



Safe Return to School

Welcome back to Hillside Traditional Academy

The Health and Safety of our students and staff will be our number one priority as we head into the 2020-2021 school year. This document is intended to provide families with an overview of the measures that we will be taking at Hillside Traditional Academy to ensure that students and staff will be safe.

The school board office and our local health and safety committees will continually review these guidelines and they will be adjusted as more information becomes available. Thank you for your understanding.



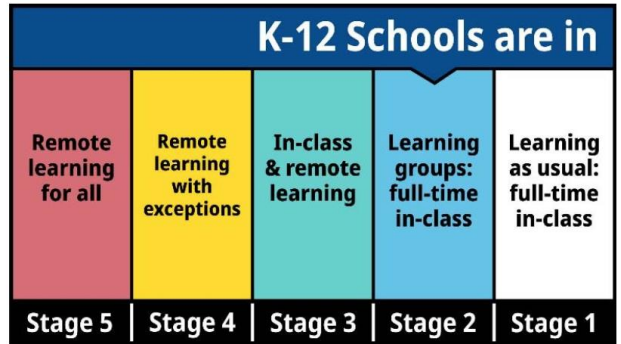
Learning Groups

A **Learning Group** is a group of students and staff who remain together throughout the year. Within the learning group, physical contact is discouraged, but a two-meter physical distance does not need to be maintained. For the most part, learning groups consist of 2 classrooms that share an adjoining room. Each learning group will be a maximum of 60 students and staff.

At recess and lunch breaks, learning groups are assigned to specific play areas and are supervised for distancing and safe play. They may interact at other times throughout the day.

Interactions with those outside of the learning group will be limited and will require the two-meter physical distancing.

Any staff not included in the learning group (LST, SLP, counsellors, youth care workers, music and PE teacher, librarian, TTOCs) will distance themselves from students in the classroom.



→ [B.C. K-12 Restart Plan](#)

→ [COVID-19 Guidance for K-12 School Settings](#)

Attendance

Hillside Traditional Academy students will have the opportunity to be in school full-time, five days per week. September 10 and 11 will be orientation days for Grades 1-6 with full time instruction for all Grades 1-6 students beginning on *Monday, September 14*. Kindergarten students will have gradual entry until their full-time instruction begins on *Wednesday, September 23*. Please see the schedule on page 5.

A modified bell schedule will be implemented to reflect the staggered recess and lunch breaks.

All students will enter and exit through their exterior classroom door. (First day is an exception to entering the classroom – see email)

Parents who wish to participate in a gradual return to full-time instruction in the month of September should contact the office.



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Before Coming to School



Parents are reminded to do a daily health check to assess their child for symptoms of illness before sending them to school. If your child has any symptoms of illness, it is important that they do not attend school.

Reinforce physical distancing and minimize physical contact. Some talking points:

- Don't forget to wash your hands at your classroom sink when entering and before exiting the classroom.
- Don't forget to give other people space when we are waiting to get into the classroom.
- Don't forget to keep your hands to yourself.
- Don't forget to spread out while playing outside at recess and lunch.

Lunch and Snack Procedures

All children will eat snacks and lunch in their designated classroom.



The following guidelines will be followed:

- All students and staff will wash their hands before and after eating snacks or lunch
- Students will sit in their designated spot in class for lunch.
- Snacks and lunch are supervised by the teacher
- There is no sharing of food and drinks, including homemade or bought foods such as birthday treats.
- Students will pack home their garbage and left-over food.

Washrooms

All washrooms will be cleaned at least twice a day. Each cohort will be assigned a specific washroom block to use. Only two students at a time will be permitted in each washroom.

Recess and Playground Equipment

Students will remain in their assigned learning group for recess activities. Each learning group will be assigned to specific areas of the schoolyard. These areas will be rotated for equitable play. Each Cohort will be outside for a designated amount of time.

Recess and Lunch breaks will be staggered to assist in physical distancing while promoting play and physical activity.

Hillside Traditional Academy School Day Schedule

8:25 Warning Bell

8:30 Classroom Instruction begins

9:30-9:55 First Staggered Recess Break

10:00-10:25 Second Staggered Recess Break

*After each recess break, regular instruction continues for each group

11:30-11:55 First Staggered Outside Lunch Break

12:00-12:25 Second Staggered Outside Lunch Break

*After each outside lunch break, regular instruction continues for each group

2:15-2:23 Dismissal



School Supplies

Student supplies should be brought to school on the first day. However, extra supplies will be sent home and kept at home until the supplies are needed. The teachers will communicate when supplies are needed to be brought into the classroom. Extra supplies will not be stored and shared in the classroom.

Water Fountains

At this time, water fountains will not be accessible to students. Students are encouraged to bring full personal water bottles to school.

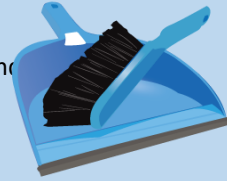




Safe Return to School

Cleaning and Disinfecting

Hillside Traditional Academy will be cleaned and disinfected in accordance with the BCCDC's Cleaning and Disinfectants for Public Settings document.



At Hillside Traditional Academy, this looks like:

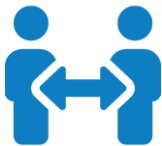
- Students taking home any garbage they bring to school (pack in/pack out)
- Enforcing 'no sharing' policy for food, technology, art supplies, etc.
- Disabled drinking fountains
- Protocols for cleaning common devices like photocopiers and technology
- Custodians on dayshift for daytime disinfecting requirements and afternoon shift for remaining cleaning duties and disinfecting
- Frequently touched classroom surfaces cleaned (including doorknobs, light switches, faucets, hand dryers etc.)



Hand Hygiene

All Hillside Traditional Academy students will wash their hands regularly.

- When they arrive at school
- Whenever they enter or exit the classroom
- Before and after any breaks (recess, lunch)
- Before and after eating and drinking (excluding their personal water bottle kept at their desk)
- Before and after using an indoor learning, space used by multiple cohorts (gym, library etc.)
- After using the toilet
- After sneezing or coughing
- Whenever hands are visibly dirty



Traffic Flow within the Building

Hillside Traditional Academy will use a variety of visual cues to help indicate traffic patterns. There will be arrows and floor markers to help maintain physical distancing and understand traffic patterns in the school.

Traffic Flow outside the Building

At this time, the traffic loop at the front of the school will be closed to vehicles. Parents will need to park in the parent parking lot or in the surrounding neighbourhood for student drop off.

Classroom Layout

Each classroom is set up to allow as much physical distancing and efficient cleaning as possible.

To enable additional cleaning and maximum space, unnecessary items have been removed such as:

- Removable carpets
- Couches and extra chairs
- Soft, plush items that are not easily disinfected

Each classroom sink area will have adequate soap for appropriate hand washing. Portable classroom will have hand sanitizer available. Students in portables will also have access to a designated sink within the school.

Personal Protective Equipment

The Mission Public School District has ordered 2 reusable masks for each student and staff member. The district is also sourcing face shields and dividers to help with staff who interact outside of the learning groups.

- Students and staff have the option to wear a mask in the classroom
- TTOCs, EAs, specialist teachers and other staff must wear masks when working near students across different learning groups.



Safe Return to School



Subject-specific Information



Music and Computers

Music and computer instruction will continue, but it will look different. Singing and playing wind instruments are postponed at this time. Music and computer instruction will take place in the classroom and the music/computer teacher will travel between classes.

Physical Education

Hillside Traditional Academy will continue to provide physical education instruction. Activities that support physical distancing and limited physical contact will be encouraged. Sharing equipment is only allowed within a cohort. Equipment shared between cohorts will be cleaned, disinfected, or quarantined for 72 hours. Students must wash or sanitize their hands before and after physical education classes.



Family and School Communication

Families can stay in contact with Hillside Traditional Academy through the school website, email, and phone. *Families who need to enter Hillside Traditional Academy must book an appointment in advance.* Family members with a scheduled appointment will need to determine if it is safe for them to attend. Family members may be requested to wear a non-medical face mask.

Families who are contacted to pick up a sick child can and should come to the school immediately.

Assemblies and Special Events

Gatherings that bring multiple learning groups/cohorts of students together are not permitted at this time. This includes things like performances, book fairs, guest speakers, in-person meet-the-teacher events and group fundraisers.

Other opportunities for virtual assemblies etc. will be investigated.

Vulnerable Learners

As much as possible, vulnerable learners will be included in classroom activities with their usual teacher, peer group, and EA as part of a learning group.

- Speech language pathologists, counsellors, youth care workers, Indigenous liaison workers, and other specialist teachers will be available and will follow the district Health and Safety guidelines

- School-based Teams will collaborate with families and outside agencies as appropriate

Assessment & Communicating Student Learning

Teachers will continue to assess students throughout the school year. We will continue to support the implementation of assessment for learning strategies by providing teachers with professional learning opportunities. These opportunities will allow teachers to increase their capacity to effectively employ assessment that honours student voice, choice, and equitable access to learning.

We are committed to communicating student learning to students and families. This will be done in formal and informal ways throughout the year.

Extracurricular Activities

Inter-school competitions are not permitted at this time. Other options for extracurricular activities that follow COVID-19 protocols may be available later in the year.



Safe Return to School

While Mission Public Schools is making every effort to ensure schools are safe, clean, and joyful places for learning, we know that for a variety of reasons some members of the community cannot attend their regular school at this time. Please find below, an outline of the various options available to students.

Holding Spots

Mission will be planning to hold seats for students that enroll in Summit Learning Centre for 2020. Please be aware that whenever students transfer schools or programs, there is inevitable loss of learning and delays in returning to class. Further, in order to honour the seat holding plan, it is expected students enrolled in Summit DL fully engage in that program if they wish to return to their regular school in the future.

Parents considering their options should discuss with the current school principal, Ms. Hamel. Please be aware that whenever students transfer schools or programs, there is inevitable loss of learning and delays in returning to class.

For all education options for families in Mission please see the memo from Mr. Wilson, our superintendent, on our website.

EDUCATION OPTIONS FOR FAMILIES IN MISSION

Please see below for a variety of options parents in Mission may consider as alternatives to their regular school placement.

Summit Learning Centre	Distributed Learning. Students work from home under the direction of a certified teacher. Can transition to regular school at specified times during the year.
Home Schooling	Parent directed program. Can transition to regular school at specified times during the year. In school seat may not be guaranteed.
Hospital Homebound Program	Certified Teacher provides support for students at home with significant health impairment issue. Can return to school as deemed medically safe to do so.
Other District DL Programs	Distributed Learning via another School District. Students work from home under the direction of a certified teacher. Seat at regular school is not guaranteed.