

VSIE COVID-19 SAFETY PLAN for STAGE 3

1. Maintaining physical distance

- During phase 3, only one class with teachers and students per floor in the main building and the primary building will attend at a time. No more than 7 students will be in a classroom in the main building and no more than 6 students in a classroom upstairs in the primary building
- A distance of 2 metres (6 feet) between everyone in a classroom will be maintained wherever possible by spacing work stations and managing schedules and tasks.

2. Cleaning and hygiene

- Hand-washing facilities are on each floor. Staff and students will wash hands upon entering the school building, before and after breaks, before and after handling common tools and equipment and after sneezing or coughing into hands or a tissue. As much as possible, materials will not be shared and each student will have their own supplies. As well, hand sanitizer will be available in each classroom.
- A cleaning protocol for washrooms will be posted in each washroom. All common areas and surfaces, equipment, tools, light switches and door handles are sanitized daily. Our cleaners have adequate training and have researched effective cleaning agents for use in a school.
- Any unnecessary tools or equipment that may elevate the risk of transmission, including items like coffee makers and shared utensils and plates will be removed.
- Washing hands is expected as you enter the building, before eating, when you return from outside and any other time a responsible adult feels it is appropriate.

3. Policies for staff safety:

- During Phase 3, resource people from outside the school community will not be brought in to work with student groups.
- Anyone who has had symptoms of COVID-19 in the last 10 days must self-isolate at home; symptoms include fever, chills, new or worsening cough, shortness of breath, sore throat and new muscle aches or headache. If a doctor or nurse practitioner confirms and writes a note that it is NOT Covid, staff may return to work before the 10 day period, when feeling better.
- Anyone under the direction of the provincial health officer must self-isolate according to those instructions.
- If a staff member starts to feel ill while at school, he or she should immediately notify the administration. Arrangements will be made for the person to travel home safely and for an alternate person to assume the staff person's duties.
- Both indoor and outdoor teaching spaces will be organized to enable teachers and students to maintain 2 meters of separation.

4. Communication plans and training

- Teachers and teaching assistants will be trained in the social distancing and cleaning measures that are in place before beginning work at VSIE.
- Occupancy limits for Phase 3 are posted for each classroom.
- Effective handwashing procedures are posted at all handwashing stations.
- Protocols for entering the school buildings are posted at the entrances.
- Administrators, teachers, and teaching assistants will work together to ensure policies and procedures are being followed.

5. Monitoring and updating plans as needed

- If a new area of concern arises, or a current policy does not seem to be working, administrators will work with staff to update policies and procedures.
- Any staff member or parent can raise safety concerns with the school administration who will work with staff to resolve any identified safety issues.

6. Assess and address risks from resuming operations

- When students enter the gate, they will be greeted by staff member(s). They will be greeted and asked a verbal check-in to ensure they are feeling well and asked to go wash their hands, if the washing station is clear to do so.
- Staff will meet to review schedules, protocols and policies so that everyone is clear on how to resume school under Phase 3.