner. If a health assessment is required, your child should not return to school until COVID-19 has been excluded and is symptom-free for 24 hours.

Part 2: Daily Health Check for Cold, Flu, and other Communicable Diseases Symptoms

(Based on Delta Christian School Health and Safety Protocol September 24, 2020)

Key Symptoms of Illness*	Do you have any of the following new key symptoms?	Circle One	
	Sore Throat	Yes	No
	Runny/stuffy nose	Yes	No
	Headache	Yes	No
	Fatigue	Yes	No
	Loss of appetite	Yes	No
	Muscle aches	Yes	No
	Conjunctivitis (pink eye)	Yes	No
	Dizziness, confusion	Yes	No
	Abdominal pain	Yes	No
	Skin rash or discolouration of fingers and toes	Yes	No

If you answered yes to any of the questions above, your child should stay home until symptom free for 24 hours. If the symptom persists or worsens, seek a health assessment. A health assessment includes calling 8-1-1, or a primary care provider like a physician or nurse practitioner. If a child's condition has improved over a number of days and the only remaining symptoms are an improving stuffy or runny nose with clear nasal secretions then the child may come to school.

Fever: Average normal body temperature taken orally is about 37°C. For more on normal body temperature and fevers, see HealthLinkBC's information for [children age 11 and younger](#) and for [people age 12 and older](#). Infants less than three months of age who have a fever should be assessed by a health care provider.

Children have similar symptoms to adults, but are less likely to have fever, shortness of breath or cough. COVID-19 causes mild illness in the majority of cases in children. COVID-19 symptoms can range from mild to severe. Sometimes people with COVID-19 have mild illness, but their symptoms may suddenly worsen in a few days.

What to do if you have symptoms of COVID-19

Testing is recommended for anyone with cold, influenza or COVID-19-like symptoms, even mild ones. For more information on testing and where to go for testing, visit the [Testing page](#).

The [B.C. COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool](#) is also available for anyone that develops symptoms and can be used to help determine if you need further assessment or testing for COVID-19. Testing is especially important for groups that are more vulnerable to complications from COVID-19, or people who care for these individuals. Some symptoms can also be signs of other conditions. If you are unsure, contact your health care provider or call 8-1-1. If someone is having severe difficulty breathing, severe chest pain, having a hard time waking up, feeling confused or losing consciousness, you should seek emergency medical care by calling 9-1-1 or going to your nearest emergency department.

If you develop symptoms, you will need to [self-isolate](#) while you wait for your test results so you do not potentially spread illness to others. Those who get diagnosed with COVID-19 will need to self-isolate for at least 10 days from when their symptoms started. For more information on what to do if you have COVID-19, if you think you may have it, or believe you may require medical care, visit the [If you are Sick page](#).

Older people and people with a weakened immune system or underlying medical conditions are considered at higher risk of severe disease. For more, see information for [Priority populations](#).

Any student, staff or other person within the school who has symptoms of COVID-19 **or** travelled outside Canada in the last 14 days **or** was identified as a close contact of a confirmed case or outbreak must stay home and self-isolate.

What if someone in my household or bubble has COVID-19 symptoms?

Students and staff without symptoms can still go to school even if someone else in their household is sick. They cannot go to school if public health has told them not to. This is the same as for other settings like workplaces and public spaces.

Most people who are sick or have symptoms of illness in B.C. are not sick with COVID-19. So, it is very unlikely the person in their household has COVID-19.

If someone has been diagnosed with COVID-19, public health will identify close contacts and ask them to stay home and [self-isolate](#).

The person who is sick or has symptoms should be assessed by 8-1-1 or a health care provider. Testing is recommended for anyone with cold, influenza or COVID-19-like symptoms, even mild ones.

What if my child has allergies?

- Students and staff who experience seasonal allergies, or other COVID-19-like symptom 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 your child normally experiences, you may want to keep your child at home and seek advice from a health-care provider

Confirmed Case of COVID-19 in a Learning Group or at School

If a student or staff member develops symptoms at school, [protocols](#) are in place.

- If a student or staff member develops symptoms at school, they may be given a non-medical mask and will be separated from their classmates or colleagues
- The individual's parent or guardian will be contacted to discuss next steps
- Custodial staff will clean and disinfect the areas the person used
- Schools will immediately inform public health of a potential case
- Public health will then:
 - Reach out and identify any potential cases
 - Get in touch with close contacts
 - Recommend 14-day isolation if necessary
 - Provide follow-up recommendations if necessary
- Schools will provide learning support to students required to self-isolate
- Together, schools and public health officials will determine if suspending in-class learning is necessary

You will be notified if your child has been in contact with a COVID-positive person. If that happens, your child is required to self-isolate.

Options for Families of Students Showing Symptoms but Not Being Tested for COVID-19

[September 15, 2020] The following options are presented to families if a child has shown symptoms and the family has made the decision to not get tested. These options for return after showing symptoms are based on the most recent updates to the Centre for Disease Control guidelines.

1) A child who is NOT tested will need to stay home for 10 days from the point at which the symptoms have started and have been symptom-free for the past 48 hours.

OR

2) A child who is NOT tested for COVID-19 can return to school after being cleared by a family doctor of the need for testing and being symptom free for the past 48 hours.

A family member (student or staff) without symptoms can return once the child showing symptoms has been cleared.

9. Volunteer Hour Tracking

As we are looking to minimize the number of visitors to the building and will not be hosting large school events, volunteer opportunities will likely be less this year and hours will not be tracked. Service volunteer cheques will not be cashed, but the opportunity will be given for families to use this as a donation to the school. There will still be ways for parents to volunteer, but in limited and different ways. Please contact Courtney Mawhorter with any questions about volunteering at courtney@deltachristianschool.org.

10. Masks

The wearing of masks is optional for all DCS K-3 students at all times and for the majority of time for grades 4-7 students. Primary students (K-3) are not required to wear masks under the Ministry of Education guidelines. Grades 4-7 students will be required to wear a mask as they move through common areas such as hallways outside of their designated pod areas. Students taking the bus will be required to wear a mask. Grades 4-7 students will not be required to wear a mask in the classroom, when interacting within their own pod, or when outdoors. Staff will be required to wear masks when in high traffic areas (hallways, school bus) or when 2m distancing is not possible with students outside their pod. Everyone must treat each other and those wearing masks with respect. If a student or staff member gets sick at school, they will be asked to wear a mask while they are being assessed by a school nurse or preparing to go home. [Review COVID-19 mask use information](#) from the British Columbia Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC).

Correspondence to parents on Monday, November 16th, 2020 from Mr. Young:

As a number of schools in the Fraser Health region have been closed temporarily due to COVID-19 clusters or outbreaks, our school leadership team has determined that additional measures will be implemented to further protect the health of our community.

Effective Tuesday, November 17th, 2020:

- All parents and visitors to the school will be required to wear a mask on school property. This includes outside of the building during student drop-off in the morning and after-school pick-up. The school grounds are inclusive of all exterior areas of the building including the playing field, the kiss & go, and the staff parking lot.
- Students in grades 4-7 will be required to wear a mask when stepping onto school property and when leaving the school building while on the property. Masks within intermediate pods are not required at this time, but recommended.

These efforts will reduce the chances of cross-pod exposures in common spaces. Signs will be posted on the perimeter of the property as a reminder. As we introduce these new measures, please extend an abundance of kindness and understanding to one another. The leadership team continues to monitor and assess the situation on a continuous basis to adjust safety measures. We are all in this together. Thank you for your cooperation.

11. Extended Absences Due to Illness and Medical Conditions (including immunocompromised students)

If a student becomes sick or has an existing medical condition that precludes them from being at school for more than three days, a weekly learning package will be provided to the student from the teacher. The learning package will focus primarily on the core subject areas (reading, writing, math). Please report all cases where a child will be absent due to illness beyond three days to Mr. Young, the homeroom teacher, and the office by email. [Please refer to the CDC website for further information on immunocompromised health conditions.](#)

12. Large Group Gatherings and In-School Parent Meetings

Large group gatherings will not be taking place during the 2020-2021 school year. The school will be planning alternative ways to build community. Large group gatherings such as chapel, concerts, and team sports will return once it is deemed safe to do so. Meetings that typically require parents to visit the school (meet the teacher night, parent-teacher meetings, AGM, committee meetings, etc.) will be hosted primarily on *Zoom*.

13. Restricted Guest Access

All guests to the building, including parents, will have to report to the office to sign in and provide contact details for contact tracing purposes. Guests may not access the building through designated student entrances. The temperature of adult guests will be taken with a touchless digital thermometer and guests will be required to wear a mask to move throughout the building beyond the school foyer area. Guests will be required to answer all mandatory health check questions.

14. Casual Dress Wednesdays and Dress Thursday

To allow parents to perform a regular washing of student uniforms, Wednesdays will be a casual dress day for all students. Students will not be required to wear a uniform to school on Wednesdays. Students should come to school in a fresh set of clothing on a daily basis. This will be a fun departure from the norm for students. Students will continue to wear their dress uniforms to school on Thursdays throughout the year. The only exception will be the first day of school where students can choose what uniform to wear.

15. Library Learning Commons

Students will temporarily be restricted from weekly visits to the library for the months of September and October as a class. For September and October, Mrs. Belsham will bring a selection of books to classrooms on a cart and students may visit the library in small groups at scheduled times. Mrs. Belsham will also encourage reading through digital formats. This approach will be re-evaluated for November and beyond.

16. Shared Food and Birthdays

We will be recognizing student birthdays in new and fun ways this upcoming year. Due to restrictions on shared food, please do not send special birthday treats to be shared with the class for the upcoming year.

17. Student Activity Fees

While there will be limited field trips this year, teachers will be exploring ways of bringing activities to the school grounds and visiting local destinations. We will also look at putting this money into digital learning materials

18. Sports Equipment

As the school is minimizing the use of shared equipment, students will need to bring their own sports balls and equipment if they want to play a sport outside. Students are fully responsible for storing their equipment in a safe space designated by the classroom teacher and bringing the equipment home. Any items on wheels that typically require the use of a helmet are not permitted (i.e. bikes, scooters, hoverboards, skateboards, etc).