



Pythagoras Academy

8671 Odlin Crescent

Richmond, BC, V6X 1G1

TEL: 604-370-0199

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E-mail: info@pythagorasacademy.ca

Pythagoras Academy Restart Plan 2020-2021

Health and Safety

We will provide general cleaning and disinfecting of the premises at least once every 24 hours including items that only a single student uses, like an individual desk or locker. We will continue cleaning and disinfecting of frequently touched surfaces at least twice every 24 hours. We also installed plexiglass barriers at the front office.

We will have cohorts of 60 people or less. Anyone who interacts with students outside of their cohort will be asked to wear a mask and maintain physical distancing of 2m. School-wide events will not be held in person. All in-person afterschool programs will be cancelled or moved online.

The kitchen staff will wash their hands before and after handling food and will wear gloves. Students will be asked to wash or sanitize their hands frequently (e.g., when arriving at school, before and after recess and lunch breaks, after using the bathroom, before leaving at the end of the day). We purchased re-usable masks for each student and staff. We also have disposable masks for emergency uses. We installed mask storage racks for each classroom for students to hang their masks inside a silicone mask container. We prepared face shields for staff when they need to get close to the students for any necessary reasons such as first-aid. The kitchen staff will wear face shields when distributing food. We prepared face shields for each student as well.

We will keep a list of the date, names and contact information for all visitors who enter the school. We will ask all visitors to confirm they have completed their daily health check before entering the school. We will prepare a fan in each classroom to improve the air circulation.

Our School bus service is cancelled for the school year of 2020-2021. We will replace field trips with in school presentations. There will be no bus transportation in the school year of 2020-2021.

When directed by public health, Pythagoras Academy will provide notification to staff or students' families if a staff member or student becomes ill at home or at school, including if they display symptoms of Covid-19. We will close the school on a required day of instruction if we believe the health or safety of students or staff is endangered.

Staff Training

New staff will be trained on- September 2, 2020 regarding the Health and Safety Protocols. These protocols are consistent with the ones implemented in June 2020. These include:

- Handwashing protocols
- Training on traffic flow in hallways
- Alternate staff room (maintaining physical distancing of 2 m, being aware of the posted limits to room capacity)
- Responsibility for Health Self-Assessments
- Hand Sanitizing stations



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- Student access to water
- First Aid procedures
- What to do if a student or staff member develops Covid-19 symptoms while at school
- Elearning Program

All returning staff will be trained on September 3, 2020 regarding the Health and Safety protocols. They will review the above topics, as well as:

- Cohort training
- Specific training on maintaining 2 m distancing when working with students outside of cohort (learning assistants, Success Centre, TOCs, Specialist teachers)
- Use of masks for teachers
- New drop off and pick up plan
- New library plan
- Afterschool programs
- Afterschool care
- What to do if a student or staff member develops Covid-19 symptoms while at school
- Physical barriers in front office
- Face shields
- Protocols for student bathroom use
- Limiting indoor time with buddy classes
- Encouraging outdoor learning -Special Program training
- Music, PE, Musical Theatre

Learning Groups

We have divided our students into the following cohorts (learning groups):

JK: 41 students plus 6 homeroom teachers and 5 specialists (52)

K: 36 students plus 2 Success Centre teachers and 6 specialists (44)

Grade 1: 40 students plus 3 homeroom teachers (43)

Grade 2: 39 students plus 2 homeroom teachers (41)

Grade 3 & Grade 4: 49 students plus 3 teachers (52)

Grade 5 - 7: 45 students plus 5 homeroom or subject teachers (50)

We will have staggered lunches and recesses. When teachers work with students outside of their assigned cohort, they are strongly encouraged to wear a mask and must maintain a 2 m distance from students. The cohorts will have specific play areas that will rotate on different days. Students playing outside their cohort will be asked to maintain a 2 m distance from those students not in their cohort. Students will mainly learn in their classrooms with teachers rotating to the students' classrooms. We have ordered special kits that will be used to ensure that student supplies are not shared outside of their class. Our TOCs will be encouraged to wear face masks and maintain a physical distance of two meters when they are working in any class. Where possible we will try to use TOCs for 1 or 2 cohorts only.



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Drop Off and Pick Up

We will not allow parents to enter the school building during drop off and pick up times. Parents will enter our school building only when they have an appointment with the front office staff. The drop off and pick up times will be staggered by grade to reduce the density of people around school entrances. We will also use 5 different entrances for drop off and pick up. The table below outlines the Drop Off and Pick Up Schedule:

Drop Off & Pick Up Schedule					
Grade	Time Classroom will be opened	Drop Off Time	Drop Off Location	Pick Up Time	Pick Up Location
Kindergarten	8:25am	8:25am - 8:40am	Entrance C - Kindergarten Entrance	3:20pm - 3:30pm	Entrance C - Kindergarten Entrance
Grade 1	8:15am	8:15am - 8:30am	Entrance E - Gym Entrance	3:20pm - 3:30pm	Entrance E - Gym Entrance
Grade 2	8:20am	8:20am - 8:30am	Entrance A - Front Entrance	3:20pm - 3:30pm	Entrance D - Library Entrance
Grade 3	8:20am	8:20am - 8:30am	Entrance A - Front Entrance	3:25pm - 3:30pm	Entrance A - Front Entrance
Grade 4	8:25am	8:25am - 8:40am	Entrance A - Front Entrance	3:30pm	Entrance A - Front Entrance
Grade 5 - 7	8:25am	8:25am - 8:40am	Gate E	3:30pm	Gate E
JK Group A Davinci, Kepler, Michelangelo	8:45am	8:45am - 9:00am	Entrance B - Kitchen Entrance	3:25pm - 3:30pm	Entrance B - Kitchen Entrance
JK Group B - Galileo, Donatello	8:45am	8:45am - 9:00am	Entrance B - Kitchen Entrance	3:35pm - 3:45pm	Entrance B - Kitchen Entrance
JK Afterschool Care	N/A	N/A	N/A	5:30pm or earlier	Entrance B - Kitchen Entrance



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JK students drop off from 8:45 to 9 am:

● The parents of JK students will drop off their children to the JK greeting teachers at the outside door of the south end of the school near the kitchen (Entrance B in the map). There will be a sign-in sheet posted on the JK entrance door for JK parents to sign. There will be a second form to indicate their child's health status (e.g., by signing that their child is symptom free).

Elementary students drop off:

● The parents of kindergarten students will drop off their children at the outside door at the north end of the school near the learning pods (Entrance C in the map) from 8:25 to 8:40 am and give the greeting teachers a wave.

● The parents of grade 1 students will drop off their children at the outside door of the north end of the school near the gym (Entrance E in the map) from 8:15 to 8:30 am and give the greeting teachers a wave. 14

● The parents of grade 2 and grade 3 students will drop off their children at the front entrance (Entrance A in the map) from 8:20 to 8:30 am and give the greeting teachers a wave.

● The parents of grade 4 students will drop off their children at the front entrance (Entrance A in the map) from 8:25 to 8:40 am and give the greeting teachers a wave.

● The parents of grade 5 to grade 7 will drop off their children in the school campus area or at the fence gate near the gym (Gate E in the map) at 8:25 am and let their children walk to the Learning Pods by themselves.

Late drop off: If students are late and miss the drop off window, the parents of JK to grade 4 students need to drop off their children to the front door (entrance A). The front office staff will make sure they go to their classroom safely. Grade 5 to 7 students need first to come to the front office to get the late slips by themselves and then go to their classrooms by themselves.

We will use the following entrances for Drop off and Pick Up:



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Students Drop-off Map



During pick-up times, parents will wait for students outside of the 5 school entrances. Parents of students in Grade 5 and above may choose to wait for students in their cars. We expect parents to practice maintaining a physical distance of 2 metres or 6 feet from non-family members at all times (this applies to our school parking lot and when at appointments within our school). We will ask parents to spread out while waiting outside to pick-up their children.



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JK students pick up:

- There will be a sign-out sheet posted on the JK entrance door for JK parents to sign.
- The parents of JK students will pick up their children from the JK teachers at the outside door of the south end of the school near the kitchen (Entrance B in the map) from 3:25 pm to 3:45 pm in 2 separate groups:
 - Group A from 3:25 to 3:35 pm: Davinci, Kepler, and Michaelangelo
 - Group B from 3:35 to 3:45 pm: Galileo and Donatello
- The parents of JK after school care students will pick up their children from the JK teachers at the outside door of the south end of the school near the kitchen (Entrance B in the map) at 5:30 pm.
- For JK after school care early pick up, parents can knock on the windows by Entrance B to let the after school care staff know they have arrived. The staff will then get the child ready and walk them out to their parents at Entrance B. If the after school care group is playing outdoors, parents can call the front office to have the office staff notify the after school care teachers of their arrival.

Elementary students pick up:

- The parents of kindergarten students will pick up their children from the kindergarten teachers at the outside door of the north end of the school near the learning pods (Entrance C in the map) at 3:20 pm.
- The parents of grade 1 students will pick up their children from the grade 1 teachers at the outside door of the north end of the school near the gym (Entrance E in the map) at 3:20 pm.
- The parents of grade 2 students will pick up their children from the grade 2 teachers at the library entrance (Entrance D in the map) at 3:20 pm.
- The parents of grade 3 students will pick up their children from the grade 3 teachers at the front entrance (Entrance A in the map) at 3:25 pm.
- The parents of grade 4 students will pick up their children from the grade 4 teachers at the front entrance (Entrance A in the map) at 3:30 pm.
- The parents of grade 5 to grade 7 students can either pick up their children at the fence gate near the gym (Gate E in the map) at 3:30 pm or sign the consent form to let their children leave the school building by themselves without supervision.
- If a family has more than one child in grade K to grade 3, the elder child should go to the younger child's class wearing a mask. Their parents can pick them up together from the teacher of the younger child.

Late pick up: If parents are late to pick up the students, they need to go to the front office to pick up their child and pay for the late pick up fee according to school policy. The late fee is \$10 for every 10 minute segment.



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Students' Pick-up Map



We will ensure that parents are aware they must maintain 2m distance between each other in our parking lots. We strongly encourage parents to wear masks when exiting their vehicles. We will ask that drivers remain in their vehicles when they see another driver exiting their vehicle at the same time. We will enforce a 5km speed limit in our parking lots at all times.



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For students who need to self-isolate/quarantine:

Staff in our success centre will reach out to students that are self-isolating for social check-ins.

Homeroom teachers will send assignments home via email or Google Classroom and will touch base through Zoom conference calls.

We have an online platform hidden on our website that we can switch to in the event we need to provide blended learning or elearning only. Student capacity could easily be limited to a density target of 50% by having half the students attend on Monday, Wednesday and Friday AM and the other half attend on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons. In addition, we have a well-developed eLearning program and new staff will be trained in eLearning.

Students with Diverse Abilities/Disabilities

Our students with diverse abilities have indicated that they all strongly prefer in-class instruction. We have the staffing to support these diverse learners (EA staff and Success Centre staff).

Students may have difficulty wearing masks and will not be forced to do so, but they will receive training on how to navigate their options as many will want to be seen following what their peers are doing (e.g., properly wearing a mask.). This will be assessed on an ongoing basis in terms of student health and social well-being.

Students will experience their supports mainly while sharing learning experiences with students in their homeroom classes. We have no plans to segregate students away from their classrooms and usual peers.

Implementing Story Studio

To implement our story studio, we will purchase individual baskets that the students label with their names. These can be sanitized and reused each month as a new class enters the studio. The students will sanitize their hands when they enter and leave the story studio. Students will go “shopping” when they begin the story studio and any materials that they add to their basket will remain theirs for the entire month.

We have created a schedule that allows 1 cohort to use the studio per month. Within that cohort (if there is more than one classroom), they will alternate days so that they are not in the studio at the same time.

Story Studio Schedule:

October	November	December	January	March
Grade 2	Grade 1	Kindergarten	Grade 2	Grade 1

Working in the studio for a month at time has the following benefits:

- This will also allow them to delve more deeply into the development of their narrative



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- Students will be able to leave their “stories” set up so that they can revisit them and build on them throughout the month
- Students will be able to edit and rewrite their stories as they work through the writing process.

At the end of the month, all materials will be laid out on the tables, sprayed to disinfect and allowed to sit for 72 hours.

Staying Home When Sick

Staff Responsibilities:

Pythagoras Academy staff will assess themselves daily for symptoms of the common cold, influenza, or COVID-19 prior to entering the school building. If staff or any adult has any symptoms, they must not enter the building. Staff will need to notify school administration immediately if they suspect themselves with possible symptoms of the common cold, influenza or COVID-19.

Pythagoras Academy staff or students will be sent home immediately if they become sick and must self-isolate. Any student, staff or other person within the school who has a cold, influenza or COVID-19 like symptoms should seek assessment by a health-care provider and self-isolate while they await the results.

Pythagoras Academy staff who travelled outside of Canada within the last 14 days, or were identified as a close contact of a confirmed case or outbreak must stay home and self-isolate for 14 days. Pythagoras Academy students or staff may still attend school if a member of their household has cold, influenza, or COVID-19 like symptoms, provided the student/staff is asymptomatic. It is expected the symptomatic household member is seeking assessment by a health-care provider.

Pythagoras Academy students and staff who experience seasonal allergies or other COVID-19-like symptoms, which are related to an existing condition can continue to attend school when they are experiencing these symptoms as normal. If they experience any change in symptoms, they should seek assessment by a health-care provider. If a student or staff member is confirmed to have COVID-19, public health will do an investigation to confirm if any staff or students have been in close contact with that person and need to self-isolate.

Parents and Guardians' Responsibilities:

Parents and caregivers must assess their child daily for symptoms of the common cold, influenza, COVID-19, or other infectious respiratory diseases before sending them to school. If a child has any symptoms, they must not go to school. Parents and guardians will need to notify the school administration immediately if any person in the household has possible symptoms of the common cold, influenza, or COVID-19.

Parents and guardians will need to keep their child/ren home until deemed healthy by health professionals before returning back to the school building. Students who travelled outside Canada in the last 14 days or were identified as a close contact of a confirmed case or outbreak must stay home and self-isolate for 14 days, including children of essential service workers who are ill.



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Screening Measures

Provincial Health Office guidelines indicate Pythagoras Academy does not have any role in screening students or staff for symptoms, checking temperatures or COVID-19 testing. Such activities are reserved for health care professionals.

Parents and Guardians' Responsibilities

Parents and guardians must assess their child daily for symptoms of the common cold, influenza, COVID-19 or any other infectious respiratory disease before sending them to Pythagoras Academy. It is recommended to use BCCDC's Daily Health Check <https://bc.thrive.health/covid19/en>

The school may ask parents of some students who are not able to self-assess to confirm the child does not have any symptoms of the common cold, influenza, COVID-19 or other infectious respiratory diseases.

Staff's Responsibilities:

Staff and students who are ill will not be permitted into the school building. A staff member will ensure school staff and other adults entering the school know of their responsibility to assess themselves daily for symptoms of the common cold, influenza, COVID-19 or other infectious respiratory diseases prior to entering the school. Any student, staff or other person within the school who has symptoms of COVID-19 OR travelled outside Canada in the last 14 days OR was identified as a 10 close contact of a confirmed case or outbreak must stay home and self-isolate, including children of essential service workers.

If concerned, contact 8-1-1 or the local public health unit to seek further input. You can contact a family physician or nurse practitioner to be assessed for COVID-19 and other infectious respiratory disease. Students or staff may still attend school if a member of their household has a cold, influenza, or COVID-19-like symptoms, provided the student/staff is asymptomatic. It is expected the symptomatic household member is seeking assessment by a health-care provider.

Students and staff who experience seasonal allergies or other COVID-19-like symptoms, which are related to an existing condition can continue to attend school when they are experiencing these symptoms as normal. If they experience any change in symptoms, they should seek assessment by a health-care provider.

Playing Outside

The guidelines issued by the Provincial Health Office encourage outdoor play and learning as much as possible. Playgrounds are a safe environment. Sand and water can be used for play if children wash their hands before and after play. COVID-19 does not survive well on surfaces, other than hard surfaces. There is no evidence showing that the virus survives on sand or in water.

Students will remain in their learning groups while playing outside during recess and lunch.



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Parent Responsibilities:

Students should come to school in clothing that is appropriate for outdoor activities and the weather conditions. On days when they have Physical Education, they must wear their P.E. clothing as there will be no access to changing rooms. Students should be taught to independently change into jackets and outdoor footwear and clothing in a designated area of the hallway.

Teachers' Responsibilities:

Students will be encouraged to wash their hands before and after outdoor play. Staggered recess and lunch times will minimize the number of children outside at once. Teachers will organize unstructured play or place-based play. Under the guidelines, additional outdoor time may be incorporated into each school day.

Teachers will plan physical activities that limit the use of shared equipment. Teachers will ensure students belonging to a learning group remain in designated areas while playing outside. They will minimize physical contact between students in their learning groups and encourage physical distance between children outside their learning groups.

Health & Wellbeing

The staff at Pythagoras Academy will continue to be sensitive to all parents, students and other staff members due to the stresses of COVID-19. Taking care of your physical health is also good for your mental health. It's more important than ever to keep yourself healthy.

1. Providing inclusive and compassionate learning environments:

- Teachers will start the day with a Morning Meeting or a MindUp exercise to check in with the students.
- Staff members will be assigned to provide extra support for listening and comfort.

2. Understanding coping strategies:

- Students and teachers will model and practice taking deep breaths, stretching or meditation.
- Eat healthy, exercise outdoors regularly and get plenty of sleep.
- Use Morning Meeting or Mind Up resources

3. Helping to minimize additional stress or trauma by addressing individual student needs:

- Make time to unwind and do some other activities you enjoy.
- Connect with others. Talk with people you trust about your concerns and how you are feeling.
- Virtual connection with others can improve mood and lower stress.



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4. Supporting independence. There are many things you can do to support your child at home:

- Take time to talk with your child about the COVID-19 outbreak. Answer questions and share facts about COVID19 in a way that your child can understand.
- Reassure your child that they are safe. Let them know it is ok if they feel upset. Share with them how you deal with your own stress so that they can learn how to cope from you.
- Limit your family's exposure to news coverage of the event, including social media. Children may misinterpret what they hear and can be frightened about something they do not understand.
- Try to keep up with regular routines. Create a schedule for learning activities and relaxing or fun activities.
- Be a role model. Take breaks, get plenty of sleep, exercise outdoors, and eat well. Connect with your friends and family members.