

Dear Parents of Khalsa School of the Fraser Valley,

Vaheguru Ji Ka Khalsa Vaheguru Ji Ki Fateh!

As you know, we are living in a very unique time due to COVID-19. On July 29, the BC Government announced that schools will be returning full-time, in-person in September. Our school will be starting for students on **Tuesday September 8**.

We understand that this is a concerning time for all parents and parents have a lot of questions. We want to protect our children while at the same time we want to ensure that they receive the best education possible so that they can grow into the best possible versions of themselves.

We wanted to let you know some of the precautions we will be taking to ensure school is safe when students come back. Being a small school, we are confident that we will be able to implement these protocols in a very comprehensive way as compared to other, larger schools.

1) The school will be divided into 4 learning groups with each group having no more than 60 students, as per the BC Ministry of Education guidelines. The 4 learning groups will be as follows: a) Kindergarten, b) Grade 1 + 2, c) Grade 3 + 4, d) Grade 5 to 8. Each learning group will have separate Gurdwara assemblies and will only be interacting with students within their group including at Lunch and at Recess. This will reduce contacts in the school and limit the potential for transmission of the virus. Interactions with any member outside of the learning group must happen while keeping 2 metre distancing including teachers outside of the learning group such as the Punjabi and Kirtan teacher. Punjabi and Kirtan teacher will be wearing face shields as they are outside the learning groups.

2) We will be disinfecting the school regularly. Twice a day we will be disinfecting high-touch surfaces such as door knobs. Every day after school there will be a deep cleaning.

3) We are asking parents to monitor their children for any signs of sickness on a daily basis. Absolutely do not send your child to school if they are sick. Every parent must submit an emergency contact to the school of someone who can quickly pick up your child if they are exhibiting any signs of being sick. If a child at school is determined to be sick, they will be isolated from other students and parents or the emergency contact will be called to pick up the student right away. Once school starts, only staff and students will be welcome inside the school. Parents will only be allowed access at the front entry of the school and not further.

4) We will be encouraging students to wash their hands frequently or use hand sanitizer. Hand hygiene will be very important this year. We will also be discouraging the sharing of items between students. Students should label their personal items and not share them with their classmates.

5) Students on buses will wear masks. We will be providing 2 free reusable cotton face masks to every student. Seating plans will be made with buses loaded back to front in the morning and offloaded front to back in the afternoon. Siblings must sit on the same seat. Buses will be disinfected after each trip.

On non-COVID related matters, parents are welcome to come the week of August 31 to purchase uniform and get masks. Remember to buy school supplies before the beginning of the school year - please find the class-wise lists of school supplies

here: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1TruSOzBcZ8w_YukCDYhu-C6NjboUzTa

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me to discuss. With Guru Ji's blessings, we are confident we will have a good and safe year.

Sincerely,

Japnaam Singh