



Return to School COVID Information- January 2022

Friday, January 7th

Dear Dave Kandal Elementary Families,

We hope everyone had a safe and healthy winter break. We miss our students and look forward to welcoming them back on Monday. Thank you for your patience during this past week as our staff have become familiar with the Provincial Health Officer's updated Health & Safety Guidelines.

As we plan to re-open our school on Monday, January 10th, it is imperative that we do so with safety as our priority. It is important that you, and your child(ren), understand what our return to school will look like, so you may prepare as a family. Please review and discuss the following pages as a family prior to school start.

Masks

All students, school staff, and visitors must wear a mask inside the school. Please send your child(ren) to school with 1 or 2 masks daily. The office has some masks available for those who forget theirs.

Daily Health Check

Families must review a daily health check each morning before students come to school. Check out this app: [K-12 Health Check \(gov.bc.ca\)](https://gov.bc.ca)

Stay At Home When Sick

Students and staff must stay home when they are sick. Students and staff who have cold, flu or COVID-like symptoms must stay home until their symptoms improve. If a student becomes ill while at school, students will need to go home and stay home until their symptoms improve.

Entrance & Exits

To prevent crowding in the hallways, staff and students will continue to use their exterior classroom doors to enter and exit the school. Parents are reminded to keep their distance from others when dropping off and picking up their child(ren).

Hand Washing

Students and staff will continue to follow rigorous hand washing routines, including upon entry into the building, before and after breaks, before and after eating, before and after the bathroom, and before and after using shared materials.

Visitor Access

Our front doors will continue to be locked. Calling ahead and/or making an appointment are encouraged. Our phone number is 604-856-7342. Please knock on the front door when you arrive at the school and the office staff will happily greet you. **Visitors who enter the building will be required to wear a mask and complete a daily health check.**

Gatherings

Gatherings, events and meetings must be hosted virtually.

Classroom Spacing

Tables and desks have been arranged to encourage spacing and limit face-to-face interactions. Students must spread out throughout the classroom when working. For example, classes cannot gather altogether at the carpet area together.

Sports Teams

School teams cannot play against each other at this time. Lunch and after school sports can continue for Dave Kandal students at Dave Kandal Elementary.

Outside Time

As a reminder, we will be going outside at recess and lunchtime, weather permitting. Please remember to dress your child(ren) for the weather. Be mindful that it may take a few extra minutes for your child(ren) to enter the classroom as safety protocols are being observed.

Remote Learning

In the event of a class or school closure due to staff and/or student illness, we may have to switch to online learning from home. Families will need a laptop or tablet with internet access. Teachers are planning for this possibility and will communicate directly with their families if this situation occurs.

As a staff, we are ready and excited to welcome your children back to school, while adhering to the safety guidelines provided to us by the PHO and the Ministry. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we work forward during these uncertain times. Please do not hesitate to contact the school as needed.

Thank you.