



Re-Entry Plan highlights for Inclusive Education

Messaging for Parents:

Our publicly posted BRSD Re-Entry plan is designed to address the general needs of all of our students.

Schools are working to plan for and implement these guidelines in ways that are specific to their individual sites and student populations.

We would like to also highlight some of the additional work being done by the Division to ensure students with unique needs are being supported.

Schools are required to take appropriate precautions to prevent the spread of Covid 19.

Safety Measures have been outlined on page 6 of the BRSD School Re-entry Plan (Fall 2020):

The provincial school re-entry plan does not depend on one single strategy, but includes many strategies that work together to create the safest environment possible within the school community. These strategies include: extra cleaning, disinfecting and safety measures, personal protective equipment (Masks and more), hand washing and hand sanitizing, screening for illness every day, strict illness protocols, cohorts and physical distancing and limiting contact between groups of students.

You can also find details about [safety measures](#) on the BRSD website.

We recognize there are students who are not able to wear masks and/or physically distance from others due to medical, physical or psychological needs. If your children cannot wear a mask, please talk directly to your school administration.

Parents of students with pre-existing medical conditions must complete the [pre-existing conditions form](#) and provide it to the school prior to the student attending. This will support the identification of baseline health for your child.

Schools will work with parents to individualize a plan for students with complex needs which will include considerations for safe entry and exit from the school building, transitioning in hallways and between classrooms, etc. A staggered start may also be suggested to ensure a smooth welcome back transition.

In determining the level of support available for inclusive education students, many factors are taken into consideration such as: the child's level of independence, personal care needs, equipment requirements, identified special interventions (SLP, OT, PT, Vision, Hearing consultation), specialized materials and adult proximity needs.

It is important to note that educational assistants often work with more than one student in a classroom and between classrooms. Their responsibilities are determined by their school administrator and they are expected to be responsive to changing and diverse student needs. It is important to note that we cannot permit any staff to provide service to students in a home environment. -- EAs, SLPAs, FSLWs, teachers or anyone else. Service will either be in person at school or by electronic means.

It is unknown at this time the exact number of students that will attend in-person and those that will choose teacher directed at-home learning. As a result, the specifics of each school's plan will be finalized once the numbers are confirmed and the teachers return to school.

Any contracted services must follow the health and safety protocols outlined by the division and will be required to attend by pre-scheduled appointments only.

Considerations for specialized equipment (walkers, wheelchairs, standing frames, specific sensory materials, etc):

- The drop off/pick-up, use and storage of specialized equipment and materials will need to be arranged with the school.
- Schools will not be able to accommodate daily drop off and pick up of large specialized equipment (Except wheelchairs that students arrive and leave in)
- Parents and the school will collaborate on the development of an IPP specific to the unique needs of your child.
- Parent cooperation is essential to ensuring proper sanitation of specialized equipment

Parameters on cohorting for students with complex needs who are not able to wear Personal Protective Equipment such as a mask:

- When students are in more than one cohort, administration will work together with parents to decide what is the best possible way to mitigate risk of transmission for their child and others, ie. the student going into another cohort such as an option will be required to physically distance from others if they are not able to wear PPE.
- Cohorts will be limited to a maximum 3 in the best interest of all students and staff.
- Access to sensory spaces will be on a scheduled time frame and sanitization of items used will occur between use.
- Where students require the use of sensory items such as fidgets or specialized seating within classrooms, schools will attempt to limit the items to one individual where possible, or items will be disinfected prior to and after each use.
- Please contact your school or check their website for a list of supplies required.

Transportation arrangements:

- Please ensure you are in communication with the Director of Transportation regarding any specialized transportation needs and/or changes that you are considering since the end of June. It is important that your school is also aware of how you are choosing to transport your child to school. The Transportation Department can be reached by email at transportation@brsd.ab.ca