

Fact Sheet – Secondary Schools

The Richmond School District, in consultation with our partner groups, has created a secondary school learning structure designed to focus on creating a safe and healthy environment and ensuring our students continue to have as many course and program options as possible. We will ensure that all requirements of the Ministry of Education Restart Plan are met and that our students are welcomed back to a safe and welcoming school environment. For most students, a return to school will look as follows:

Schedule

- Secondary students will return to school on Thursday, September 10.
- Schools will provide instruction on a quarter system in cohorts.
- The year will be divided into four terms of 10 weeks and students will take two courses every 10 weeks.
- Secondary students will attend school in-person each day.
- Students in grades eight and nine will attend school in-person full time.
- Students in grades ten through twelve will attend school in-person for a half-day every day of the week with half of each class attending in the morning and half in the afternoon.
- This schedule will allow the great majority of our students to take the courses they signed up for in the spring and for the school to adhere strictly to the maximum cohort size.

Learning Groups and In-Person Instruction

- A learning group, or cohort, is a group of students and staff who remain together throughout the school quarter, semester or year and who primarily interact with each other. Learning groups were recommended by the Provincial Health Officer to help reduce the transmission of COVID-19.
- Learning groups are limited to 120 people maximum.
- Students can socialize with peers in different learning groups if they are outdoors but are expected to minimize physical contact, as noted in the provincial guidelines.

Vulnerable Students and Students with Diverse Learning Needs

- Full-time in person instruction will be available for students at all grade levels with disabilities/diverse abilities and students requiring additional support.
- Students who are identified as being immunocompromised or as having complex medical needs will have the option of full at-home support.