

May 8, 2020

Dear King David Parents,

On Wednesday, you likely heard the announcement from Premier Horgan that BC will start to gradually ease some of the restrictions that were implemented to prevent the spread of COVID-19. This is undoubtedly a relief for many who have been missing friends, family and a trip to the hair salon. While we are very eager to see our students and staff back at King David, we must ensure any decisions and plans we make for a gradual and partial resumption of in-school classes meet the highest standards of safety.

Over the past few weeks, we have been researching, meeting with other independent schools in BC and across Canada, and enlisting the advice of experts to determine how we will resume partial in-class teaching. We have learned a lot, but most of all, in these uncharted waters, there is no quick and easy route to return to what will be our “new normal”.

From yesterday’s announcement we learned that the *BC Restart Plan* is a four-phase process. A full explanation of these phases can be found on the following pages. No specific decisions have been made about the timelines or the format for returning to school, and no decisions will be made without further input from Provincial Health Officer Dr. Bonnie Henry. Return to school measures also require that the virus transmission rate remains low or is in decline.

There are also going to be requirements and routines that we will have to implement within the building and as part of a partial reopening. This could include smaller class sizes with increased space between desks, alternating attendance arrangements, frequent hand washing or sanitizing, wearing non-medical masks and a thorough and comprehensive cleaning plan.

What it all boils down to is that we must first and foremost ensure everyone in our King David family is safe if they come to our building. We will be looking in the coming days for more information from the Minister of Education, Rob Fleming, and we will continue to do the work we need to be ready for a partial opening. With so many unknowns we still must ask for your patience and we will keep you apprised of more developments as they come.

We are very grateful for the support and encouragement we have received from our families. In times of uncertainty and challenge, the true essence of a community shows itself clearly. What we have experienced in these weeks is kindness, care, and tremendous sense of togetherness. We very much look forward to a time when we can all experience that in person.

Best Regards,

Alex Monchamp
Deputy Head of School

The BC Restart Plan

<p>Phase 1 (Where we are today)</p>	<p>Essential services and others able to continue operations under existing public health orders and guidelines.</p>
<p>Phase 2 (Mid-May onward)</p>	<p>Under enhanced protocols:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • restoration of health services, including rescheduling elective surgery • medically related services (dentistry, physiotherapy, RMT, chiropractors, speech therapy, physical therapy and similar services) • retail • hair salons/barbers and other personal service establishments • in-person counselling • restaurants/cafes/pubs (with sufficient distancing measures) • museums, art galleries, libraries • office-based worksites • recreation/sports • parks, beaches and outdoor spaces (parks that can accommodate physical distancing will be open for day use only beginning May 14, 2020) • child care • small social gatherings (2-6 people) • recalling the provincial legislature
<p>Phase 3 (June-September, if transmission rate remains low or in decline)</p>	<p>Under enhanced protocols:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hotels and resorts (June) • Parks – broader opening (overnight camping to reopen June 1) • Film industry, beginning with domestic productions (June/July) • Select entertainment – movies and symphony, but not large concerts (July) • Post-secondary education – mix of online and in-class (September) • K-12 education – partial return in June; full return in September (further announcements expected in the coming weeks)
<p>Phase 4 (TBD) – conditional on at least one of wide vaccination; community immunity or broad successful treatments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large gatherings, such as conventions, live audience professional sports and concerts • International tourism

Stages for Return to School

Education stages for K-12 students
Stage 5 Suspend all in-class instruction for all grades and students. Remote and online learning for all students.
Stage 4 *Current stage* In-class learning for children of essential service workers and vulnerable students. Remote and online learning continues for most students.
Stage 3 In-class learning for students in kindergarten to Grade 5 on a part-time basis. Access to in-class learning as needed for grades 6 to 12 on a part-time basis. Remote and online learning continues to be available for students.
Stage 2 In-class learning for all students in elementary school (K to 7) on a full-time basis. In-class learning for secondary students (grades 8 to 12) on a part-time basis. Remote and online learning continues to be available for secondary students.
Stage 1 A return to full in-class instruction.

Useful Links:

[B.C.'s Restart Plan](#)

https://news.gov.bc.ca/files/BG_Parks_and_Sites_and_In-Class_Learning.pdf