

Burnaby Schools

Burnaby StrongStart Centres

Burnaby StrongStart Centres are looking forward to welcoming you back in person as early as October 26, 2020. Although we have been engaging with many families via emails, phone calls, Blogs, and Zoom it will be wonderful to see you face to face.

Burnaby StrongStart Centres will offer a blended model that will include 3 days a week of in-person programming at StrongStart centres, 1 day a week of outdoor exploration at local parks or on school grounds, and 1 day a week of virtual outreach to stay connected to families who aren't quite ready to visit us in person. Schedules will vary at StrongStart locations and not all centres will be open for in-person programming.

In-person visits will be limited to four families per day (1 parent/guardian per 3 children maximum) in order to maintain safe physical distancing. Outdoor explorations will be limited to ten families per day (1 parent/guardian per 3 children maximum) to maintain safe physical distancing. All in-person programs will run from 9:30am to 11:00am to accommodate cleaning and disinfecting protocols.

There is no drop-in StrongStart. All families (new and returning) must register online for the 2020-21 year. The total number of registered families will determine the number of times per month families can attend an in-person StrongStart program. Burnaby StrongStart programs are available to Burnaby residents only. Families can attend at one location only.

Registration for StrongStart is now open!

How do I register?

- All **new and returning** families must register online for the 2020-2021 year.
- Please register for the StrongStart Centre closest to you home.
- Click this link <https://registration.sd41.bc.ca/Forms/strongstartregistration>, fill out the registration form and submit.
- Once your registration form is processed, a StrongStart Educator will contact you to schedule your visits (all visits need to be scheduled this year). Please allow time for your registration to be processed.

What do I do when I arrive at the school?

- Please arrive on time.
- There will be clear StrongStart signage at the school when you arrive. Follow the signage to the designated outdoor entrance and wait on one of the markers for the StrongStart Educator to welcome you (please **do not enter** the school building on your own).
- A Daily Health Check will be done by the educator before you come in to the school or classroom.

- You and your child(ren) will be required to sanitize your hands prior to entering the school or StrongStart classroom.
- All adults are required to wear a mask.
- The StrongStart Educator will sign you in once you arrive.

What will StrongStart look like?

- In each in-person classroom session there will be a maximum of four families (1 parent/guardian per 3 children maximum).
- In each outdoor session there will be a maximum of ten families (1 parent/guardian per 3 children maximum).
- We cannot accommodate childcare providers at this time.
- All adults must physically distance from each other and children not their own.
- Children will be encouraged to minimize physical contact with each other, unless part of the same family unit.
- It is not necessary to attempt to eliminate close contact between children, recognizing the importance of children's emotional, physical, and developmental needs.
- Activities that encourage individual play and more space between children, staff, and parents will be organized.
- StrongStart classrooms will have equipment and materials set up for you and your child(ren) to explore together.
- Songs, stories, music, and movement will be organized to support physical distancing between adults.
- Access to washroom facilities is limited but not prohibited. Please use your home facilities before coming to the StrongStart centre.
- There will be no scheduled library or gym time.
- Individually packaged snacks will be distributed at the end of each centre visit.

What about illness?

- Children, adults, and staff should stay at home when they are sick and monitor symptoms for 24 hours or when new symptoms of illness develop, such as:
 - Fever
 - Chills
 - Cough
 - Difficulty breathing (in small children this can look like breathing fast or working hard to breathe)
 - Loss of sense of smell or taste
 - Nausea or vomiting
 - Diarrhea
- If symptoms include fever or difficulty breathing or if symptoms last for more than 24 hours or get worse, seek a health assessment by calling 8-1-1 or a primary care provider and follow their advice.
- Children or adults who become sick while in the StrongStart setting will be asked go home as soon as possible.
- Children and staff should:
 - Cough or sneeze into their elbow sleeve or a tissue.

- Throw away used tissues and immediately perform hand hygiene (“cover your coughs”).
- Not touch their eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands (“hands below your shoulders”).

StrongStart BC Programs follow the Public Health Guidance for Child Care Setting During the COVID-19 Pandemic. Access the information at http://www.bccdc.ca/Health-Info-Site/Documents/COVID_public_guidance/Guidance_Child_Care.pdf

StrongStart Locations will open as early as October 26, 2020.

StrongStart **In-Person Classroom** AND **Outdoor Exploration Session** locations:

- Cascade Heights Elementary
- Edmonds Community School
- Forest Grove Elementary
- Lochdale Community School
- Maywood Community School
- Stoney Creek Community School
- Twelfth Avenue Elementary

StrongStart **Outdoor Exploration Session** locations:

- Chaffey-Burke Elementary
- Kitchener Elementary
- Morley Elementary
- Second Street Community School
- Stride Avenue Community School

Please register for the StrongStart Centre closest to your home. Families who register for locations that do not have in-person classroom sessions will be accommodated at another centre. All StrongStart Educators will continue virtual outreach to families.

Daily Health Check for StrongStart Program

The Daily Health Check is to determine if a family can attend a StrongStart program that day.

Daily Health Check			
School:		Name:	
1. Key Symptoms of Illness*	Do you have any of the following key symptoms?	CIRCLE ONE	
	Fever	YES	NO
	Chills	YES	NO
	Cough or worsening of chronic cough	YES	NO
	Shortness of Breath	YES	NO
	Loss of sense of smell or taste	YES	NO
	Diarrhea	YES	NO
	Nausea and vomiting	YES	NO
2. International Travel	Have you returned from travel outside of Canada in the last 14 days?	YES	NO
3. Confirmed Contact	Are you a confirmed contact of a person confirmed to have COVID-19?	YES	NO

*Check BCCDC's [Symptoms of COVID-19](#) regularly to ensure the list is up to date.

If the student answers "YES" to one of the questions included under 'Key Symptoms of Illness' (excluding fever), the student should stay home for 24 hours from when the symptom started. If the symptom improves, you may return to school when you feel well enough. If the symptom persists or worsens, seek a health assessment.

If you answered "YES" to two or more of the questions included under 'Key Symptoms of Illness' or the student has a fever, seek a health assessment. A health assessment includes calling 8-1-1, or a primary care provider like a physician or nurse practitioner. If a health assessment is required, the student should not return to school until COVID-19 has been excluded and your symptoms have improved.

If you answered "YES" to questions 2 or 3, use the [COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool](#) to determine if the student should seek testing for COVID- 19.

When a **COVID-19 test** is recommended by the health assessment:

- If the COVID-19 test is **positive**, you should stay home until you are told by public health to end self -isolation. In most cases this is 10 days after the onset of symptoms. Public health will contact everyone with a positive test.
- If the COVID-19 test is **negative**, you can return to school once symptoms have improved and you feel well enough. Symptoms of common respiratory illnesses can persist for a week or more. Re-testing is not needed unless you develop a new illness.

- If a COVID-19 **test is recommended but is not done** because you choose not to have the test, or you do not seek a health assessment when recommended, and your symptoms are not related to a previously diagnosed health condition, you should stay home from school until 10 days after the onset of symptoms, and then you may return if you are feeling well enough.

If a COVID-19 test is not recommended by the health assessment, the student can return to school when symptoms improve, and they feel well enough. Testing may not be recommended if the assessment determines that the symptoms are due to another cause (i.e. not COVID-19).

A healthcare provider note (i.e. a doctor's note) should not be required to confirm the health status of any individual.