

# **Sardis Secondary Return to School Plan**

**September 2021**



**COVID-19  
UPDATE**





# RETURN TO SCHOOL PLAN

## READY, SET, SCHOOL!

The BC Ministry of Education directed that secondary schools will reopen in September with a return to full-time, in-class learning with enhanced safety measures. The **Sardis Secondary Return to School Plan** will provide a safe launch to the 2021-22 school year and reduce the opportunities for transmission of COVID-19. This plan incorporates the most current information from the BC Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health, and ongoing consultation with the Chilliwack School District.

Our plan is a multi-layered approach with various safety measures to mitigate opportunities for the transmission of COVID-19. The implementation is a shared responsibility between Sardis Secondary staff, Chilliwack School District, Fraser Health Authority, family households and our students. By collectively implementing the plan, our schools will be safe for our students and staff.





# RETURN TO SCHOOL PLAN

## 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR

Student and staff safety are the top priorities for Sardis Secondary School. As we begin the 2021-2022 school year, we are prepared to respond to changes, as necessary, based on directions from the Ministry of Education, BC Medical Health Officers, and the Chilliwack School District.

We understand that some families may have further questions after reading the plan outlined in this document. Sardis Secondary will continue to provide updates and communicate with parents/guardians as per the typical means of communication. Should you have specific questions about your child, please contact our Administration via email or phone at (604) 858-9424.

**Principal** Dan Heisler [dan\\_heisler@sd33.bc.ca](mailto:dan_heisler@sd33.bc.ca)

**VP** (students last name A-G) Jeff Dartnell [jeff\\_dartnell@sd33.bc.ca](mailto:jeff_dartnell@sd33.bc.ca)

**VP** (H-Po) Lisa Ego [lisa\\_ego@sd33.bc.ca](mailto:lisa_ego@sd33.bc.ca)

**VP** (Pr-Z) Cheryl Lightle [cheryl\\_lightle@sd33.bc.ca](mailto:cheryl_lightle@sd33.bc.ca)

The most up to date information will be available on the Sardis Secondary website at: <https://sardissecondary.sd33.bc.ca/home>





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## COVID-19 SAFE SCHOOLS

Sardis Secondary and the Chilliwack School District follows guidelines set by the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Health and the Provincial Health Officer, Dr. Bonnie Henry. These parameters guide the development of our educational programs and continuity of learning plans during COVID-19.

Our staff is excited to welcome students back to school in-person. We are moving forward from last year and look forward to a year of learning, sports, music and other extracurricular activities in person. We ask that our school community members continue to follow [B.C.'s health and safety guidelines](#) in school settings, adhere to the [B.C. Restart Plan](#) outside of school settings, and have their [first and/or second dose of the vaccine](#) as we work together toward a return to normal.

For more information, read [the B.C. government's news release](#), or see the [updated K-12 Education Recovery Plan](#).





## STUDENT SCREENING

Parents/guardians are required to assess their children daily and disclose whether they are experiencing any signs of illness and are expected to keep them home if they are. **Parents/guardians are asked to utilize this [screening checklist](#) prior to sending their student(s) each day.**

All students who are experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19 must not attend school and should seek appropriate medical attention as required, including getting tested at a COVID-19 testing centre.

Staff members will be provided with information on signs and symptoms of COVID-19 in students so that appropriate action can be taken if students develop symptoms during the day.



Students feeling sick should remain at home while waiting for test results, Fraser Health authorities will advise on individual return to school conditions and timelines for students.

Signs prompting self-assessment screening will be posted on the exterior doors and throughout our school.



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## FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

All students will begin classes on **Tuesday, September 7<sup>th</sup>** for a partial day with dismissal at 11:30am

Upon arrival at Sardis Secondary on the morning of September 7th, students will need to know where their period 1 classroom is located and enter the exterior doors of the school closest to their classroom. Doors will be open at 8:10am on this first day of school. **Students must be wearing masks while in the bus loop area and indoors including all hallways, common areas and their classroom.**

### Student timetables

- Log in to MyEd at <https://www.myeducation.gov.bc.ca/aspen/logon.do> to
- Please email [sardis\\_secondary@sd33.bc.ca](mailto:sardis_secondary@sd33.bc.ca) if you need help logging in.
- Period 1/Homeroom lists will also be posted at the front entrance of the school on Friday, Sept 3<sup>rd</sup> in the afternoon.

If you have concerns about the courses in your timetable, please email your school counselor:

Student last name A-G: [david\\_shepherd@sd33.bc.ca](mailto:david_shepherd@sd33.bc.ca)

Student last name H-Po: [sardiscounsellor@sd33.bc.ca](mailto:sardiscounsellor@sd33.bc.ca)

Student last name PR-Z + International: [jenna\\_clayton@sd33.bc.ca](mailto:jenna_clayton@sd33.bc.ca)

Priority will be given to incomplete timetables and grad requirements. Student requests for specific teachers will not be considered. **All course changes must occur prior to Friday, Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>.**



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## HYGIENE

Proper hand hygiene is one of the most effective strategies to prevent the spread of most respiratory viruses including COVID-19.

Students and staff will be encouraged to wash their hands regularly, practice proper respiratory etiquette (such as sneezing into their elbow) and avoid touching their face, eyes, nose and mouth.

Hand sanitizer dispensers will be placed at entrances of classrooms. Additionally, sinks with soap and water are available in washrooms.

Signage will be placed at all sinks in schools to explain the steps for effective hand washing.



### *When students should perform hand hygiene:*

- When they arrive at school.
- Before and after any breaks (recess, lunch).
- Before and after eating and drinking (excluding drinks kept at a student's desk or locker).
- Before and after using an indoor learning space used by multiple cohorts (e.g. the gym, music room, science lab, etc.).
- After using the toilet.
- After sneezing or coughing into hands.
- Whenever hands are visibly dirty.



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## STUDENTS AND MASKS

Sardis Secondary students will be required to wear masks in all indoor spaces, on busses, and at the bus loop in front of the school. Students will have the opportunity to remove their mask while seated when eating/drinking, playing a brass/wind instrument or during vigorous activity in a PE class.

Outdoor times like before school, lunchtime and after school can be used as opportunities to provide students with breaks from wearing masks.

Students are encouraged to practice wearing masks and learn what type of mask is most comfortable for them. Parents/guardians are encouraged to provide non-medical masks or cloth masks for their children to wear to school.

**Face coverings that provide a tight seal at the chin and nose and cover the mouth are permitted, whereas face coverings that do not provide a tight seal at the chin and nose and cover the mouth are not permitted (a bandana or clear mouth/face shield for example).**



For some students with significant medical conditions, wearing a mask may be problematic. **A medical note will be required for a student to be exempt from wearing a mask.**

Where masks are worn, students and staff will be instructed to perform hand hygiene before putting on and after touching or removing their mask.



## SUSPECTED CASES AND POSITIVE TEST RESULTS

Extra health and safety measures, like handwashing, daily health screens, increased cleaning, and masks, will reduce the spread of COVID-19 and help keep our schools safe. Positive COVID-19 cases are only confirmed by official public health authorities, in our case, the Fraser Health Authority.

**If a student shows any COVID-19 symptoms at school**, there are safety protocols in place to protect students and staff:

- The child waits in an isolated room;
- The school contacts parents/guardians to take the child home;
- Staff clean and disinfect exposure areas; and
- School district notifies public health officials.

**If a positive case occurs**, the Fraser Health Authority will:

- Contact trace to identify potential COVID-19 exposures;
- May recommend testing;
- May recommend 14-day isolation if necessary;
- Get in touch with close contacts; and
- Provide follow-up recommendations as needed, which may include suspending in- class learning.

Parents will be notified if their child has been in contact with a COVID-positive person and needs to self-isolate. Students will receive learning support while self-isolating.



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## PARENTS/GUARDIANS ACCESS

Parents/Guardians can stay in contact with Sardis Secondary staff through our school website, email, phone & online meetings. In specific instances in-person meetings may be required to occur; however, Parent/Guardian 'walk-ins' are not permitted at this time.

Parents/guardians who are contacted to pick up a sick child can attend the school site immediately. If the person picking up the student is required to enter the building, they must follow the school district's Daily Health Assessment and a mask must be worn.

## VISITORS

Visitors & District Staff that benefit student learning and well-being (e.g. Teachers on Call, teacher candidates, District support staff, public health nurses, meal program volunteers, etc). will be permitted in Sardis Secondary with the following requirements:

- a pre-scheduled time is arranged
- Visitors/District Staff must be aware of health and safety protocols and requirements prior to entering the school.
- Visitors/District Staff completed the daily health check before entering.
- Visitors/District Staff must sign the visitor log.
- Visitors/District Staff will be required to wear a mask.

Individuals authorized to enter the school include Canada Post, delivery and maintenance personnel who support the running of the school, district personnel and emergency responders. These people will only enter the school if the school's Daily Health Assessment indicates they are safe and have no symptoms and wear a mask.



## LUNCH AND FOOD SERVICES



- The Cafeteria and The Perch will be open for all students and staff for food and beverages.
- The use of common spaces, such as the Pit area, tables in front of the library and multiple hallway benches will be available for students during lunchtime.
- Students who are staying at school during lunch time will be required to find a place to sit down while consuming food or drink.
- Grade 10-12 students will be permitted to leave the school premises for lunch.
- Grade 9 students are required to stay on campus for Semester 1.
- Drinking fountains are available for use; however, it is recommended that students bring a refillable water bottle.
- All students must wash/sanitize their hands before eating and must eat only their own food. Under provincial health guidelines, students are not permitted to share food or drink.



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## MENTAL HEALTH

We know that COVID-19 is continuing to cause a lot of uncertainty for students, staff and our school community. Mental health and well-being will be a strong focus for us.

Our focus will be on reconnecting the community using a relationship-based approach to support safety, belonging, and inclusion. Our staff will be supported in providing a relationship-based perspective in all aspects of student interaction, whether in-person or online. Every student will continue to have access to supports and services to address mental health concerns through our existing referral process. School Counsellors will provide (counselling) support and facilitate referrals to community mental health services for students.

To support students and families, the Ministry of Health has developed resources to ensure the mental health needs of students are being met:

- [Key principles and strategies for K to 12 mental health promotion in schools \(PDF, 638KB\)](#)

Parents or guardians who are concerned about their child's well-being can also reach out to these community resources:



- **Kid's Help Phone: 1-800-668-6868**  
*Call to speak to a professional counsellor — available 24 hours a day.*
- **Health Link: 8-1-1**
- **Chilliwack Youth Center <https://chilliwackyhc.com/>**  
*Access virtual & in-person drop-in counselling & Medical sessions and group offerings to young people ages 12-24 and their caregivers*
- **B.C. Parent: [Reduce Stress & Prepare for Back to School COVID-19 Resources](#)**



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## SCHEDULE

**Sardis students will be in school full time five days per week** using a **Four Block Schedule** (semester system) for the 2021–2022 school year. This means the school year will be divided into four quarters and two semesters. The daily schedule will include both a regular day and FLEX/extended day.

REGULAR BELL SCHEDULE	
TIME	PERIOD
8:20	Warning Bell
8:25 – 9:50	Period 1 - (85)
9:50 – 9:54	Change
9:54 – 11:17	Period 2 - (83)
11:17 – 11:57	Lunch – (40)
11:52	Warning Bell
11:57 – 1:20	Period 3 - (83)
1:20 – 1:24	Change
1:24 – 2:47	Period 4 - (83)

FLEX & EXTENDED DAY BELL SCHEDULE	
TIME	PERIOD
8:20	Warning Bell
8:25 – 9:34	Period 1 - (69)
9:34 – 9:38	Change
9:38 – 10:38	FLEX & EXT Period - (60)
10:38 – 10:42	Change
10:42 – 11:49	Period 2 - (67)
11:49 – 12:29	Lunch – (40)
12:24	Warning Bell
12:29 – 1:36	Period 3 - (67)
1:36 – 1:40	Change
1:40 – 2:47	Period 4 - (67)



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## ASSESSMENT, REPORTING & COMMUNICATION

Sardis Secondary staff will continue to assess students throughout the school year utilizing current Ministry of Education assessment practices. Formal reporting periods will continue to occur at the end of each term and semester with informal reporting on a continual basis.

Sardis Secondary is committed to communicating student learning to students and families. This will be done in formal and informal ways throughout the year. Sardis Secondary follows the guidelines of the Ministry of Education to ensure that student reporting policies are consistent with provincial expectations. These policies include expectations about interim reports as well as term and final report cards.

We continue to encourage parents/guardians to connect with their child's teachers directly as concerns arise or updates are requested.

