



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE TO STAFF AND PARENTS

Dear parents and guardians,

The current public health order required that we extend our winter break until January 10, 2022. We are very much looking forward to welcoming our students at Golden Secondary School and Golden Alternate School back this coming Monday. As our community continues to be impacted by COVID-19, we are prepared to safely resume in-class instruction for all students at this time. We have done this before and we will get through it again, together.

Please read the health and safety guidelines below to learn of the updates in our protocols. We continue to adapt as we navigate the new conditions that surround the spread of COVID-19 and the Omicron variant. We unfortunately will have to return to more constrictive regulations for the next 6 to 8 weeks as we work to maintain operations at Golden Secondary School.

Please read the [K-12 communicable Disease Guidelines](#) including the recent December 30, 2021 update.

We will send emails with updated information and plans as they unfold.

Thank you for your patience and support. We look forward to getting back to regular classes Monday, January 10, 2022.

Sincerely,

Kelsey Doolaar
Principal
Golden Secondary School
250.344.2201
Kelsey.doolaar@sd6.bc.ca

PARENTS OR VISITORS TO THE SCHOOL

When school resumes, after winter break, any adult wishing to enter the school must make an appointment. Please contact the office if you need to enter the school. This includes picking up or dropping off students. Please remain in your vehicle limiting proximity to school and other students or staff.

DAILY HEALTH CHECK

Parents and guardians are asked to monitor their children daily for symptoms and not to send them to school if they are sick. People who are sick will not be allowed at school. Use the [Daily Health Check App](#) and follow the recommendation.



IMPORTANT HEALTH AND SAFETY MEASURES AT OUR SCHOOL

The prevention measures already in place in the school continue to be effective at reducing the risk of COVID-19. These include:

1) Wearing a well fitted mask

Masks should:

- Cover the mouth and nose and go under the chin
- Fit tightly with no gaps (consider adjustable masks)
- Be made of three layers of fabric, including two layers of tightly-woven fabric, with a filter or filter fabric between layers.
- If there are two layers with a pocket for a filter, use a filter
- Teachers will give 3 reminders to wear a mask properly. Then students will be asked to stay behind after class to address the health and safety of the student and others to create a plan moving forward if mask wearing continues to be an issue. Continued problems will be referred to administration.

2) Not sharing items put in your mouth.

3) Cleaning your hands regularly

4) Proper respiratory etiquette

5) Physical distancing (maximize space as much as possible between others, indoors and outdoors)

6) Getting fully vaccinated

Specific protocols in place that are pertinent to specific areas, times and people are as follows:

Attendance Reporting

Tracking of attendance for reasons of illness will be taking place at the beginning of each day. Calls will come out from Safe Arrival first thing in the morning and at the end of the day.

Entrances, Exits and Hallways

- Masks are to be donned before entering the building.
- Students are required to sanitize upon entry.
- Extra masks will be provided at the office if needed.
- Classrooms will be open for last 5 minutes of transition to avoid crowding in the hallways.
- Hallways are used to transition from one class to the next.
- Students will not be allowed to gather/crowd in groups in the hallways.
- Students will be required to stay in their seats until the bell rings to avoid crowding at the entrances to the classrooms.
- No eating in hallways.
- Only students making purchases at the concession will be able to line up. Physical distancing will be monitored.

Space Arrangements and Protocols

Classrooms:

- Students will be required to stay in their seats until the bell rings to avoid crowding at the entrances to the classrooms.
- When entering a classroom students will be required to go to their learning space. Students are not to crowd in groups in classrooms or sit at another student's desk.
- Classrooms will be set up to maximize space between people and limit or avoid wherever possible, face to face seating arrangements.
- No eating at desks during class time (exception: students with dietary needs).

Lunchrooms and other Common Areas:

- Students will be able to access the following supervised rooms at lunch hour: Room 18, Textiles Room, Room 4/9, Forum, Learning Commons. Students may also sit at the tables in the hallway
- All tables in the forum and the hallways have a maximum capacity of 6 students.
- Bathrooms and smaller rooms will have posted maximum occupancy signage. Please adhere.

Transition Times:

- Students will use this time to progress to their next class.
- Students may access their locker.
- Students may use this time to have a snack (textiles room, forum, or at their desk of their next class)
- Snacks are to be put away and hands sanitized before the second bell.
- No eating in hallways.

Staff-Only Gatherings

- All meetings scheduled will be happening virtually

Itinerant Staff, TTOCs and Visitors

- Only itinerant staff and visitors that are supporting activities that are of direct benefit to student learning and well-being are allowed.
- All itinerant staff, TTOCs and Visitors will be oriented to the COVID-19 Return to School Plan as well as all school protocols and procedures that continue to make our schools a safe place to be.

Gatherings & Events

- No more than one class will be gathered at a time.
- All gatherings and events such as assemblies and presentations, where more than one class is participating, will be hosted virtually.

Hand Hygiene

Students and staff are required to wash or sanitize their hands:

- Upon entry into the school and before going home.
- Before and after eating and drinking (excluding drinks kept at a student's desk).
- At the time of transitioning to a new classroom.
- Before and after using an indoor learning space used by multiple cohorts.
- After using the toilet
- After coughing or sneezing into their hand.
- Whenever hands are visibly dirty.
- Students will be encouraged to wash their hands with soap and water.

SPORT TOURNAMENTS

At this time, all BC school sport tournaments are paused. Schools may play team versus team in the school but schools will not be allowed more than two teams at a time. No spectators are allowed to attend games.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Please, visit the SD6 webpage:

<https://www.sd6.bc.ca/parents/covid-19-communication>