



# Continuity of Learning Plan January 2022 School District 60: Peace River North

This plan will be available at <https://www.prn.bc.ca/resources/covid-19/>

If you have school specific questions please contact your school administrator.

For other district questions please contact:

Jarrod Bell  
Director of Instruction  
250-262-6011  
[jbell@prn.bc.ca](mailto:jbell@prn.bc.ca)

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## Preamble

School District 60 aims to provide in-person instruction as much as possible during the pandemic. We ask that all students, parents, and staff participate in the additional safety measures in order to keep our schools open and everyone safe.

You can find more information from the Government of British Columbia at <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/covid-19-safe-schools>

## Health & Safety

Our Communicable Disease Plan has been updated and is available on our COVID-19 resource page <https://www.prn.bc.ca/resources/covid-19/> . Since the beginning of the pandemic we have added some updates to the plan including

- Enhanced attention to physical distancing strategies - increased awareness, plexiglass added to identified areas, floor markers to manage traffic flow
- Hand Hygiene - additional sanitization stations being installed in all locations
- Masks available for staff and students
- Daily Health Check - staff, students, and scheduled visitors must complete a daily self-check
  - A web daily health check and app is available at <https://www.k12dailycheck.gov.bc.ca/healthcheck>

Additional measures for January 2022 Provincial Health Order include

- Phased restart with students returning on January 10, 2022.
- Students of health care workers, vulnerable students, or families in need can have their children attend. Parents should contact their school Principal.
- No large gatherings (switching to virtual meetings & virtual assemblies)
- Spacing where possible and staggering breaks/lunch hours etc
- No visitor access unless they are providing supports to learning or food programs as determined by the school Principal
- Pause on tournaments

Each school will be working with their local Health and Safety Committee on specifics to their school.

In addition to changes to meet the Provincial Health Order, school personnel will be planning for potential functional closures of schools due to staffing shortages. More on that later in this document.

## Mental Health

During these uncertain and challenging times it is normal to feel worried and overwhelmed. Children and teens react, in part, on what they see from the adults around them. When parents and caregivers deal with issues surrounding COVID-19 calmly and confidently, they can provide the best support for their children. Parents and

caregivers can be more reassuring to others around them, especially children, if they are better prepared. For more information please see <https://www.prn.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2020/05/Managing-Stress-and-Anxiety-Supporting-our-Children.pdf>

Further resources have been developed by Surrey Schools and Fraser Health Rapid Response Team and shared with the province. These videos can help adults and students with conversations about mental health.

<https://www.surreyschools.ca/mentalhealth/videoresources/Pages/default.aspx>

Professional development opportunities have been provided and additional sessions are being made available for staff.

## Daily Health Check

Families must perform a daily health check of students prior to attending school. Staff will perform a daily health check as well. See <https://www.k12dailycheck.gov.bc.ca/healthcheck> for the daily health check. Results of the health check for students do not need to be submitted to the school. If students or staff are sick they cannot attend school.

## Masks in Schools

The following excerpts are taken from

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/administration/kindergarten-to-grade-12/safe-caring-orderly/k-12-covid-19-health-safety-guidelines.pdf>

**K-12 STAFF:** All K-12 staff are required to wear a mask indoors in schools and on school buses. Staff may wear a face shield in addition, but must wear a mask under the face shield.

**K-12 STUDENTS:** All students in Kindergarten to Grade 12 are required to wear a mask indoors in schools and on school buses. Students may wear a face shield in addition, but must wear a mask under the face shield. Staff should utilize positive and inclusive approaches to engage students in the use of masks, and should not employ measures that are punitive or stigmatizing in nature.

The use of masks should not reduce or replace other more effective infection prevention and exposure control measures in schools, such as:

- ensuring students and staff are aware of their responsibility to perform a daily health check, and to stay home when they are sick or if required to self-isolate;
- daily cleaning and disinfection of frequently touched surfaces; and
- frequent hand hygiene. These measures provide multiple layers of protection that reduce the risk of transmission.

VISITORS: All visitors must wear a mask when they are inside the school.

Exceptions exist where parents identify a behavioural or health reason to the school Principal. See page 19 & 20 of the [guidelines link](#) for more information.

If a student or staff member develops symptoms while at school, they must wear a mask while they are preparing to go home. [Review COVID-19 mask use information](#) from the BCCDC.

## Reminder: Masks Required in K-12



Exceptions exist where parents have identified a **Behavioural** or **Health** reason to the School Principal

### Visitors when allowed

Visitors and volunteers will need to schedule in advance their entry into schools when they are allowed by Provincial or Northern Health directions. Health and Safety expectations for visitors and volunteers will include but are not limited to

- hand washing / sanitizing upon entry

- maintaining 2m distance from others
- completing and acknowledging a health self-check
- providing contact information for contact tracing
- Masks are required for all visitors to schools and administration buildings

## Pickup and Drop off of students

As outside adults need to be scheduled in advance to enter our schools, we ask that parents do not enter the school to pick up or drop off students. Please make arrangements with your school office if midday arrival/dismissal is needed for an appointment.

## Functional Closures / Transitioning to Other Stages

Depending on the state of the pandemic the Provincial Health Officer with the Ministry of Education may direct us into other stages of service. Full time, in-person learning is the goal of SD60. That may not always be possible and our schools and teachers will be prepared to continue educational programming if a change in stage occurs. We are encouraging our intermediate, middle, and secondary teachers to continue with an online learning management system like the Learn60 Google Classroom to support a change in stage.

A Functional Closure may occur when we cannot safely provide an educational program at a school due to high levels of staff absenteeism and the inability to replace staff. We ask that staff, students and parents take steps to help keep schools open.

### **Steps you can take to Help Keep Schools Open**

- Do the Daily Health Check
- Stay home when sick
- Practice Hand Hygiene
- Wear a Mask
- Respect Personal Space
- Reduce Crowding
- Get Vaccinated



## Staggered Times

Depending on the school context there may be a need to stagger start and end times as well as lunch and break times. Schedules will be communicated by schools if this occurs.

## General Ventilation and Air Filtration

SD60 has taken the following steps in regards to HVAC

- Hired a utility person as of the quarter before the pandemic that looks after all filter changers and physically visits all the Unit ventilators on site.
- Change all of the filters on a regular schedule
- Working with an engineering firm on all of our indoor air
- Engaged HVAC contractors to work on the programming to meet and or exceed the ASHRAE standards in our classrooms.

In addition schools are encouraged to move appropriate activities outside depending on the weather.

Further information on ventilation in SD60 is available at <https://www.prn.bc.ca/ventilation-information-by-school/>

## COVID-19 Protocols - if a student becomes ill while at school

Steps are in place if a student becomes ill while at school including required masking, and sanitization of space where the student has waited until parents or caregivers pick up.

## Case or Outbreak Communication

In the event of a case or outbreak at a school, Northern Health will take the lead on communications. Schools and the district will communicate based on direction from Northern Health.

## Options for Students and Families

We understand that this is a challenging time and it is important to know that families have options for their child's education. Students in School District 60 have the following options.

1. In-person attendance at our brick and mortar schools
2. Online Learning programs with a Blended Kindergarten to Grade 9 model, and Courses for Grades 10-12 - see Key Learning Centre <http://www.keylearning.ca/> or call 250-261-5660 for more information
3. Homeschooling where the educational program is provided by a parent. The Key Learning Centre can support families with registration for homeschooling.

No matter the option chosen, children in British Columbia must be registered through a BC School as per the School Act. Should families choose to leave their brick and mortar school at the beginning of or during the school year it may be challenging to re-enter during the year depending on class sizes or learning group organization. In cases where a family and student wish to re-enter mid-year and a space is not available at their home school, an alternate space at a nearby school will be sought out by the district for the remainder of the year.

## Band

Band will continue with attention to the guidelines provided by the [British Columbia Music Educators' Association and the Coalition for Music Education in British Columbia Guidance for Music Classes](#).

## Sports

Games can continue between schools at this time (January 2022). All tournaments have been paused.

## Frequently Asked Questions

Our COVID-19 resources page at <https://www.prn.bc.ca/resources/covid-19/> has an FAQ section which we are updating.



# Links to Resources

Province of BC - Safe Schools COVID-19

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/covid-19-safe-schools>

BCCDC Health Guidance for K-12 School Settings

[http://www.bccdc.ca/Health-Info-Site/Documents/COVID\\_public\\_guidance/Guidance-k-12-schools.pdf](http://www.bccdc.ca/Health-Info-Site/Documents/COVID_public_guidance/Guidance-k-12-schools.pdf)

Provincial COVID-19 Health Safety Guidelines for K-12 Settings

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/administration/kindergarten-to-grade-12/safe-caring-orderly/k-12-covid-19-health-safety-guidlines.pdf>

SD60 Communicable Disease Plan

See our COVID-19 resource page at <https://www.prn.bc.ca/resources/covid-19/> for the latest information

Daily Health Check -

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/kindergarten-to-grade-12/covid/daily-health-check-english.pdf> (PDF)

<https://www.k12dailycheck.gov.bc.ca/healthcheck?execution=e1s1> (Web)

<https://apps.apple.com/us/app/bc-k-12-daily-health-checker/id1547334827> (iOS APP)

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.qp.k12App> (Android APP)