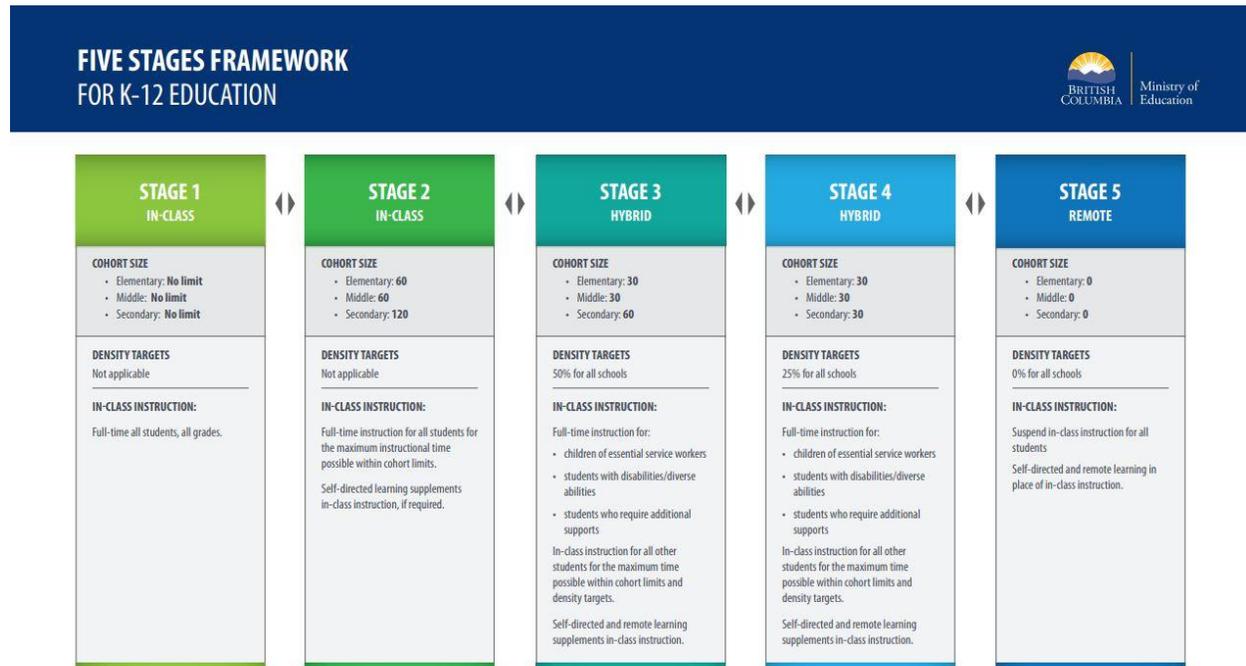


All schools in B.C. will open in Stage 2 of the Five Stages Framework for K-12 Education (see graphic below).



For elementary schools, group sizes will not exceed 60 students. For secondary schools, group sizes will not exceed 120. Members of learning groups won't all be in the classroom at the same time and learning groups will be smaller depending on schools. The purpose of groups is to minimize general contact in school settings.

Most students will have access to full-time, in-class instruction within group limits. Parents of children with complex medical conditions or underlying risk factors should consult with their health care provider to determine their child's level of risk regarding a return to school. Parents who do not want their child to attend in-person classes have the option to register their child for online and distributed learning (based on program availability) or home-schooling.

Health and safety measures for in-class instruction will include:

- physical distancing (2m) for staff and secondary school students when interacting outside of their learning groups;
- hand hygiene upon school entry and before/after breaks and eating, using washroom and using gym/playground equipment;
- visitor access during school hours prioritized to those entering to support activities that benefit student learning and well-being;
- after-hours community use of facilities allowed in alignment with other health and safety measures.

Cleaning and disinfecting:

- general cleaning and disinfecting of school premises at least once in a 24-hour period;

- cleaning and disinfecting of frequently-touched surfaces at least twice in 24 hours, including once during regular school hours;
- additional hand hygiene stations and provision of regular opportunities for students and staff to practice hand hygiene;
- floor markings, signage and education to support physical distancing, hand hygiene and other behaviours that reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19;
- any student or staff member who has symptoms of COVID-19 OR has travelled outside Canada in the last 14 days OR was identified as a close contact of a confirmed case or outbreak must stay home and self-isolate, including children of essential service workers;
- daily assessment of children for symptoms by parents/caregivers, and staff self-assessment; students and staff stay home if symptomatic.

For elementary school students:

- minimize physical contact within learning groups or when outdoors;
- physical distancing (2m) when interacting outside of learning groups while indoors.

Personal protective equipment:

- personal protective equipment is not required for most staff beyond that used as part of regular precautions for the hazards normally encountered in their regular course of work;
- non-medical masks or face coverings should be worn in situations where physical distance cannot be consistently maintained, and the person is interacting with people outside of their learning group (e.g. in hallways and common areas, specialist teachers or EAs working in close proximity to students across learning groups);
- wearing a non-medical mask or face covering in schools is a personal choice; re-useable face masks will be made available for staff.

Student transportation on buses:

- use consistent and assigned seating arrangements; support buses being loaded from back to front and offloaded from front to back;
- secondary students should wear non-medical masks or face coverings;
- barriers (optional) for school bus drivers;
- site committees and joint health and safety committees in place and meeting regularly, including prior to any transitions between stages.